

# Medicines Optimisation Newsletter

## May 2019

### What's in this Edition

- Current Team projects
- Future meeting dates
- MOQIS extension
- AirFluSal MDI
- New team member
- Liquid alternatives case study
- Wound care formulary update
- MFT information
- Price concessions

### Future Meeting Dates 2019-20

#### **Prescribing Leads Meeting:**

- Wednesday 12th June 2019
- Thursday 26th Sept 2019
- Wednesday 11th Dec 2019
- Thursday 26th Mar 2020

\*Designed for attendance by prescribing professionals ONLY, e.g. GPs, Nurse, Pharmacist

#### **Practice Admin Forums:**

- Wednesday 22nd May 2019
- Thursday 18th July 2019
- Thursday 19th September 2019
- Thursday 7th November 2019
- Thursday 23rd Jan 2020
- Thursday 19th Mar 2020

\*Designed for attendance by Practice administrative staff who deal with prescription processes, e.g. Prescription Clerks, Receptionists, General Admin

### AirFluSal MDI Demo devices

If you require any AirFluSal Demo devices please contact the Sandoz rep:

George Samuel  
Mobile: +44 7786 525832  
Email: george.samuel@sandoz.com

### Current Medicines Optimisation Team Projects

Medication Optimisation Complex Clinical reviews including:

- COPD – Triple Therapy
- NSAID reviews – Coxibs and Diclofenac only
- Hydrochlorothiazide reviews – following MHRA alert
- Carbimazole reviews – following MHRA alert
- S.T.O.M.P (Medication reviews of pts with Learning Difficulties)

Other projects include:

- Review of patients using 'Antimuscarinics' for possible 'drug holiday' as long term use has detrimental side effects on mental health. Including patients with catheters
- Repatriation of specialist drugs of which prescribing should remain with the consultant.
- Highlight prescribing of Perindopril 'Arginine' and 'Dosulepin' which are drugs not advised by NHS England to be routinely prescribed in Primary care as there is little evidence to support continued prescribing.

### Medicines Optimisation Quality Improvement Scheme (MOQIS) 19/20 participation agreement

The date of when to return the MOQIS participation agreement form has been extended to the **17<sup>th</sup> May 2019**.

Could this form, which has already disseminated, be sent back the team either via email [swccg.medicine@nhs.net](mailto:swccg.medicine@nhs.net) or post:

NHS Swale  
Bramblefield Clinic  
Grovehurst Road  
Kemsley, Sittingbourne  
ME10 2ST

### New member of the Medicines Optimisation Team

We would like to welcome Sandra Humphrey to the team. She has joined us as a GP practice support Technician. She has a realm of experience particularly in 'Community Pharmacy' and will be a great addition to the team.

### Prescribing Tips: Liquid Alternatives

It may be appropriate to switch patients medicines from a tablet/capsule form to an oral liquid due to swallowing difficulties. However some liquid preparations can be unlicensed, hugely expensive or there could be a more appropriate alternative which can be used

If you are unsure of which preparations are best to use, please contact the Meds Opt Team and we will provide you with a list of the most appropriate cost effective alternatives. We have access to a huge range of evidence based databases which will provide us with the most up to date information .e.g. Below is an actual example of changes made to one patients liquid alternative medications, which, from simple alterations, resulted in a £1,755 saving per month.

Original Item Prescribed	Alternative Switch	Cost Saving (Per Month)
Cyclizine 50mg/5ml Oral Sol, 5ml tds x 420ml = £513.14	Changed to more cost effective preparation Metoclopramide 5mg/5ml x 280ml = £39.54	£473.60
Lansoprazole 15mg/5ml Oral Sol, 5ml od x 140ml = £54.82	Changed to more cost effective preparation, Lansoprazole 15mg Orodisp Tabs x 28 = £2.77.	£52.05
Nitrofurantoin 25mg/5ml SF Oral Susp, 20ml on x 560ml = £893.90	Changed to more cost effective preparation, Nitrofurantoin 100mg Caps, 1 od x 28 (split cap and add to water) = £10.24	£883.66
Solifenacin 10mg/5ml Oral Sol, 2.5ml od = £373.72	Changed to more cost effective preparation, Vesicare 1mg/ml Oral Susp, 5ml od x 140ml = £27.62	£346.10

### Update to the Foam dressings on the Formulary.

The first line 'Foam dressings' has change from Biatain foam products to Mepilex products.

The ONPOS system is still in operation which allows the supply of dressings for patients being dressed by community nurses and wound clinic.

However, patients not currently being treated within this remit may come to the GP practice for supplies.

The 'Foam dressings' on the formulary are;

- Mepilex (Border Lite, Border Comfort, Lite and XT) *First line*
- Tegaderm foam adhesive *First line*
- Biatain (Non adhesive and Silicone) *Second line*

### Medway Foundation Trust (MFT)

#### Pharmacy Inbox for Medicine Queries

MFT Pharmacy has set up a centralised Email Inbox to receive medicines queries from General Practice.

[medwayft.medsqueries@nhs.net](mailto:medwayft.medsqueries@nhs.net) *This is for Healthcare Professionals use only.*

#### Discharge medication

To address the issue of GP's receiving delayed notification of medication changes following outpatient appointments, MFT will be issuing a summery slip to patients for them to then hand into their GP surgery. A full outpatient letter will still follow as normal. Any concerns or queries regarding this can be emailed to the address above.

**Updated Drug Prices for April 2019 – Due to Stock Shortages**

Drug	Pack size	Concession Price	Previous Price	Price Increase	Drug	Pack size	Concession Price	Previous Price	Price Increase
Sevelamer 800mg tablets	180	£140.00	£31.52	£108.48	Metoprolol 100mg tablets	28	£6.00	£1.17	£4.83
Ibandronic Acid 50mg tablets	28	£61.72	£6.86	£54.86	Metoprolol 50mg tablets	28	£4.33	£1.02	£3.31
Nebivolol 2.5mg tablets	28	£24.79	£6.67	£18.12	Mirtazapine 15mg tablets	28	£1.44	£1.23	£0.21
Ibandronic acid 150mg tablets	1	£12.80	£1.10	£11.70	Mirtazapine 30mg tablets	28	£1.28	£1.07	£0.21
Dosulepin 75mg tablets	28	£12.85	£1.31	£11.54	Naproxen 250mg gastro-resistant tablets	56	£10.00	£7.23	£2.77
Amiloride 5mg tablets	28	£9.50	£3.29	£6.21	Naproxen 250mg tablets	28	£3.76	£1.51	£2.25
Baclofen 10mg tablets	84	£1.67	£1.21	£0.46	Naproxen 500mg GR tablets	56	£18.89	£14.10	£4.79
Betahistine 16mg tablets	84	£2.70	£1.64	£1.06	Naproxen 500mg tablets	28	£8.10	£7.27	£0.83
Betahistine 8mg tablets	84	£1.38	£1.16	£0.22	Nortriptyline 10mg tablets	100	£5.90	£4.29	£1.61
Candesartan 16mg tablets	28	£2.90	£1.78	£1.12	Olanzapine 15mg tablets	28	£2.81	£1.69	£1.12
Candesartan 32mg tablets	28	£2.40	£1.76	£0.64	Olanzapine 2.5mg tablets	28	£1.25	£1.09	£0.16
Carvedilol 12.5mg tablets	28	£2.10	£0.89	£1.21	Olanzapine 5mg tablets	28	£1.56	£1.27	£0.29
Carvedilol 25mg tablets	28	£3.26	£1.11	£2.15	Piroxicam 0.5% gel	112g	£3.15	£3.01	£0.14
Carvedilol 3.125mg tablets	28	£1.21	£0.91	£0.30	Pramipexole 88microgram tablets	30	£4.85	£3.01	£1.84
Celecoxib 100mg capsules	30	£3.29	£2.72	£0.57	Prednisolone 5mg tablets	28	£0.92	£0.74	£0.18
Celecoxib 200mg capsules	30	£13.76	£2.72	£11.04	Quetiapine 100mg tablets	60	£6.60	£3.46	£3.14
Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops	10ml	£2.16	£1.55	£0.61	Quetiapine 25mg tablets	60	£3.10	£1.70	£1.40
Citalopram 40mg/ml oral drops sugar free	15ml	£9.52	£5.21	£4.31	Quinine bisulfate 300mg tablets	28	£1.94	£1.59	£0.35
Clomipramine 25mg capsules	28	£3.50	£1.47	£2.03	Quinine sulfate 300mg tablets	28	£3.75	£1.94	£1.81
Clomipramine 50mg capsules	28	£4.12	£3.66	£0.46	Sertraline 100mg tablets	28	£2.00	£1.08	£0.92
Diamorphine 10mg ampoules	5	£16.36	£14.39	£1.97	Sertraline 50mg tablets	28	£1.34	£0.82	£0.52
Diamorphine 30mg ampoules	5	£16.52	£15.05	£1.47	Telmisartan 20mg tablets	28	£3.26	£2.26	£1.00
Dosulepin 25mg capsules	28	£1.80	£0.99	£0.81	Telmisartan 40mg tablets	28	£5.81	£5.17	£0.64
Irbesartan 300mg tablets	28	£3.88	£2.77	£1.11	Tibolone 2.5mg tablets	28	£9.30	£7.66	£1.64
Lofepamine 70mg tablets	56	£17.50	£10.28	£7.22	Topiramate 100mg tablets	60	£22.80	£14.83	£7.97
Losartan 100mg tablets	28	£3.80	£1.23	£2.57	Valsartan 160mg capsules	28	£8.93	£6.14	£2.79
Losartan 12.5mg tablets	28	£4.00	£3.09	£0.91	Valsartan 80mg capsules	28	£7.10	£3.34	£3.76
Losartan 50mg tablets	28	£3.00	£2.07	£0.93					