



Northern Lincolnshire
Area Prescribing Committee

>>>>>>> January 2015

New Formulary Medicines

Varenicline (band name Champix) is a medicine used as part of a smoking cessation programme. Varenicline has been added to the Formulary for use in secondary care as well as primary care. Arrangements for continued support must be in place prior to discharge if the patient has been initiated in secondary care. Several different organisations are commissioned to provide smoking cessation treatments throughout the region. Prescribers must ensure that the appropriate organisation to provide continued support is contacted. This has been added to Formulary Chapter 4.10.2.

Lenalidomide (brand name Revlimid) is used to treat people with myeloma. This is to be used as outlined in NICE TA322 - Treating myelodysplastic syndromes associated with an isolated deletion 5q cytogenetic abnormality. This has been added to Formulary Chapter 8.2.4.

Nalmefene (brand name Selincro) is indicated for the reduction of alcohol consumption in patients with alcohol dependence as per NICE TA325. Please note that GPs and the area's Acute Trust (NLaG) do not necessarily have expertise in this field and would not be expected to initiate this type of treatment. At present, the providers of mental health services in the area, including RDaSH, are not commissioned for routine treatment of this nature. The use of this medicine should therefore remain with organisations currently commissioned to deal specifically with alcohol related issues and who have appropriately skilled teams to monitor this medication.

SMOFlipid 20% is a lipid for intravenous feeding. This is for hospital prescribing only with potential savings for pharmacy due to the lack of reconstitution procedures that are associated with alternatives. There are also clinical advantages with regards to reducing prolonged jaundice. This has been added to Formulary Chapter 9.3.

Hypertonic Saline 3% IV is now Formulary. This avoids the need for diluting other preparations when 3% saline is required. This has been added to Formulary Chapter 9.2.2.1.

Ganciclovir eye gel (brand name Virgan) is now Formulary. Ganciclovir is an alternative to acyclovir eye ointment. The addition of this medicine allows for flexibility should stock availability issues arise with either product. This will be secondary care initiated. This has been added to Formulary Chapter 11.3.3.

An Annual Summary will soon be published on the APC website. This will include the medicines reviewed over the past 12 months and a summarised outcome from each review. The Annual Summary will detail the location of new, region specific pathways for several therapy areas, including anticoagulation and respiratory conditions.