

***Basingstoke, Southampton and Winchester
District Prescribing Committee (DPC)***

Recommendations of the meeting of 8th December 2015

Supported or limited support e.g. Specialist recommendation

- **Guideline for the treatment of dry eye syndrome in primary care** - final version approved for dissemination
- **Simbrinza ®eye drops (brinzolamide/brimonidine)** – this combination product for open- angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension was approved for use locally and classed as an amber drug. It is a more cost effective alternative than the individual agents.
- **Chronic non-malignant pain guideline** – These were approved subject to a number of amendments.
- **Palliative care drug administration charts** – These were approved for use with an electronic upgrade and aide memoire to follow in the future.
- **Empagliflozin (Jardiance®)** - results from the EMPA-REG trial (cardiovascular outcomes in Type 2 diabetes) were noted by the committee who support its use as the SGLT2 inhibitor of choice for patients with established cardiovascular disease.
- **Dulaglutide (Trulicity®)** -This product (previously supported as a second line GLP-1 analogue) may now be considered for first line use due to the reduction in price, device and dosing schedule

Not supported or yet to be reviewed

- **Avanafil for the treatment of erectile dysfunction** - the DPC did not support the use of this locally as it offers no real benefit over other PDE5 inhibitors and the patent expiry is not until 2025.
- **Naloxegol (Moventig®)** - DPC noted the NICE TA which approved its use for people with opioid induced constipation that had had inadequate response to laxatives.
- **Vortioxetine (Brintellix®) for Major Depressive Episodes**– DPC noted the NICE TA which approved its use 3rd line for adults having a first or recurrent major depressive episode, Southern Health FT to produce guidelines detailing its place in therapy, further advice to follow.

Other Information/ Reminders

- **Melatonin** – Use of unlicensed specials continues to grow, a reminder to ensure sleep hygiene measures are optimised and to use Circardin mr tabs (which can be crushed) when drug treatment required.
- **BNF errors** – UKMi, the Neonatal and Paediatrics Pharmacy Group (NPPG) and the BNF have issued a joint document detailing a small number of errors in the latest version of the BNF (70). A reminder that the electronic BNF is updated monthly and the errors have been corrected and that if you are using the paper copy ensure that you have amendments available to refer too.
- **Pioglitazone Shortage**– There is currently a supply shortage of Pioglitazone, The advice is to reduce prescription quantities to one month supply to try to avoid using up all stock available, and a memo has been issued by UKMI which also details steps which may be necessary should supplies not prove sufficient to meet patient requirements.
- **Denosumab**- local prescribing status has now been updated. Denosumab has been moved from the 'amber' category (shared care) to the 'green' category (any prescriber).