

## Derbyshire Joint Area Prescribing Committee (JAPC)

This is a countywide group covering NHS Derbyshire County, NHS Derby City, Derbyshire Community Health Services Trust, Derbyshire Healthcare Foundation Trust, Derby and Chesterfield Royal Hospitals. It provides recommendations on the prescribing and commissioning of drugs. See

<http://www.derbyshiremedicinesmanagement.nhs.uk/home>

### Key Messages from the JAPC October 2012 Meeting

#### Guidelines ([link](#))

##### Continence appliance prescribing guidelines

This guidance has been updated to promote rational prescribing of continence products. In addition to this the continence team have produced a patient catheter passport to aid communication between healthcare professionals and provide practical advice to patients on safe use. The catheter passport is available from the continence nurses and district nursing team.

##### Insulin management in type 2 diabetes

This is a new clinical guideline on prescribing cost effective insulin in type 2 diabetes highlighting the limited role of insulin analogues and practical advice on how to initiate and titrate doses of NPH (isophane) insulin

##### Prescribing guidelines- Guidance on prescribing in primary care

This is a new guideline outlining standards and expectations for NHS prescribers where roles and responsibilities of the prescriber are unclear. It covers a wide range of scenarios including providing NHS prescriptions to patients following private consultations, patients travelling abroad and guidance on vaccines for travel.

##### Patient group directions

Combined low dose diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio PGD has been updated to include pregnant women. The DH advice is to temporarily vaccinate pregnant women against pertussis to protect their infants.

##### Flutiform inhalers (BROWN)

Flutiform is a new combination inhaler (fluticasone and formoterol) being marketed with efficacy as non-inferior to Seretide and with a "faster" onset of action. JAPC discussed the evidence in detail and classified this as BROWN. It was noted that the comparator in the study is not on our preferred formulary choice and the faster onset of action is due to the formoterol which is also present in Fostair and Symbicort. The fast bronchodilator onset of action, (in respect of the formoterol component), is not of clinical benefit for regular controller therapy.

##### Rivaroxaban use in VTE

NICE TA 261 supports as an option the use of rivaroxaban for the treatment of DVT and prevention of recurrent DVT and PE. JAPC agreed that IV drug users that would normally go onto LMWH are a cohort of patients that would benefit from the newer oral anticoagulant. Details will be included in the LMWH shared care guidelines.

##### MHRA- Drug safety update Volume 6, Issue September 2012

##### **Dipeptidylpeptidase-4 inhibitors ('gliptins'): risk of acute pancreatitis.**

There have been reports of acute pancreatitis associated with drugs in the dipeptidylpeptidase-4 (DPP4) inhibitor class of antidiabetic agents ('gliptins'). Patients treated with DPP-4 inhibitors should be informed of the characteristic symptoms of acute pancreatitis – persistent, severe abdominal pain (sometimes radiating to the back) – and encouraged to tell their healthcare provider if they have such symptoms

Drug	BNF	Date considered	Decision	Details
Flutiform inhaler	Not listed	October 2012	Brown	Combination option following formulary choices of Symbicort and Fostair
Alteplase	2.10.2	October 2012	Red	
Hydrocaine gel	Not listed	October 2012	Green	Cost effective option over Instillagel as a lubricant for catheterisation
Rivaroxaban	2.8.2	October 2012	Amber	Shared care approved for IV drug users that would normally be treated with LMWH
Liothyronine with levothyroxine	6.2.1	September 2012	Green consultant initiation	Green for use in endocrinology following consultant initiation. Note- other traffic light classification of amber status of liothyronine for treatment resistant depression
Ivacftor	Not listed	September 2012	Black	Cystic fibrosis treatment. Await health technology appraisal
Bevacizumab	8.1.5	September 2012	Black	TA 263- in combination with capecitabine for the first line treatment of metastatic breast cancer.
Sodium Oxybate	4.1.1	September 2012	Black	Narcolepsy with cataplexy
Pelvic Toner	Not listed	September 2012	Black	Female stress urinary incontinence
Fidaxomicin	Not listed	September 2012	Red	Used in the treatment of C difficile.
Imiquimod	13.8	September 2012	Red	
Ulipristal acetate (Esmya)	Not listed	August 2012	Red	Oral preparation indicated for pre-operative treatment of uterine fibroids
Buccal midazolam (Buccolam)	4.8.2	August 2012	Amber	For use in children
Azilsartan	Not listed	August 2012	Brown	New angiotensin receptor blocker
Adalimumab	1.5.3	August 2012	Black	TA 262- Ulcerative colitis (moderate to severe, second line)- NICE appraisal terminated
Hyaluronic acid injections	Chapter 10	July 2012	Black	E.g. Renehavis, Durolane, Euflexxa, Fermathron, Hyalgan, Ostenil, Suplasyn, Synopsis, hylan G-F20, Synvisc and SportVIs

**RED** drugs are those where prescribing responsibility lies with a hospital consultant or a specialist.  
**AMBER** drugs are those that although usually initiated within a hospital setting, could appropriately become the responsibility of the GP, under a shared care agreement.  
**GREEN** drugs are regarded as suitable for primary care prescribing.  
**BROWN** drugs are those that JAPC does not recommend for use, except in exceptional circumstances, due to lack of data on safety, effectiveness, and/or cost-effectiveness.  
**BLACK** drugs are not recommended or commissioned

#### Derbyshire Medicines Management, Prescribing and Guidelines website

This website is the first port of call for information on local NHS decisions and guidance on medicines use. It includes: local prescribing formularies, JAPC decisions, traffic lights, shared care guidelines, medicines guidelines, newsletters, controlled drug resources, and other medicines management resources. The site improves upon previous sites in several ways. It is faster, more reliable, has its own search engine, and it is easier to find information. Content is constantly being updated and you can sign up for e-mail alerts to keep you up to date.