

Dorset Medicines Advisory Group (DMAG) Annual Report for 2019/2020

1. Introduction

Background

- 1.1. The Dorset Medicines Advisory Group (DMAG) is a stakeholder group for the health community to ensure sound local decision making about medicines. It's structure and function is consistent with the NICE recommendations for developing and updating local formularies within <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mpg1>.
- 1.2. The Group reports directly or indirectly (via Medicines Optimisation Transformation Group) to the Clinical Reference Group (CRG), Quality Sureveillance Group (QSG) and the Elective Care Board. The Group's work programme is delivered by its existing working groups or specific task and finish groups to ensure timely, consistent and robust review. Where possible the work programmes are aligned with the workstreams of the elective care programmes.
- 1.3. The Group also supports Public Health Dorset to take account of medicines implications in delivery of their priorities to ensure consistency across the health community.
- 1.4. Provider Trusts, as stakeholders, contribute to the agenda of the Group and the DMAG receives input from the local drug and therapeutics committees (D&Ts).
- 1.5. The work programme of DMAG and its working groups are aligned with the Regional Medicines Optimisation Committees (RMOC) workplan.

2. The purpose and aims of the Group

- 2.1. DMAG assumes the responsibility for promoting cost-effective, evidence based and safe use of medicines across the Dorset health community by:
 - Horizon scanning, advising and supporting clinical commissioning decisions on the introduction of new drugs in the local health community, ensuring a consistent approach across the county;
 - Supporting the inclusion of drugs recommended through NICE Technology Appraisals on the Dorset formulary, and identification of any commissioning issues related to the inclusion of such drugs;

- Allocation of a 'traffic light status' for individual drug's;
- Ongoing maintenance, implementation, review and updating of the Dorset formulary;
- Development of local clinical guidelines and shared care guidelines for drugs with an 'amber' shared care traffic light status;
- Input into elective care or service delivery programmes within the CCG with regard to pharmaceutical interventions and recommendations on their place in relevant treatment pathway.

3. Membership

3.1. Membership of DMAG in 19/20 comprised a wide variety of professional, clinical, commissioning, managerial, and organisational backgrounds, with the following attendees:

- NHS Provider organisations (x4):
 - Trust drug and therapeutics chair;
 - Chief Pharmacist.
- NHS Dorset CCG:
 - CCG prescribing lead (Chair from March 2015);
 - Locality GP prescribing lead (1 from each cluster);
 - Chief Pharmacist;
 - Senior Pharmacists (includes NICE associate);
 - Service Delivery representative;
- Patient and public representative;
- Local Authority Public Health representative;
- RMOC representative (provides input).

4. Attendance at DMAG meetings

4.1. The Group meets bi-monthly. There were five meetings in the 2019/20 financial year. The final meeting of the year was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A small agenda of essential items was circulated for email comment at this time.

4.2. The CCG has been represented at every meeting. Implementation of videoconferencing between Canford and Vespasian House has improved the ability of Trust representatives to attend. Members of the group are encouraged that where they are unable to attend a nominated deputy attends.

5. Drugs classified under the Traffic Light System in 2019/2020

5.1. [Appendix 1](#) contains a summary table of all the drugs allocated a traffic light between April 2019 and March 2020.

6. Guidance ratified

- 6.1. [Appendix 2](#) contains a summary table of all the guidance ratified by DMAG between April 2019 and March 2020 and a list of other amendments made to the formulary and/or existing guidance.

7. NICE Technology Appraisals

- 7.1. All NICE technology appraisals which are the responsibility of the CCG are considered through the DMAG. These totaled 15 technology appraisals in 2019/2020.
- 7.2. The CCG has ensured that funding is available for all drugs approved for use by the NICE TA process within the required 90-day statutory period (30 days for 'fast track' appraisals). Where necessary relevant service leads within the CCG have worked alongside DMAG representatives and relevant provider Trusts to facilitate the implementation of the NICE TA drugs within a new or existing service.

8. NICE Evidence summaries and Clinical Guidelines

- 8.1. DMAG and its working groups use relevant evidence summaries and clinical guidelines in their development of new pathways involving medicines and evaluations of new and existing drugs.
- 8.2. One of the NICE associates for Dorset inputs into the DMAG.

9. Dorset formulary website and app

- 9.1. The Dorset formulary has been recently recommissioned on its own dedicated website. At the same time, it was decided not to continue funding the app. The collaborative working continues through the formulary working group to manage the site and its content including an ongoing programme of review.

10. Recommendation

- 10.1. Dorset Medicines Advisory Group continues to function as the area prescribing committee to bring together clinical decision making and promote the cost-effective, safe and evidence-based use of medicines across the health economy. All organisations remain committed to it.
- 10.2. The terms of reference and reporting structure of DMAG was reviewed in 2019/20 to reflect the new structures of the ICS.
- 10.3. The group are asked to note this report.

Appendix 1: Drugs classified under the Traffic Light System in 2019/2020

DMAG Meeting	Red	Amber	Green	Not recommended	Not formulary
May 2019	Esmya® Certolizumab Tildrakizumab		Eloine® Ertugliflozin		
July 2019	Aliskiren 5-aminolaevulinic acid (Ameluz®)	Amiodarone With SCG Digoxin Ganciclovir eye gel Fludroxycortide (Haelan®) tape Lidocaine Injections	Lidocaine Ointment		Sevikar-HCT® (amlodipine besilate, hydrochlorothiazide, olmesartan medoxomil)
September 2019	Risankizumab Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate Fluocinolone Implant Dapagliflozin (When used in Type 1 diabetes in combination with insulin)		Urgostart® all sizes Clearfilm®		Xonvea® (doxylamine pyridoxine) Melatonin product licensed for jet lag in adults
November 2019	Hepatitis B vaccine Mouthwash solution tablets Liothyronine for mental health indications Mydrane® Trivecta® Xeomin® (botulinum neurotoxin type A)	Pizotifen Strontium Azithromycin with SCG Semaglutide with SCG Guanfacine with SCG	Semglee® (biosimilar insulin glargine) Fixapost® Rivaroxaban for CAD/PAD?		Retigabine Zafirlukast Cariprazine (Reagila®)

DMAG Meeting	Red	Amber	Green	Not recommended	Not formulary
January 2020	Pentosan polysulfate sodium	Ivabradine (for POTS and IST) Syreni Ring®	Erythromycin Ciprofloxacin ear drops (single use) 2mg/ml Cetraxal® ketotifen P/F eye drops		Fluocinolone acetonide intravitreal implant (NICE TA 613)
March/April 2020	Lusutrombopag Patiromer	Abstral® with SCG			

Appendix 2: Guidance ratified by DMAG in 2019/2020

DMAG meeting	Type of guidance			
	Shared care guidance	Clinical guidance/pathway	Commissioning statement	Other guidance
May 2019	Riluzole Shared care guideline Tizanidine Shared Care guideline	Pathway for the treatment of constipation in adults Psoriasis Pathway amended to reflect NICE TAs 574 & 575 Inhaler steroid guidance in asthma COPD guideline	SGLT2s commissioning statement. Tildrakizumab commissioning statement Certolizumab pegol commissioning statement	Sodium Valproate guidance document on valproate use in women and girls of child bearing years - Noted Oral contraception flow chart
July 2019	Amiodarone shared care guidance DMARDs shared care guideline. (West Dorset)	Adult Pain Management Guidelines QTc prolongation guidance (from DCH & mental health) Pelvic Pathway Urticaria treatment pathway (reviewed) Pharmacological management of psoriasis guideline	Commissioning statement on the use of evolocumab and alirocumab (PCSK9)	DMAG Terms of Reference Apremilast in psoriasis (Reviewed - no changes)
September 2019		The Diabetic foot ulcer pathway The Psoriasis Pathway, updated to include risankizumab Botulinum Toxin Type A. Criteria based Access Protocol:	Risankizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate for treating hyperkalaemia	Melatonin product licensed for jet lag in adults only to be issued on a private prescription. The "Dorset CCG Prescribing for Overseas Travel" policy has been updated to reflect this

DMAG meeting	Type of guidance			
	Shared care guidance	Clinical guidance/pathway	Commissioning statement	Other guidance
		Amendment to the CBAP following NICE NG46	Fluocinolone Acetonide in recurrent non-infectious uveitis. Dapagliflozin with insulin for treating Type 1 diabetics. Commissioning statement for Biosimilars reviewed and updated Commissioning statement for positive expiratory pressure devices	
November 2019	Shared Care Guideline GLP-1- Shared Care Guideline liothyronine Shared Care Guideline ADHD in adults and children and adolescents aged 6-17yrs		Commissioning Statement GLP-1- Reviewed and updated Commissioning Statement Rivaroxaban for preventing atherothrombotic events in people with coronary artery disease or peripheral artery disease. Commissioning Statement for the use of Xeomin® (Botulinum Neurotoxin Type A) for treating chronic sialorrhoea.	
January 2020	Ivabradine Shared Care Guideline (Heart failure, Angina and in postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS) or inappropriate sinus tachycardia (ITS)) The hydroxycarbamide shared care guideline	Investigation and treatment of Adult Vitamin B12 (Cobalamin) Deficiency Guideline. The stoma ancillary products Formulary review		The European Society of Cardiology (Dual antiplatelet therapy and percutaneous coronary intervention) in patients with coronary artery disease Guidance

DMAG meeting	Type of guidance			
	Shared care guidance	Clinical guidance/pathway	Commissioning statement	Other guidance
March/April 2020	Shared Care Guideline for Immediate release fentanyl sublingual tablets (Abstral®) in adults with breakthrough pain (PALLIATIVE CARE ONLY)		<p>Commissioning Statement on the use of Lusutrombopag for treating thrombocytopenia in people with chronic liver disease needing a planned invasive procedure (NICE TA617)</p> <p>Commissioning Statement on the use of Patiromer for treating Hyperkalaemia (NICE TA623)</p> <p>Commissioning statement on the use of immediate release (transmucosal) fentanyl products updated.</p>	

Other amendments to the formulary during 2019/2020:

- New wording to be added to Paracetamol dosing

Adult patients with a body weight under 50kg and additional risk factors may have an increased risk of toxicity at therapeutic doses. For child doses please see BNFc.

Guidance on adult **oral** dosing below. Clinical judgement should be used to adjust dosing:

Patient weight	Dose	Frequency	Maximum daily dose
> 50kg with additional risk factors* for hepatotoxicity	1g	8 hourly	3g
>33 kg to ≤ 50 kg	15mg/kg	6 hourly	60mg/Kg not exceeding 3g
Under 33kg	15mg/Kg	6 hourly	60mg/kg not exceeding 2g

Please note, doses should be rounded to the nearest 250mg

Risk factors are: alcohol dependence, cirrhosis, increasing age, frail patients, hepatitis B & C, malnutrition, liver impairment, p450 enzyme inducers e.g. carbamazepine, isoniazid, phenobarbital, phenytoin, primidone, rifampicin, rifabutin, efavirenz, nevirapine, St John's Wort.

- [RMOc work plan and document](#) Information noted comments to be taken forward within horizon scanning process.
- New wording to be added to section 2.4 of the formulary “Soya may be included as an excipient in medicines. How it is listed as an excipient may vary. Further information regarding how it is named would be available through the regional medicines information service at Southampton if required”
- New wording on formulary regarding compression stockings “There is no specific formulary for compression stockings but the most cost effective option should be chosen”
- Potassium permanganate Remain as Green - Amend the formulary entry back to Permitabs® to match SystemOne and the Dictionary of Medicines and Devices (dm+d) published by NHS Business Services Authority
- Palliative care formulary (chapter 21 of formulary) Furosemide, Lorazepam (as Genus brand) and Sodium Picosulfate are not part of the community pharmacy palliative care service stocked items but are recommended in Wessex palliative care handbook. They will remain in section 21 of the formulary.

- Palliative care formulary (chapter 21 of formulary). To reflect the community pharmacy palliative care list, the following drugs to be added to the palliative care formulary chapter. Dexamethasone 3.3mg/ml Injection, Dexamethasone 2mg Tablets, Diamorphine 10mg Injection, Diamorphine 30mg Injection, Diazepam 5mg/ml Injection, Diazepam 10mg Rectal Tubes, Diclofenac 100mg Suppositories, Fentanyl 25mcg Patches, Metoclopramide 5mg/ml Injection, Morphine sulphate 10mg/ml Injection, Morphine sulphate 30mg/ml Injection, Morphine sulphate 10mg/5ml Oral Solution, Oxycodone 10mg/ml Injection, Sodium chloride 0.9% Injection, Water for Injection.
- A statement on hosiery appliances to be added to formulary
“Hosiery appliances: there is currently no formulary for hosiery appliances. Please ensure that patients are using the most cost effective and clinically appropriate appliance following details in the Drug Tariff. Please see the link to the NHSBSA here for the latest version of the Drug Tariff.
- The antibiotic formulary entries updated to highlight different treatment courses according to different indications.
In line with Bronchiectasis (acute exacerbation) NICE NG117 and COPD (acute exacerbation) NICE NG114 on antimicrobial prescribing.
- Statement to enable brand prescribing of biosimilars “Most cost-effective brand to be chosen (product should be brand prescribed) that may be dictated by national contract and/or local decision making. It is expected that biosimilars would be used first line where appropriate”.
- Amantadine Amended wording to; not recommended for prophylaxis in line with NICE TA158
- Acetic Acid 2% spray Note to be added DMAG approved that a note is added to the formulary entry to say it is available as a first line treatment of superficial external ear infections, but is to be purchased over the counter
- Evicel® Approved as Red- A thrombin sealant for use in robotic partial nephrectomies, approved for use by RBCH/PHT Joint D&TC
- NICE COVID-19 Guidelines- NICE is publishing a series of rapid guidelines and evidence summaries to support the care of patients during the current pandemic. DMAG support the use of these guidelines. Available at: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/published?type=cov,coa>

NICE TAs:

[NICE TA572](#) Ertugliflozin as monotherapy or with metformin for treating type 2 diabetes

[NICE TA575](#) Tildrakizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis

[NICE TA574](#) Certolizumab pegol for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis

[NICE TA583](#) Ertugliflozin with metformin and a dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitor for treating type 2 diabetes

[NICE TA596](#) - Risankizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis

[NICE MTG42](#)- UrgoStart for treating diabetic foot ulcers and leg ulcers

[NICE TA 599](#) - Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate

[NICE TA 590](#) – Fluocinolone acetonide intravitreal implant

[NICE TA597](#) – Dapagliflozin, with insulin for treating type 1 diabetes

[NICE TA607](#) Rivaroxaban for preventing atherothrombotic events in people with coronary or peripheral artery disease

[NICE TA605](#) Xeomin (botulinum neurotoxin type A) for treating chronic sialorrhoea

[NICE TA610](#) Pentosan polysulfate sodium for treating bladder pain syndrome

[NICE TA613](#) Fluocinolone acetonide intravitreal implant for treating chronic diabetic macular oedema in phakic eyes after an inadequate response to previous therapy.

[NICE TA617](#) Lusutrombopag for treating thrombocytopenia in people with chronic liver disease needing a planned invasive procedure

[NICE TA623](#) Patiromer for treating Hyperkalaemia