

**Basingstoke, Southampton and Winchester  
District Prescribing Committee (DPC)**

**Recommendations of the meeting of Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

**Supported or limited support e.g. Specialist recommendation**

**Memantine (Ebixa®)** tablets for acquired or infantile nystagmus in adults - Based on evaluation of the evidence for efficacy, safety and cost effectiveness, the Committee supports the use of memantine as a second-line treatment option to gabapentin for treatment of acquired or infantile nystagmus in adults at a dose of 20-40mg/day. The treatment should be initiated in secondary care (ophthalmology or neurology specialist only) and continued in primary care once response and progress is satisfactory. This is an unlicensed indication. Consider adding to formularies as AMBER (initiated)

**Testosterone gel for the treatment of menopause** – the Committee supports the use of testosterone gel for off-label use when recommended by a specialist for testosterone replacement in menopause in accordance with British Menopause Society tool for clinicians. Consider adding to formularies as AMBER (recommended). Note testosterone patches are no longer available in the UK.

**Trurapi® (insulin aspart)** S/C injection is supported for local use and recommended as the first choice brand of insulin aspart for new patients in line with the biosimilar medicines position statement.

**Other Information and formulary updates**

**Pristinamycin** – The Committee noted that Solent NHS Trust has added pristinamycin 500mg tablets to their formulary for use by Solent Sexual Health only, in line with BASSH guidance for the treatment of Mycoplasma genitalium in patients where other treatments have failed or cannot be used.

**Rifapentine (unlicensed)** – The Committee noted that University Hospital Southampton FT Drugs Committee has supported the use of rifapentine for latent tuberculosis infection in combination with isoniazid ONCE weekly for homeless people in at risk group. To be issued by Homeless Health under supervision. Rifapentine has been added to Southampton Joint Formulary as RED restricted

**Knee braces for Osteoarthritis** –The Committee has agreed the following advice - If the consultant/Community MSK team have assessed the patient as being suitable for a knee brace then they should either prescribe the knee brace themselves, or direct the patient to a list of suitable models for them to purchase themselves. GPs are not qualified to determine whether a knee brace is suitable, or to undertake the required assessment to support this decision so referral back to the GP to progress this is not appropriate.

***The Committee also noted the following new or updated guidelines/information***

**Azathioprine, Ciclosporin and Mycophenolate shared care guideline** has been updated to include uveitis as an off label indication

**Cinalcacet shared care guidelines** have been updated and can be found on the website below

<https://gp-portal.westhampshireccg.nhs.uk/medicines/guidance/>

**Drug monitoring guidance** - Specialist Pharmacy Services (SPS) have produced an excellent resource with recommendations and guidance for medicines requiring monitoring. See link below for full details

[Medicines Monitoring – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](#)

**Summarised on behalf of the District Prescribing Committee by Andrea White (Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight CCG)**