



Spring 2022

Northern Lincolnshire Area Prescribing Committee Newsletter

1) Formation of the Humber Area Prescribing Committee

The Hull and East Riding Prescribing Committee and Northern Lincolnshire Area Prescribing Committee, held their **last meetings in April 2022** and have now merged to become the Humber Area Prescribing Committee, which held its first meeting on the 6th April 2022. The Humber Formulary Working Group will continue meeting monthly to review and merge the contents of both formularies, one BNF chapter at a time. Once each chapter has been reviewed and agreed, a draft version will be created on netFormulary, to be ratified by the Humber Area Prescribing Committee before publishing.

The former Northern Lincolnshire Area Prescribing Committee website, found [here](#), will be developed to fully encompass the business of the Humber APC and is subject to a process of continuing development. Whilst the Humber Joint Formulary is being developed, this site will signpost users to [Northern Lincolnshire netFormulary](#) and the [Hull and East Riding Joint Formulary](#) sites.

2) Formulary Amendments and Additions

Name of Drug	RAG Rated	Information
Atomoxetine 4mg in 1mL oral solution	Red	Only be used by Specialist, for children unable to take capsules, or needing a dose not possible to achieve using capsules.
Purastat 5mL pre-filled syringe	Red	For use within endoscopy for prevention of post procedure bleeding after endoscopic resection.



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3) Items Approved at APC

Here is a table of guidelines added or amended, since the Winter 2021 Northern Lincolnshire Area Prescribing Committee newsletter. All Northern Lincolnshire Area Prescribing Committee documents may be found on the Humber APC website, located [here](#).

Guideline or Pathway	New or Updated
Ranolazine Prescribing Guidance	Updated
Appropriate prescribing of specialist infant formulae	Updated

4) NICE Technical Appraisals

NICE TA	Indication	RAG rating
TA 733	Inclisiran for treating primary hypercholesterolaemia or mixed dyslipidaemia	Amber 1
TA 753	Cenobamate for treating focal onset seizures in epilepsy	Amber 2
TA 599	Sodium zirconium cyclosilicate for treating hyperkalaemia	Red
TA 757	Cabotegravir with rilpivirine for treating HIV-1	Red
TA 759	Fostamatinib for treating refractory chronic immune thrombocytopenia	Red
TA 760	Selpercatinib for previously treated RET fusion-positive advanced non-small-cell lung cancer	Red
TA 761	Osimertinib for adjuvant treatment of EGFR mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer after complete tumour resection	Red
TA 762	Olaparib for treating BRCA mutation-positive HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer after chemotherapy (terminated appraisal)	Red
TA 764	Fremanezumab for preventing migraine	Red
TA 765	Venetoclax with azacitidine for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable	Red



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NICE TA	Indication	RAG rating
TA 766	Pembrolizumab for adjuvant treatment of completely resected stage 3 melanoma	Red
TA 767	Ponesimod for treating relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis	Red
TA 768	Upadacitinib for treating active psoriatic arthritis after inadequate response to DMARDs	Red
TA 770	Pembrolizumab with carboplatin and paclitaxel for untreated metastatic squamous non-small-cell lung cancer	Red
TA 771	Daratumumab with bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone for untreated multiple myeloma (terminated appraisal)	Red
TA 772	Pembrolizumab for treating relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma after stem cell transplant or at least 2 previous therapies	Red
TA 773	Empagliflozin for treating chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction	Amber1
TA 774	Lenalidomide for relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma (terminated appraisal)	Not commissioned
TA 775	Dapagliflozin for treating chronic kidney disease	Amber1
TA 776	Pitolisant hydrochloride for treating excessive daytime sleepiness caused by obstructive sleep apnoea	Not commissioned
TA 779	Dostarlimab for previously treated advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer with high microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficiency	Red
TA780	Nivolumab with ipilimumab for untreated advanced renal cell carcinoma	Red
TA 781	Sotorasib for previously treated KRAS G12C mutation-positive advanced non-small-cell lung cancer	Red
TA 783	Daratumumab monotherapy for treating relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma	Red
TA 784	Niraparib for maintenance treatment of relapsed, platinum-sensitive ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer	Red



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NICE TA	Indication	RAG rating
TA 785	TA785 Nivolumab with cabozantinib for untreated advanced renal cell carcinoma (terminated appraisal)	Not commissioned
TA 786	TA786 Tucatinib with trastuzumab and capecitabine for treating HER2-positive advanced breast cancer after 2 or more anti-HER2 therapies	Red
TA 787	TA787 Venetoclax with low dose cytarabine for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable	Red

4) MHRA Alerts

Here is a summary table of safety issues with medicines from February to April 2022:

Date of issue	Product	Problem
17/02/2022	COVID-19 antivirals:	As the safety of COVID-19 antivirals in pregnancy has not been established, please report any pregnancies which occur during use of an antiviral, including paternal use, to the UK COVID-19 Antivirals Pregnancy Registry. This advice applies to molnupiravir (Lagevrio ▼), the combination of PF-07321332 (nirmatrelvir) plus ritonavir (Paxlovid ▼), and remdesivir (Veklury ▼).
17/02/2022	Hydroxychloroquine, chloroquine:	Increased risk of cardiovascular events when used with macrolide antibiotics; reminder of psychiatric reactions.
17/02/2022	Ivacaftor, tezacaftor, elexacaftor (Kaftrio ▼) in combination with ivacaftor (Kalydeco):	Risk of serious liver injury; updated advice on liver function testing.



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Date of issue	Product	Problem
21/03/2022	Cladribine (Mavenclad):	Liver monitoring requirements for cladribine in the treatment of multiple sclerosis have been introduced following uncommon cases of serious liver injury. Advise patients to seek urgent medical attention if they develop any clinical features of liver dysfunction. Discontinue or interrupt cladribine if significant hepatic injury is confirmed.
21/03/2022	Amiodarone (Cordarone X):	Amiodarone has been associated with serious and potentially life-threatening side effects, particularly of the lung, liver, and thyroid gland. We remind healthcare professionals that patients should be supervised and reviewed regularly during treatment. Lung problems may have slow onset but then progress rapidly. Computerised tomography scans may help to confirm a suspected diagnosis of pulmonary toxicity.
21/04/2022	Pregabalin (Lyrica):	A new study has suggested pregabalin may slightly increase the risk of major congenital malformations if used in pregnancy. Patients should continue to use effective contraception during treatment and avoid use in pregnancy unless clearly necessary.

For advice on these problems and more comprehensive information, the latest MHRA Alerts are published here: www.gov.uk/government/publications/drug-safety-update-monthly-newsletter