

Basingstoke, Southampton and Winchester

District Prescribing Committee (DPC)

Recommendations of the meeting of 10th October 2017

Supported or limited support e.g. Specialist recommendation

- **Roflumilast (Daxas) tablets**- Following the NICE TA 461 roflumilast is supported for the treatment of COPD. It should be initiated by a specialist in respiratory medicine and prescribing can then be transferred to primary care (classified as 'Amber').
- **Opicapone (Ongentys) capsules** –Based on the evidence for efficacy, safety and cost effectiveness, the Committee supports the use of opicapone as adjunctive therapy to preparations of levodopa/ DOPA decarboxylase inhibitors (DDCI) in adult patients with Parkinson's Disease and end-of-dose motor fluctuations who cannot be stabilised on those combinations. It would be suitable for prescribing in primary care following specialist recommendation therefore consider adding to formularies (classified as 'Amber').

Not supported

- **Pitolisant (Wakix) tablets for narcolepsy** - Based on an evaluation of the evidence the Committee does not routinely support use of pitolisant locally. Exceptional cases will be considered through the individual funding request (IFR) process.
- **Liraglutide (Saxenda) injection for weight management**- this use of liraglutide for this indication is not supported locally.

Other Information and formulary updates

- **Enoxaparin (Clexane) Shortage** – It is anticipated that there may be a supply shortage of **Clexane** over the next few months. **Inhixa** is a biosimilar of enoxaparin that the local hospitals will use as an alternative if necessary. The DPC advice at this point is
 - All enoxaparin should be prescribed by brand name
 - Any decisions to change to the biosimilar should be in discussion with the healthcare professional and patient
 - If the patient is changed to the biosimilar in the community they should remain on that product for the duration of their treatment
 - The manufacturer of Inhixa can supply training packs to support the training technique
- **Crohn's Disease** – Updated guidelines on the use of biologic agents for the treatment of Crohns disease have been approved and will be uploaded to the WHCCG website.
- **Ketorolac eye drops** - an increase in primary care prescribing has been noted by the committee - a reminder that these eye drops are only licensed for use up to three weeks post operatively and are classified as 'Red' (specialist only).
- **Pseudoephedrine tablets** – These will remain a 'Red' drug for the emergency treatment of priapism and prescribing in primary care is not supported due to the risk of addiction and the potential abuse as an ingredient in the manufacture of crystal methamphetamine.
- **Methotrexate Shared Care Guidelines** - have been updated to include the indication of uveitis and will be uploaded to the WHCCG website.
- **Southern Health Guidance** - High dose antipsychotics guidelines and updated anxiety guidelines have been added to the Southern Health website.

➤ Guidance documents are available at: <http://www.westhampshireccg.nhs.uk/downloads/categories/medicines/guidance>

Summarised on behalf of the District Prescribing Committee by Andrea White (Southampton City CCG) October 2017