South West Yorkshire NHS
Area Prescribing Committee

Amber Drug Classification Listing

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AMBER Classification

- Responsibility for prescribing may be transferred from secondary care/specialist services to primary care with agreement of an individual GP and when locally approved and agreed shared care arrangements have been established.
- Drugs that do not have written shared care guidelines may be prescribed in primary care at the GP's discretion.
- Medicines with the following criteria should be classified as Amber.
  - require specialist/Consultant assessment to enable patient selection and initiation of treatment, plus one or more of the following,
    - require short or medium term specialist monitoring of efficacy;
    - require short or medium term specialist monitoring of toxicity;
    - are very rarely used, such that individual GPs are unlikely to see sufficient patients and acquire a working knowledge of the drug:
- The GP should be satisfied that he/she has all the information and support needed to prescribe and monitor the patient.
- Amber products not licensed for the proposed indication:
  - If a product is not licensed for the proposed indication, full justification for its use should be given by the consultant to the GP.
  - Informed consent should have been obtained from the patient by the hospital specialist prior to requesting a transfer to primary care.

Always check the latest Summary of Product Characteristics for the licensed indications

Drug	*Indications*
Agomelatine	— Antidepressant
Apomorphine	— Parkinson's Disease - Dopaminergic drug
Atomoxetine	— Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
Azathioprine	— All indications
Bicalutamide	— Prostate Cancer
Ciclosporin	— DMARD - Rheumatoid Arthritis, Psoriasis (unlicensed psoriatic arthritis)
Ciclosporin	— Inflammatory bowel disease
Ciclosporin	— Bone Marrow Transplant
Ciclosporin (Neoral)	— Post Adult Renal Transplant

The latest lists can be found on the APC website at either
http://intranet.cht.nhs.uk/formulary/Web-Formulary_Files/Guidelines/APC/Main_Index.htm or
http://www.formulary.cht.nhs.uk/Guidelines/APC/Main_Index.htm

Drug	Indications
Cinacalcet	— Use in renal patients and hypercalcaemia
Colistin (Colistimethate sodium - Colomycin)	— Cystic fibrosis management
Colomycin (including Promixin)	— Cystic fibrosis management
Cyproterone	— Prostate Cancer
Dalteparin	— Acute VTE tx - unable to take warf/NOAC not approp or C/I; if stabilisn of oral anticoag isn't possible/NOAC not approp or C/I; IV drug user if warf is inapprop)/NOAC not approp or C/I; tx & prophyl of VTE with solid tumours; Prevn VTE - solid tumour
Darbepoetin alfa	— All indications
Denosumab	— Osteoporosis
Desferrioxamine	— Treatment of Iron Overload
Dexamphetamine	— For adult ADHD
Dornase alpha	— Cystic fibrosis management
Enoxaparin	— Low Molecular Weight Heparin - see updated entries for Dalteparin
Epoetin	— All indications
Flutamide	— Prostate Cancer - Gonadorelin analogue
Goserelin	— Prostate Cancer - Gonadorelin analogue
Goserelin	— Endometriosis
Hydroxycarbamide	— Treatment of chronic myelo-proliferative diseases
Hydroxychloroquine	— Rheumatoid Arthritis - DMARD
Lanreotide	— Neuroendocrine tumours, acromegaly
Lanthanum	— control of hyperphosphataemia in patients with chronic renal failure
Leflunomide	— Rheumatoid Arthritis
Leuprorelin	— Prostate Cancer - Gonadorelin analogue
Lisdexamphetamine	—
Lithium	— Treatment and prophylaxis of mania and bipolar disorder
Melatonin	— Sleep-wake cycle disorders in children
Mercaptopurine	— Gastroenterology
Methotrexate (oral)	— All indications (not for cancer treatment)
Methylphenidate	— Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder

Drug	Indications
Modafinil	— Treatment of adults with excessive sleepiness associated with chronic pathological conditions, including narcolepsy. Multiple sclerosis (MS) and Parkinson's Disease are to be included as they are chronic pathological conditions.
Mycophenolate mofetil	— Cytotoxic immunosuppressant - prophylaxis of acute renal transplant rejection
Octreotide	— Somatropin analogue - licensed indications (symptoms associated with carcinoid tumours with features of carcinoid syndrome, VIPomas, glucagonomas, acromegaly, prevention of complications after pancreatic surgery)
Penicillamine	— Rheumatoid Arthritis - DMARD
Phenelzine	— Treatment resistant depression
Riluzole	— To extend life or time to mechanical ventilation for patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
Sevelamer	— Hyperphosphataemia in dialysis patients
Sirolimus	— Prophylaxis of organ rejection in renal transplant
Sodium aurothiomalate (IM gold)	— Rheumatoid Arthritis - DMARD
Somatropin for adults	— Acquired adult onset, post surgery growth hormone deficiency
Somatropin for children	— Growth hormone deficiency/shortness in Turner's syndrome)
Sulfasalazine	— Rheumatoid Arthritis - DMARD
Tacrolimus (oral)	— Immunosuppressant in transplants
Taurine	— Cystic fibrosis management
Tobramycin (Tobi) Nebuliser Solution	— Cystic fibrosis management
Triptorelin	— Precocious Puberty
Triptorelin	—
Venlafaxine	— Depression - Amber at doses over 300mg daily