



Produced by the
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Bite Size Prescribing News

March 2019



Rotherham
Clinical Commissioning Group

Sally's leaving the CCG



On the 28th March we will say goodbye and good luck to our amazing senior Medicines Management technician Sally Webster as she leaves us for pastures new.

Sally is one of the longest serving members of the Medicines Management team having started working for Rotherham PCT in 2004.

Sally started in the Wentworth locality and worked across many practices. She has seen the localities change, the PCT close and the CCG begin. Over the years Sally has had a leading role on a number of projects, including the setup of the oxygen assessment services, overseeing the initiation of ScriptSwitch and continuation of work with the continence and stoma service.

Sally has been an integral part of the Medicines Management Team and will be greatly missed. I know you will join with us to say a massive THANK YOU and good luck.

Further information for patients with questions around purchasing their own medication

NHS England (NHSE) has set up an email address that patients can write to directly with questions regarding the NHSE guidance on not prescribing low value medicines (e.g homeopathic remedies, lidocaine plasters and omega-3 fatty acids amongst others) and for conditions for which over the counter (OTC) items should no longer be routinely prescribed.

If patients have any questions or comments about the items which are no longer going to be prescribed, they can email them to: england.medicines@nhs.net.

Alimemazine liquid now RED on traffic light system

It has been agreed with Rotherham Foundation Trust (RFT) that Alimemazine 30mg/5ml oral solution (£243.51 for 100ml) and Alimemazine 7.5mg/5ml (£179.55 for 100ml) will now be assigned RED status and **should only be prescribed by secondary care**.

Alimemazine is an antihistamine which is sometimes used in paediatrics for its side effect - mild sedation. Patients should be referred to paediatrics at RFT for assessment as to whether Alimemazine should be stopped or continued as appropriate.

Care Grow Live (CGL) now using branded buprenorphine tablet Espranor[®]

Following advice issued by Public Health England on the availability and price of buprenorphine used in the treatment of opioid dependence, CGL are now using Espranor[®] as their oral buprenorphine brand of choice.

Reminder to report via Pharmaoutcomes.

In April 2018 Rotherham Foundation Trust (RFT) were commissioned by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) to provide a sexual health service, part of which involves providing payment to GP's for the fitting and removal of contraception products.

The new validation process requires GP's to record details of all coil and implant work carried out within their contraception service onto Pharmaoutcomes for payment. If these details are not recorded then RFT will not pay for the work. Currently some practices are having payments refused by RFT purely because it was not recorded correctly.

Please ensure all relevant work is recorded via Pharmaoutcomes.

Prescribing Hosiery Items

A reminder to prescribers regarding hosiery garments on repeat prescription. Please can prescribers ensure that they:

- Prescribe hosiery items as a standard garment NOT 'made to measure' (the pharmacy will measure and fit and then endorse the prescription to be paid for doing this)
- Prescribe a maximum of 2 garments per limb every 6 months (180 days) (one to wash and one to wear)

New arrangements for prescribing and obtaining Nystatin Pessaries

Similar to the pathway available to access linezolid and fidoxomycin from the inpatient pharmacy at the Rotherham Foundation Trust (RFT), patients requiring treatment with nystatin pessaries should in the **first instance** have their FP10 prescription **printed** and take their prescription to the inpatient pharmacy at RFT. The reason for using this method is that RFT can obtain and provide nystatin pessaries (a special order product that usually costs a minimum of £63) at a significantly reduced cost to the CCG. If the patient is unable to get to RFT to obtain their prescription, then prescribers should use their usual method for issuing this prescription.

GP Fact Sheet: Arrangements for the access to antimicrobials for Community-based Patients with Infections in whom Nystatin Pessaries, Linezolid, Tedizolid or Fidaxomycin are the only treatment options.

