

Medicines Optimisation intervention brief

Medicines Optimisation Incentive Scheme 2019/20 Cost saving intervention

TITLE?
CS2.3.1 Prescribe metformin SR and Glucophage SR [®] tablets as Sukkarto SR [®] tablets
WHAT?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review patients who are currently prescribed metformin SR and Glucophage SR[®] tablets for efficacy and tolerability of drug, dosage and formulation. If appropriate, switch to the lower-cost branded generic product Sukkarto SR[®] tablets.
WHY?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sukkarto SR[®] is less expensive than generic forms of metformin and the branded product Glucophage SR[®]. It is available in 500mg, 750mg and 1g strength tablets and contains the same active ingredient; metformin in a prolonged-release formulation. Estimated saving for WHCCG if we use Sukkarto SR[®] first-line is more than £175,000 per annum.
WHO?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All patients currently prescribed metformin SR and Glucophage SR[®]. Modified release forms of metformin should be reserved for patients are unable to tolerate an immediate release preparation due to gastro-intestinal side-effects.
TIPS?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metformin is contraindicated in patients with GFR<30 mL/min Community pharmacies should be notified prior to making the switch to ensure stocks are available for the proposed changes.
HOW?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run the standard search on the practice clinical system to identify all patients currently prescribed metformin SR. Agree with the practice process for switching patients (switch agreement) Switch all patients to the equivalent strength of Sukkarto SR[®] tablets.
SO WHAT?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release potential savings of £175, 000 per annum
FURTHER INFORMATION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/9562/smhc https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/9563/smhc

