

Basingstoke, Southampton and Winchester District Prescribing Committee (DPC)

Recommendations of the meeting of Tuesday 11th February 2020

Supported or limited support e.g. Specialist recommendation

Modafinil tablets – the Committee supports restricted use of this product for its licensed indication, excessive sleepiness associated with narcolepsy, only. Off label use for other indications is not supported in accordance with European Medicines Agency restrictions outlined in the MHRA Safety Update March 2011(link [here](#)). Prescribing should be initiated by a specialist therefore the Committee suggests adding to formularies as Amber. Modafinil is not a controlled drug in the UK, but prescribers should be mindful of the abuse potential of modafinil and consider limiting quantities on prescriptions (further information available on the MHRA website - link [here](#)).

Buprenorphine (Espranor ®) oral lyophilisate tablets- The Committee supports restricted use of this product for substitution treatment for opioid drug dependence, for initiation by drug misuse treatment specialists only. NB Espranor is a Schedule 3 Controlled Drug. It is **not** interchangeable with other buprenorphine products. The tablets are intended for oromucosal (dissolving on the tongue), not sublingual (under the tongue) administration. The Committee suggests adding to formularies as Amber.

Not Supported

Alimemazine (Vallergan ®) preparations - Based on evaluation of the evidence for efficacy, safety and cost effectiveness, the Committee does not support use of alimemazine for severe behavioural insomnia in children other than in exceptional circumstances on a non-formulary basis with specialist initiation and regular follow up. Due to the increasing costs, poor evidence of efficacy, and safety concerns associated with this drug, organisations should remove alimemazine from formularies for this indication, and review its formulary status for other indications, e.g. pre-procedural sedation in children. Prescribers should review patients currently taking alimemazine, and consider alternative treatment options, withdrawal of treatment or specialist referral as appropriate. Advice on stopping alimemazine and potential treatment alternatives is available from the Southampton Medicines Advice Service 023 8120 6908/9.

Dutasteride soft capsules – a reminder that this product is not supported for the treatment of moderate to severe symptoms of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) and the treatment of choice locally is finasteride.

Other Information and formulary updates

Reminder - Dapagliflozin tablets (Forxiga®) for use with Insulin for treating people with type 1 diabetes- prescribing of this combination should not be initiated in primary care without the support of a specialist.

Shared care guidelines – the following guidelines have been developed or updated and are available on the website below

- Safinamide for the treatment of Parkinson's disease
- Stiripentol for the adjunctive treatment of Dravet syndrome

Recommendations for the choice of Blood Glucose Meters, Testing Strips, Lancets and Needles in Adults living with Diabetes - an updated version of the guideline was agreed and will be available on the website below soon.

Fluorouracil 5% w/w (Efudix®) cream- The Committee supports changing formulary status from Amber to Green.

Trimbow® (beclomethasone, formoterol, glycopyrronium) and **Trelegy®** (Fluticasone, umeclidinium, vilanterol) - The Committee supports changing formulary status from Amber to Green for these two triple therapy Inhalers.

Guidance documents are available [Here](#) (hosted by West Hampshire CCG)

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