

South Staffordshire Area Prescribing Group (APG) Update

June 2016



A resource for South Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group Members

Welcome

Dear all,

Please find enclosed the Area Prescribing Group Newsletter following the meeting in June.

As per usual there are lots of interesting little nuggets of information that you may find useful, in particular there is the updated wound care formulary, as well as the soon to be released Antimicrobial guidelines.

As per usual we have included a summary of the Drug safety updates, one to note is the SGLT-2 inhibitor class of drugs are back on focus.

Don't forget to use NetFormulary for all your preferred prescribing information

www.southstaffordshirejointformulary.nhs.uk On the Dashboard there are all sorts of various resources including all the latest APG Guidance, APG Newsletters, the latest Patient Group Directions and Formulary's from other Trusts.

Mahesh Mistry

APG Chair

NICE Technical Appraisals

Following review of the NICE technology appraisals, there are two which are the responsibility of CCGs:

TA388 – Sacubitril valsartan for treating symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction - CCG Responsibility—however the drug will be started only by specialists within secondary care.

TA390 – Canagliflozin, dapagliflozin and empagliflozin as monotherapies for treating type 2 diabetes – CCG Responsibility—This group of drugs is now available within their licensed indication for management of type 2 diabetes as monotherapy.

The following drugs are the responsibility of NHS England and will be prescribed within secondary care only:

TA387 – Abiraterone for treating metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer before chemotherapy is indicated

TA389 – Topotecan, pegylated liposomal doxorubicin hydrochloride, paclitaxel, trabectedin and gemcitabine for treating recurrent ovarian cancer

TA391 – Cabazitaxel for hormone-relapsed metastatic prostate cancer treated with docetaxel

Formulary Applications

Beclometasone & Formoterol (Fosair 200/6 pMDI and NEXThaler) was received and approved by the Area Prescribing Group for Asthma patients and given a **GREEN** status. This strength is not licensed for COPD patients

Trulicity® (dulaglutide) 0.75mg and 1.5mg solution for injection in a pre-filled pen this was approved subject to the production of a RiCAD and will therefore be **AMBER2**.

Formulary application forms can be found on the following link :

<http://www.southstaffordshirejointformulary.nhs.uk/docs/misc/FormularyApplicationForm.pdf>

SSOTP Wound Care Formulary

Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent Partnership Trust have updated the joint Wound Care Formulary and is on Netformulary [\[LINK\]](#).

There are three sections to the Formulary:

The **GREEN** section which is available for all community staff to prescribe.

The **AMBER** section which SSOTP staff will be able to prescribe with the use of the Exemption Form available within the document.

Rationale must be supplied, as this will aid in updating the Formulary. Guidance is that these products can be prescribed for two weeks, and assessments by TVN need to clarify continuation or discontinuation.

Antimicrobial products should only be used where there is an increased risk of infection or clinical signs of infection are apparent. Once an infection has resolved, treatment with an antimicrobial dressings should be stopped.

The **RED** section is to be used in conjunction with Tissue Viability Guidance.

There is also a handy quick reference guide [\[LINK\]](#)

Note: PICO dressings should only be prescribed by the Tissue Viability service



Continence Prescribing Formulary & Guidance

Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent Partnership Trust are also reviewing and have produced a new updated copy of the Continence Prescribing Formulary & Guidance. The guidance was approved by the Area Prescribing Group subject to feedback and some minor amendments.

Prescribing Commissioning Policy (previously Drugs of Limited Clinical Value Policy)

The Drugs of Limited Clinical Value Policy has been discussed with the Clinical Leads across the 3 CCG's and has been renamed the Prescribing Commissioning Policy. This policy now includes two sections:

- ◆ **List A: Drugs not commissioned for prescribing within South Staffordshire**
- ◆ **List B: Drugs which are only recommended for prescribing in certain circumstances**

The Self Care section has been removed as GPs were concerned about medico legal implications. CCGs are going to implement this with some Patient Information Leaflets.

MHRA Drug Safety Updates

Canagliflozin: Increase risk of amputation—A signal of increased lower limb amputation (primarily of the toe) in people taking canagliflozin compared with placebo in a clinical trial in high cardiovascular risk patients is currently under investigation. Current advice is to review patients who are higher risk. More information at [\[LINK\]](#)

Nexplanon (etonogestrel) contraceptive implants: reports of device in vasculature and lung
There have been rare reports of Nexplanon implants having reached the lung via the pulmonary artery. An implant that cannot be palpated at its insertion site in the arm should be located as soon as possible and removed at the earliest opportunity. If an implant cannot be located within the arm, perform chest imaging. Correct subdermal insertion reduces the risk of these events. Further information at [\[LINK\]](#)

Topical miconazole , including oral gel : reminder of potential for serious interactions with warfarin

In view of reports of serious bleeding with some patients taking miconazole and warfarin, further measures to minimise the risk of serious interactions are being considered:

- Miconazole, including the topical gel formulation, can enhance the anticoagulant effect of warfarin—if miconazole and warfarin are used concurrently, the anticoagulant effect should be carefully monitored and, if necessary, the dose of warfarin reduced.
- Patients should be advised to tell their doctor or pharmacist if they are receiving warfarin before using products that contain miconazole (including those available without a prescription) and to seek medical advice if they notice signs of over-anticoagulation during treatment, such as sudden unexplained bruising, nosebleeds or blood in the urine.

Further information at [\[LINK\]](#)



Ondansetron formulary status review

Ondansetron is currently on the formulary as **RED** to be prescribed by specialists in secondary care only. It is currently licensed only to use in prevention and treatment of post-operative nausea and vomiting and for the management of nausea and vomiting during chemotherapy or radiotherapy.

The Area Prescribing Group proposed that this is changed to **AMBER1** to enable GPs to prescribe within primary care when necessary **for licensed indications only**.

Ondansetron prescribed in hyperemesis during pregnancy is an off-licensed indication, however it is a recognized treatment option under a specialist. As Ondansetron is not licensed for this, if prescribed by the GP, they would take on the full clinical responsibility for the prescription and therefore recommended that prescribing for this remains with specialist teams.

South Staffordshire Antimicrobial Guidelines

The 2013 edition of the Antimicrobial Guidelines has been reviewed and following feedback these will soon be available electronically and in paper format. The group is also looking at an App. that should also be available for accessing these guidelines. A quick reference guide is also being produced for GPs.



Fosfomycin Community Pharmacy Scheme


In line with the North, South Staffordshire CCG's are proposing setting up a scheme which ensures that certain named pharmacies will have minimal stock of Fosfomycin to be released on the completion of a form. This will enable suitable patients to receive fosfomycin in a timely manner and prevent unnecessary delays in treatment. The Area Prescribing Group was supportive of this move but recognised it is a commissioning decision and therefore up to the individual CCGs to implement locally.

South Staffordshire Joint Formulary and prescribing guidance can be found at:

<http://www.southstaffordshirejointformulary.nhs.uk/>

APG Membership

Mahesh Mistry (SES & SP CCG) [Chair]
Samantha Buckingham (S&S CCG)
Sharuna Reddy (CCCCG)
Susan Bamford (ESCCG)
Dr M Stone (S&S CCG)
Dr C Pilkington (SES & SP CCG)
Dr J Crosse (ES CCG)
Dr A Onabolu (CCCCG)
Mohammed Azar (SSSFT)
Tracey Hall / Teresa Froggatt / Paul Fieldhouse (SSOTP)
Fiona McKean (RWT)
Tania Carruthers (HoE)
Gill Hall (SSLPC)
Lisa Nock (Burton Hospital Trust)
Sarah Duckworth (Burton Hospital Trust)
Susan Thomson (UHNM)
Elisabeth Street (Burton Hospital Trust)
Admin. Lesley Arnold



**Next Area
Prescribing
Group Meeting:
Friday 19th
August 2016**

South Staffordshire APG

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