



Northern Lincolnshire
Area Prescribing Committee

>>>>>> February 2015

New Formulary Medicines

Medikinet is a brand of methylphenidate, which is a medicine used for patients with ADHD. Medikinet offers greater choice and flexibility when prescribing for patients with ADHD and can therefore support patients not ideally suited to other formulations. Medikinet is available as an IR formulation, which may be issued against a generic prescription for methylphenidate tablets. However, Medikinet XL is a product that possesses the properties of standard IR and MR preparations, by releasing approximately 50% of the dose immediately (action begins in approximately 30 minutes) and 50% of the dose over the following 8 hours. Medikinet XL should be prescribed by brand. All methylphenidate prescribing should be initiated by a specialist. This medicine has been added to Formulary Chapter 4.4.

Tapentadol MR Tablets (brand name Palexia SR) is used to treat people with moderate to severe pain. Palexia offers a potential alternative to other opiate medicines and has an advantageous side effect profile for certain patients. Palexia SR is a suitable alternative for those with neuralgia and similar conditions. Palexia SR is considered a preferred option for patients who would receive an opiate in addition to another agent used for neuropathic pain, such as pregabalin or gabapentin. Palexia SR should be initiated following specialist advice. Only the modified release formulation has been accepted onto the Formulary. This has been added to Formulary Chapter 4.7.2. The APC would also like to raise awareness of the specialist pain teams across Northern Lincolnshire.

Brinzolamide and brimonidine eye drops (brand name Simbrinza) are indicated for the reduction of IOP in patients with open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension that has not responded sufficiently to individual agents. This IOP combination does not contain a β blocker, meaning that patients contraindicated to β blockers now have a combination drop option. This has been added to Formulary Chapter 11.6.

The APC wishes to raise awareness of the Oral Anticoagulant Pathway and related Checklist. This represents the commissioned uses of all oral anticoagulants for the treatment of non-recurrent DVT and AF. All APC guidance can be viewed here:

www.northernlincolnshireapc.nhs.uk/pathways

If you have any questions, please contact the APC – see the Contact section of the website for details.