

Quick bites

- The Dorset Formulary is available at: www.dorsetformulary.nhs.uk
- [Medicines Health Regulatory Agency \(MHRA\) Drug Safety Update](#)
- Please refer to the controlled drug bulletin distributed with this newsletter for updates to controlled drug prescribing locally, including withdrawal of the licence for meprobamate and changes to the process of requisitioning controlled drugs for doctors bags/practice stock.
- The Royal Pharmaceutical Society has published some [new guidance on special order products](#), which includes five best practice principles for prescribing a special.
- Cosmetic procedures and treatments (including creams) are not usually commissioned by Dorset CCG, this includes skin conditions which, although they may be medical conditions, only cause cosmetic side effects and are not a risk to a person's health. Please refer to the [CCG access protocol for benign skin lesions and cosmetic treatments](#).
- The [May 2016 vaccine update](#), published by Public Health England, includes a reminder on administration sites for the four vaccines at the 12 month routine visit and highlights changes to the meningococcal C vaccination schedule from 1 July 2016, refer to link.

Prescribing of intrauterine devices (IUDs) for insertion in hospital or clinic appointments

The medicines management team sometimes get reports from GP practices that they have been asked to prescribe coils or other intrauterine devices for patients who have attended a local clinic hosted by either an acute or community Trust, so that an IUD prescribed on FP10 can then be inserted by that Trust. This is often cost related, but sometimes due to stock issues.

Please note, this is not good practice in terms of governance, as the organisation inserting the device should be confident in the procurement and storage of the product between prescription and insertion. In terms of funding, we can confirm that the Trust baselines now include the funding for such devices and thus this should not be the reason for referring to the GP to prescribe.

Similarly, these devices are not excluded from tariff and should not be separately funded from inpatient or outpatient episodes.

Recent changes to Drug Tariff listing for oromucosal midazolam

From 1st May 2016, the four drug tariff listings for oromucosal midazolam have been updated to reflect the sugar-free (SF) status of the product. The following table shows the changes:

Midazolam 10mg/2ml pre-filled oral syringes	Midazolam oromucosal solution 10mg/2ml pre-filled oral syringes SF
Midazolam 2.5mg/0.5ml pre-filled oral syringes	Midazolam oromucosal solution 2.5mg/0.5ml pre-filled oral syringes SF
Midazolam 5mg/1ml pre-filled oral syringes	Midazolam oromucosal solution 5mg/1ml pre-filled oral syringes SF
Midazolam 7.5mg/1.5ml pre-filled oral syringes	Midazolam oromucosal solution 7.5mg/1.5ml pre-filled oral syringes SF

Please ensure that any prescription written generically for buccal midazolam in the listed strengths is written as per the new drug tariff name, to avoid the need to amend the prescription. For more information please refer to the briefing in the [Community Pharmacy Newsletter](#) published by PSNC.

Esmya® (ulipristal acetate): AMBER status for intermittent treatment of uterine fibroids

Ulipristal acetate as Esmya® has an AMBER status on the Dorset formulary for the intermittent treatment of uterine fibroids in women of reproductive age. There is a [local shared care guideline](#) to support this prescribing.

The first course of Esmya® should be provided by secondary care and up to another 2 courses may be prescribed from primary care (maximum 3 courses). Please note that use of Esmya® pre-operatively is **not** covered by the shared care guidance and remains 'red' on the formulary.

Discontinuation of Climaval® and Climagest®

Please note that both Climaval® and Climagest® preparations are being discontinued. Equivalent preparations with identical ingredients are available:

Product discontinued	Ingredients	Alternative product with identical ingredients
Climaval 1mg	Oestradiol 1mg	Elleste Solo 1mg (<i>formulary choice</i>) Progynova 1mg Zumenon 1mg
Climaval 2mg	Oestradiol 2mg	Elleste Solo 2mg (<i>formulary choice</i>) Progynova 2mg Zumenon 1mg
Climagest 1mg	16 tabs containing 1mg oestradiol and 12 tabs containing 1mg oestradiol with 1mg norethisterone.	Elleste-Duet 1mg (<i>formulary choice</i>) Novofem 1mg
Climagest 2mg	16 tabs containing 2mg oestradiol and 12 tabs containing 2mg oestradiol with 1 mg norethisterone.	Elleste-Duet 2mg (<i>formulary choice</i>)

Olanzapine

Some practices are prescribing 'oral lyophilisate' formulations of sugar free orodispersible olanzapine. The lyophilisate formulations are still patented therefore associated with significant cost. Where an orodispersible formulation is required, prescribing standard (non-lyophilisate) sugar free orodispersible tablets or plain orodispersible formulations offer significant savings. The costs of olanzapine in the various formulations are summarised below:

Strength	Oral lyophilisate, orodispersible, sugar free (Velotabs®)	Orodispersible, sugar free	Orodispersible, not sugar free	Non- orodispersible
5mg	£48.07	£1.89	£1.32	£1.13
10mg	£87.40	£2.55	£1.22	£1.50
15mg	£131.10	£3.19	£1.31	£1.69
20mg	£174.79	£4.69	£2.49	£1.90

Specialist medicines advice can be obtained from the Medicines Advise Service at Southampton General Hospital: **023 8120 6908** or **023 8120 6909** or e-mail medicinesinformation@uhs.nhs.uk