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Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee

GUIDANCE SPECIFICALLY RELEVANT TO PRIMARY CARE

AMBER Ferric Maltol 30mg Capsules

The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of FERRIC MALTOL (Feracru[®]) following specialist initiation for the treatment of iron deficiency anaemia in adult patients with inflammatory bowel disease.

Ferric maltol (Feracru[®]) is recommended as an option for treating iron deficiency anaemia (IDA) in patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) only if:

- An adequate trial of at least two oral iron preparations containing ferrous salts (e.g. ferrous fumarate, ferrous sulfate) has been tried and the patient has suffered intolerable adverse effects; and
- Haemoglobin is $\geq 95\text{g/L}$ and the patient is being considered for intravenous iron therapy; and
- The patient's IBD is stable; and
- The initial decision to prescribe ferric maltol is made by a specialist in the management of inflammatory bowel disease.

The first course of ferric maltol must be supplied in full by the specialist. After a successful first course of treatment for IDA, the specialist should write to the GP informing them that treatment has been successful and requesting that, if IDA recurs, to issue repeat courses as necessary without the need for specialist involvement, provided the patient's IBD is stable. Ferracru[®] is currently only licensed for IDA in IBD; however, there is a pending licence extension for use in IDA. The Pan Mersey APC does not recommend the use of ferric maltol in the management of IDA in patients who do not have IBD. This licence extension will be reviewed according to Pan Mersey APC processes and a prescribing position will be published in the future.

AMBER Insulin Degludec 100 units/ml and 200 units/ml

The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of insulin degludec 100units/mL and 200units/mL solution for injection (Tresiba[®] ▼) following specialist initiation for type 1 diabetes and type 2 diabetes for specific patient groups taking into account NICE guidance and key safety implications

Insulin degludec is an ultra-long-acting basal insulin. It should not be considered a first line insulin in patients with either type 1 or type 2 diabetes, however it can be initiated in patients who meet the criteria stipulated in the statement either following problems with other basal insulins or as initial treatment if a specialist feels that this is appropriate.

Vitamin D Guideline – Adults

This guideline replaces the original Mid-Mersey and North Mersey guidelines, for treatment of vitamin D deficiency, insufficiency and maintenance in adults.

Issued: March 2018 | Review: February 2021

AMBER Mesalazine Oral Formulations

The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of Mesalazine oral formulations by brand name following specialist initiation for inflammatory bowel disease. Octasa® brand is considered to be equivalent to Asacol® brand and currently represents a more cost effective choice.

Mesalazine MR 400mg and 800mg should be prescribed by brand name for all new patients, in line with NICE CG 166 and 152 and guidance from the British Society of Gastroenterology. Currently Octasa® MR tablets 400mg and 800mg is more cost effective than Asacol. If switching a patient to a different brand of mesalazine, the patient should be advised to report any changes in symptoms.

The CCG Medicines Management Team has included this area of work on their workplan for 2018/19 and will ensure communication with local Gastroenterologists when developing the project review materials. Details will be discussed with GPs and communicated to Community Pharmacists when the project is ready to launch.

Unlicensed and Off Label Medicines Guideline

This document is a good practice guide to support prescribers with prescribing unlicensed and “off-label” medicines. It describes the differences between licensed medicines, unlicensed medicines and “off-label” medicines. It advises prescribers on a stepped approach when considering what to prescribe, and highlights the prescriber’s responsibilities and best practice around patient communication.

Issued: February 2018 | Review: January 2021

Medicines Management Work plan 2018/19

During **April and May 2018** the NHS Halton CCG Medicines Management Team will be doing the following pieces of work:

- Reviewing prescribing of mesalazine oral formulations as detailed above and potentially switching patients from Asacol® to Octasa® where appropriate in line with Pan Mersey recommendations.
- Switching generically written and some branded Calcium and Vitamin D tablets to Evacal® tablets.
- Switching generically written oral opioids and opioid patches to appropriate brands in line with Pan Mersey recommendations for safer prescribing.
- Reviewing patients on modified release quetiapine for potential switch to immediate release quetiapine with specialist’s agreement or switch to the branded generic Biquelle®.

MINOR AILMENT SERVICE UPDATE

The NHS Halton CCG Minor Ailment Service, Care at the Chemist (CATC), has a simple aim: to enable patients to receive treatment for common illnesses direct from a community pharmacy. It makes optimal use of Pharmacist skills since advising on minor illnesses is a core part of every Community Pharmacist's role. It also relieves pressure within primary care by reducing the number of patients seeking a GP appointment for minor ailments such as head lice treatment, ear wax, athlete's foot etc.

Following a review of the service the formulary has now been updated. The conditions which can be treated under CATC are:

Acute Bacterial Conjunctivitis	Allergy	Athlete's Foot	Cold Sores	Constipation	Contact dermatitis
Cough	Cystitis	Diarrhoea	Ear Wax	Genital Thrush	Haemorrhoids
Headache, Pain & Temperature	Head Lice	Indigestion & Heartburn	Infant Colic	Mouth Ulcers	Nappy Rash
Nasal Congestion	Oral Thrush	Sore Throats	Teething	Threadworm	Warts & Verrucae

The following changes have been made to the current CATC formulary and will be implemented from the 3rd April 2018:

Indication	Old Treatment (expired 2/04/18)	New Treatment (commences 03/04/18)	Description of amendment
Allergy	Loratadine 10mg tablets (7).	Loratadine 10mg tablets (30).	Quantity to be provided has increased to 30 tablet pack
Athlete's foot	Terbinafine 1% cream (7.5ml). Clotrimazole 1% cream (20g).	Clotrimazole 1% cream (20g).	Terbinafine 1% cream has been removed from treatment options
Chesty cough	Guaifenesin 100mg/5ml liquid (100ml). Simple linctus paediatric sugar free (200ml). Simple linctus (200ml).	Simple linctus sugar free 200ml. Simple linctus paediatric sugar free 200ml. Pholcodine linctus 200ml.	The Indication chesty cough and dry cough has been merged into the one indication 'Cough'. Guaifenesin 100mg/5ml liquid has been removed and Simple linctus is now sugar free.
Dry cough	Simple linctus 200ml. Simple linctus paediatric sugar free 200ml. Pholcodine linctus 200ml.		
Diarrhoea	Oral rehydration sachets (Dioralyte 6 sachets). Dioralyte relief (6 sachets). Loperamide 2mg caps (6).	Dioralyte relief (6 sachets). Loperamide 2mg caps (6).	Oral rehydration sachets (Dioralyte 6 sachets) have been removed from the treatment options.
Ear Wax	Olive Oil (10ml). Sodium Bicarbonate 5% ear Drops (10ml).	Olive Oil (10ml).	Sodium Bicarbonate 5% ear Drops (10ml) has been removed from the treatment options
Headache, pain and temperature	Paracetamol 500mg soluble tablets (24). Paracetamol 500mg tablets (32). Paracetamol 120mg/5ml susp. Sugar free 100ml. Paracetamol 250mg/5ml	Paracetamol 500mg tablets (32). Paracetamol 120mg/5ml susp. Sugar free 100ml. Paracetamol 250mg/5ml susp. Sugar	Paracetamol 500mg soluble tablets (24) have been removed from the treatment options.

	susp. Sugar free 100ml. Ibuprofen 200mg tablets (24). Ibuprofen 100mg/5ml susp. sugar free 100ml.	free 100ml. Ibuprofen 200mg tablets (24). Ibuprofen 100mg/5ml susp. sugar free 100ml.	
Indigestion and heartburn	Gaviscon advance (150ml). Ranitidine 75mg (6). Mucogel suspension (500ml).	Acidex advance (250ml) Gaviscon advance (150ml). Ranitidine 75mg (12). Mucogel suspension (500ml).	Acidex advance (250ml) been added to the treatment option Ranitidine 75mg Quantity to be provided has increased to 12 tablet pack.
Mouth ulcers	Chlorhexidine 0.2% w/v mouthwash (300ml). Anbesol liquid (6.5ml). Bonjela teething gel 15G.	Anbesol liquid (6.5ml).	Chlorhexidine 0.2% mouthwash and Bonjela teething gel have been removed from the treatment options.
Sore Throats	Paracetamol 500mg soluble tablets (24). Paracetamol 500mg tablets (32). Paracetamol 120mg/5ml susp. Sugar free 100ml. Paracetamol 250mg/5ml susp. Sugar free 100ml. Ibuprofen 200mg tablets (24). Ibuprofen 100mg/5ml susp. Sugar free 100ml. Aspirin 300mg soluble tablets (32).	Paracetamol 500mg tablets (32). Paracetamol 120mg/5ml susp. Sugar free 100ml. Paracetamol 250mg/5ml susp. Sugar free 100ml. Ibuprofen 200mg tablets (24). Ibuprofen 100mg/5ml susp. sugar free 100ml.	Paracetamol 500mg soluble tablets (24) and Aspirin 300mg soluble tablets (32) have been removed from the treatment options.
Teething	Dentinox Teething Gel (10g). Bonjela Teething Gel (15g).	Anbesol liquid (6.5ml).	Dentinox Teething Gel and Bonjela Teething Gel have been removed and Anbesol liquid (6.5ml) has been added to the treatment options.
Threadworm	Mebendazole 100mg chewable tablets (2). Pripsen 4g sachets (2).	Mebendazole 100mg chewable tablets (2).	Pripsen 4g sachets have been removed from the treatment options.

Please note:

- The NHS Minor Ailment Service, Care at the Chemist (CATC), is for acute minor short term conditions only.
- Not all medicines are suitable for all age groups or for all patients but the pharmacist will advise as appropriate.

Safety

Head lice eradication products: risk of serious burns if treated hair is exposed to open flames or other sources of ignition e.g. cigarettes

Pharmacists and other Healthcare Professionals should advise patients/parents/caregivers about the risk of fire when they discuss head lice eradication options.

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/head-lice-eradication-products-risk-of-serious-burns-if-treated-hair-is-exposed-to-open-flames-or-other-sources-of-ignition-eg-cigarettes>

Class 2 Drug Recall: Ventolin Accuhaler 200mcg

Glaxo Wellcome Ltd issued a Patient level recall of two Lots of the Ventolin Accuhaler 200mcg because a manufacturing issue with these Lots has been identified which has resulted in a small number of units not delivering the full number of doses.

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/class-2-medicines-recall-ventolin-accuhaler-200mcg-salbutamol-sulfate>

Class 2 Drug Recall: Seretide 50/250mcg Accuhaler

Glaxo Wellcome Ltd also issued a Pharmacy level recall of one Lot of Seretide 50/250mcg Accuhaler because a manufacturing issue has resulted in a small number of units not delivering the full number of doses.

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/class-2-medicines-recall-seretide-accuhaler-50-microgram-250-microgram-dose-inhalation-powder-pre-dispensed>

Daclizumab (Zinbryta ▼): suspension and recall for safety reasons; review patients as soon as possible and start alternative therapy

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has recommended the immediate suspension of the marketing authorisation and recall of daclizumab (Zinbryta) in the EU following reports of serious inflammatory brain disorder. Daclizumab is an NHSE Commissioned Drug and a BLACK drug on the Pan Mersey formulary.

Advice for Healthcare Professionals has been issued by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) following an urgent safety review:

- Patients should not be started on daclizumab.
- Doctors should contact all patients receiving daclizumab as soon as possible and stop their treatment. Alternative therapy should be considered in line with national recommendations (e.g. NICE guidance).
- Doctors should monitor all patients stopping daclizumab for adverse reactions and check their liver function tests at least monthly and more frequently if clinically indicated for up to 6 months after the last dose.
- Doctors should advise patients to seek urgent medical attention if they develop severe headache or any symptoms of liver injury such as prolonged fever, abdominal pain, jaundice, dark urine, or unexplained nausea or vomiting; serious immune-mediated hepatic injury can occur up to 6 months after the final dose.
- Patients should talk to their doctor if they have any questions about daclizumab.

EMA's recommendation to suspend Zinbryta and recall the product is being sent to the European Commission for a legally binding decision.

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/daclizumab-zinbryta-suspension-and-recall-for-safety-reasons-review-patients-as-soon-as-possible-and-start-alternative-therapy>

Medicines Management Team Information

Team Update

From the end of March/beginning of April 2018 Zoe Mason, Care Home Pharmacist and Jessica Mellor, Practice Pharmacist have started their maternity leave and as such cover arrangements have been put in place to support the ongoing essential work of the Medicines Management Team.

Practice work will be covered by the existing Medicines Management Team but with some changes to practice allocation and support. All practices will continue to have both pharmacist and technician cover.

Pharmacist Care Home cover has been arranged as follows:

For:

- Urgent Medication reviews.
- Information around appropriate switching of medication to alternative formulations in cases of swallowing difficulties.
- Clinical pharmacist advice for covert medication queries.

Please contact our Clinical Pharmacists:

Andrea Glancey	Gemma Dutton
Email: andrea.glancey@nhs.net	Email: gemma.dutton@nhs.net

- To Dip or not to Dip queries.

Please contact Stephanie Ord-Neary Telephone: 01928 593010 or Email: Stephanie.OrdNeary@haltonccg.nhs.uk

- All other Care Home queries.

Please contact our Care Home Pharmacy Technicians.

Kate O'Loughlin	Stephanie Ord-Neary
Email: Katherine.o'loughlin@haltonccg.nhs.uk	Email: Stephanie.OrdNeary@haltonccg.nhs.uk
Telephone: 01928 593019	

In order to support practices effectively we are looking to have additional Clinical Pharmacist cover for care home work in the coming months until Zoe returns.

Please contact the CCG Medicines Management Team if any further information is required.

Becky Birchall 01928 593010 Becky.birchall@haltonccg.nhs.uk	Lucy Reid 01928 593452 Lucy.reid@haltonccg.nhs.uk	Nathan O'Brien 01928 593010 Nathan.O'Brien@haltonccg.nhs.uk
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