

# ***Basingstoke, Southampton and Winchester***

## ***District Prescribing Committee (DPC)***

**Recommendations of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

### **Supported or limited support e.g. Specialist recommendation**

- **Benzoyl peroxide and adapalene gel (Epiduo) for acne vulgaris.** This was supported for the treatment of papulopustular (moderate) acne and may also be considered as an option for treatment-resistant comedonal (mild) acne, for maintenance treatment of severe acne, or for severe acne in combination with an oral antibiotic. This preparation may improve treatment adherence and avoids the use of antibiotics. The committee would advise counselling of patients re: risks in pregnancy, and would advocate switching patients to monotherapy once symptoms have improved.

### **Not supported**

- **Levosimendan in cardiac surgery.** Levosimendan is a positive inotrope and a vasodilator which is unlicensed in the UK, but is licensed in some countries for treatment of acute decompensated heart failure. Its use for the proposed indication: "Perioperative therapy for patients with known poor left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) (e.g. <35%) undergoing cardiopulmonary bypass" was not supported. The committee require further information and more time to evaluate new evidence (published in March 2017) before making final recommendations.
- **Nebivolol, a 'third generation' beta-blocker.** In 2007 the DPC did not support its use over other beta-blockers for heart failure or hypertension due to a lack of evidence of clinical benefit. Based on current evidence for efficacy, safety and cost effectiveness, the committee would not recommend any change to the DPC's recommendations in 2007 and continue not to support the use of nebivolol.
- **Minocycline** is an effective treatment for moderate acne vulgaris, but a Cochrane review found no reliable randomised control trial evidence to justify its continued first-line use. Concerns still remain about its safety particularly the rare, but irreversible, skin pigmentation side effects the committee therefore decided that it should be classified as Non Formulary.

### **Other Information**

- **Ibandronic acid 50mg tablets use for adjuvant treatment of post-menopausal breast cancer.** Ibandronic acid tablets are not licensed for this indication but use is supported by evidence from a large collaborative meta-analysis<sup>1</sup> (involving 18,766 women of whom 11,767 were postmenopausal). For post-menopausal women with early breast cancer adjuvant bisphosphonates reduced the rate of breast cancer recurrence and improved breast cancer survival. Locally, this indication will be discussed with the Cancer Network with a view to developing shared care guidance and a patient information leaflet for later approval.

**Summarised on behalf of the District Prescribing Committee by Liz Bere (Southampton City CCG)**

**18/04/17**