

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 January 2013 Meeting

Guidelines ([link](#))

The statin and FH policies are currently being updated. JAPC acknowledges the patent expiry of atorvastatin, its reduced cost and also the requirement to comply with NICE ezetimibe technology appraisal. In the interim atorvastatin 10mg is now **Green** (second line to simvastatin 40mg) and atorvastatin 80mg is **Green** for acute coronary syndrome. Ezetimibe is **Brown** as per NICE TA 132 guidance

Shared care ([link](#))

None

Glycopyrronium bromide inhaler for COPD (**Brown** 2nd line to tiotropium)

Glycopyrronium is another new LAMA launched in the past few months. JAPC considered the available evidence and placed it as second line to tiotropium which has the advantage of longer term safety and efficacy data. JAPC also considered the place of the LAMA acclidinium. Due to short duration and small trials acclidinium is now classified **Brown** 3rd line LAMA choice after tiotropium and glycopyrronium with the exceptionality being compliance issues with tiotropium and glycopyrronium.

Omega-3

Over a recent 12 month period Derbyshire spent approx £151k on omega-3 products. NICE CG 48 stated for "Secondary prevention in primary and secondary care for patients following a myocardial infarction" Omacor was an option and was classified as **Brown** with the exceptionality for patients truly intolerant of statins. The CG option was listed in the [lifestyle section](#) of the guideline, which also recommended patients to consume more omega 3 fatty acids in their diets. A recent DTB (Vol 5 Nov 2012) commented that evidence for omega 3 PUFA supplementation no longer supports its routine use and recommends that prescribers discuss the option of discontinuing supplementation with patients at their next drug review. Omacor is also licensed to treat hypertriglyceridaemia and its position for this indication will be considered during the lipid policy review.

Domperidone for inadequate lactation

JAPC endorses the off-label prescribing of domperidone for inadequate lactation because of its superior side effect profile, efficacy, and minimal passage into breast milk compared to other medicines used off-label as galactagogues. A maternal daily dose of 30mg domperidone should not be exceeded. Prescribing should be in consultation with either a midwife, infant feeding specialist or health visitor and after other treatable causes of lactation insufficiency are excluded (including non-drug treatments). For more information see [Drug treatment of inadequate lactation - NeLM](#)

Racecadotril for acute diarrhoea

Racecadotril (an enkephalinase inhibitor) is the first in a new class of drugs for acute diarrhoea that reduces intestinal secretion of water and electrolytes. Studies do not support its use in the UK primary care setting. In the majority of cases, acute watery diarrhoea is a minor self-limiting illness and sufferers can be cared for at home. NICE CG 84 on diarrhoea and vomiting in children under five gives priority to assessment of dehydration and appropriate fluid management. Racecadotril classified as **BLACK**

NICE technology appraisal adherence

Innovation Health and Wealth have introduced a NICE Compliance Regime for technology appraisals. The aim is to support patient access to NICE recommended medicines and technologies. JAPC continues to adopt all new technology appraisals into the local formulary and where appropriate identify its place in the relevant care pathway.

Drug	BNF	Date considered	Decision	Details
Atorvastatin	2.12	January 2013	Green	Atorvastatin 10mg is green second line to simvastatin 40mg. For ACS patients atorvastatin 80mg is green
Glycopyrronium bromide inhaler	Not listed	January 2013	Brown (2 nd line LAMA)	Lacks long term data. Second line to tiotropium, aclidinium is now 3 rd line LAMA for COPD
Racecadotril	Not listed	January 2013	Black	Lacks studies conducted in a UK primary care setting and contrary to NICE current guidance
Ivacaftor	Not listed	January 2013	Red	Specialised commissioning for cystic fibrosis
Testosterone patch (Intrinsa)	6.4.2	January 2013	Black	Re-classified from brown; lack of evidence and now un-licensed medicine
Ipilimumab	8.1.5	January 2013	Red	As per NICE TA 268
Vemurafenib	8.1.5	January 2013	Red	As per NICE TA 269
Decitabine	Not listed	January 2013	Black	As per NICE TA 270
Prucalopride	1.6.7	December 2012	Brown (Gastro specialist initiation)	Requires specialist assessment for initiation, 4 week trial to assess effect before primary care prescribing followed by on-going secondary care annual reviews (see algorithm for more guidance on use)
Spiriva Respimat	3.1.3	December 2012	Brown	Traffic light status relates to the Respimat (solution for inhalation) device of tiotropium
Fluoxetine	4.3.3	December 2012	Green (Specialist initiation for children (8-18yrs))	At licensed dose following recommendations by CAMHS
Denosumab	6.6.2	December 2012	Amber	Prevention of osteoporotic fractures in post-menopausal women (note dual traffic light classification, see full database for further info)
Pyrimethamine with sulfadiazine	5.4.1	December 2012	Red	Pyrimethamine has a dual classification
Mannitol	Not listed	December 2012	Red	TA267 Cystic fibrosis

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.