

Basingstoke, Southampton and Winchester

District Prescribing Committee (DPC)

Recommendations of the meeting of Tuesday 12th June 2018

Supported or limited support e.g. Specialist recommendation

- **Fentanyl sublingual tablets (Abstral®) and intranasal spray (Pecfent®)** - These immediate release fentanyl preparations are supported for use for the management of breakthrough pain in adult patients using opioid therapy for chronic cancer pain. Use should be restricted to patients unable to tolerate, or unsuitable for treatment with, oral formulations of other opioids (e.g. morphine, oxycodone). The products should be prescribed by brand and initiated by a cancer care specialist. Consider adding to formularies as 'AMBER'.
- **Celecoxib capsules** – based on a scientific evaluation of the evidence for efficacy, safety and cost effectiveness the committee supports the use of celecoxib (oral) for the management of cancer pain. The committee also supports use in other pain indications. Consider adding to formularies as GREEN.
- **Parecoxib (Dynastat) injection** - The committee supports the (unlicensed) use of subcutaneous parecoxib for palliative care only. It should be prescribed and administered under specialist supervision. Consider adding to formularies as RED.
- **Ondansetron tablets**- in line with Portsmouth Area Formulary, the committee recommend amendment of formulary status from AMBER to GREEN

Other Information and formulary updates

- **Gliptins** - Following a review of the evidence for efficacy, safety and cost effectiveness the committee would like to reiterate that **alogliptin** is still the first choice DPP-4 inhibitor ('gliptin'). **Linagliptin** is supported but use restricted to patients with renal impairment, and **sitagliptin** is supported to offer another option, e.g. for patients intolerant to/unsuitable for treatment with alogliptin. **Saxagliptin** and **vildagliptin** are not supported for use locally.
 - **Levofloxacin tablets** – This has been added to the Southampton **formulary** for use in line with trust guidelines for prophylaxis in newly diagnosed myeloma patients, as a RED drug
 - **Timolol 1 mg/g, preservative free eye gel** in single-dose container (Tiopex®) - this has been added to the Southampton formulary as AMBER, only for patients allergic/intolerant of preservative or at high risk of developing allergy.
 - **Prednisolone tablets** – the committee endorses the (unlicensed) practice of dissolving or crushing plain prednisolone tablets (not enteric coated tablets) as an alternative to using prednisolone soluble tablets. The tablets can be dispersed in a small amount of water or squash, or they can be crushed and mixed with a small amount of soft food such as yogurt, honey or jam, Make sure this is swallowed straight away, without chewing.' See link for information <https://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/prednisolone-asthma>
- Guidance documents are available [Here](#) (hosted by West Hampshire CCG)

Summarised on behalf of the District Prescribing Committee by Andrea White (Southampton City CCG)