

# Medicines Optimisation intervention brief

## Medicines Optimisation Incentive Scheme 2018/19 Cost Saving Intervention

<b>TITLE?</b>
CS2.2.5 Prescribe tamsulosin MR tablets as MR capsules and the combination product Combodart® 0.5mg/ 0.4mg capsules/ tamsulosin 400mcg/dutasteride 500mcg capsules as individual items
<b>WHAT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescribe all tamsulosin 400mcg MR tablets (including Flomaxtra XL tablets) as tamsulosin 400mcg MR capsules.</li> <li>• Prescribe the combination products Combodart® 0.5mg/ 0.4mg capsules or Tamsulosin 400mcg/ dutasteride 500mcg as individual items.</li> </ul>
<b>WHY?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tamsulosin 400mcg MR capsules are less expensive than the generic and branded tamsulosin 400mcg MR tablets. Savings across WHCCG for a 100% switch: Tamsulosin generic tablets to generic capsules = £36K p.a. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tamsulosin 400mcg MR capsules (30) = £3.87</li> <li>○ Tamsulosin 400mcg MR tablets, Flomaxtra XL tablets (30) = £10.47 (Drug Tariff July 2018)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Tamsulosin 400mcg and dutasteride 500mcg capsules prescribed as two separate items are less expensive than the combination product Combodart® 0.5mg/0.4mg capsules or its generic equivalent. Potential savings across the CCG for a 100% switch are: Tamsulosin plus dutasteride combination products to individual generic ingredients = £47K p.a. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Combodart combination product = £19.80 (30)</li> <li>○ Dutasteride 500microgram caps = £4.14 (30)</li> <li>○ Tamsulosin 400microgram MR caps = £3.87 (30) (Drug Tariff July 2018)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>WHO?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All patients currently prescribed tamsulosin 400mcg MR tablets either generically, by brand or as the combination product Combodart® 0.5mg/0.4mg capsules /Tamsulosin 400mcg/ dutasteride 500mcg capsules.</li> </ul>
<b>TIPS?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review patients who have had a prostatectomy, TURP or have a long-term catheter in situ and are still prescribed tamsulosin.</li> </ul>
<b>HOW?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Search for all patients prescribed tamsulosin 400mcg MR tablets either as branded, generic or as the combination products Combodart® 0.5mg/0.4mg capsules or Tamsulosin 400mcg/ dutasteride 500mcg capsules.</li> <li>• Initially prioritise patients who have had a prostatectomy, TURP or have a long-term catheter in situ and are still prescribed tamsulosin for GP/ pharmacist review.</li> <li>• Exclude those who have a written contraindication to tamsulosin 400mcg MR capsules,</li> </ul>



including those with an allergy/ a preference to avoiding taking gelatin capsules and who may wish to stay on a tablet formulation.

- Draw up a switch agreement to implement the change in the practice.
- Read-code patients unsuitable for switching to tamsulosin 400mcg MR capsules or the combination products using code 8BIX (drug treatment still needed).

**SO WHAT?**

- Realise savings in the drug budget to reinvest in other parts of healthcare.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

- Tamsulosin 400mcg branded generics include Faramsil Tab 400mcg M/R, Flectone XL Tab 400mcg, Flomaxtra XL Tab 400mcg, Cositam XL 400mcg tablets.

