

Medicines

Optimisation intervention brief

TITLE
Prescribing desogestrel tablets generically
WHAT?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribe desogestrel 75mcg tablets generically instead of Cerazette[®] tablets and Cerelle[®] tablets
WHY?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generic desogestrel 75mcg tablets are less expensive than Cerazette[®] tablets and Cerelle[®] tablets. • Potential annual savings for Hampshire Southampton and Isle of Wight CCG by implementing this work are in the order of £56K.
WHO?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All appropriate patients currently prescribed Cerazette[®] tablets and Cerelle[®] tablets • New patients prescribed generic desogestrel 75mcg tablets.
TIPS?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community pharmacies should be notified prior to making the switch to ensure stocks are available for the proposed changes. • Whilst prescribing desogestrel generically is the lowest-acquisition cost option, practices may choose to exclude from this intervention patients previously switched from Cerazette[®] to Cerelle[®], as the greatest potential savings can be realised through switching Cerazette[®] to desogestrel.
HOW?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the provided clinical system search to identify all patients currently prescribed Cerazette[®] tablets and Cerelle[®] tablets. • Agree a process for switching patients with the practice. • Switch all appropriate patients to generic desogestrel 75mcg tablets. • Consider a putting a reminder on the clinical system to ensure all new patients are prescribed desogestrel generically.
SO WHAT?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NHS will realise savings which can be reinvested for the benefit of patient care.
FURTHER INFORMATION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/search?q=desogestrel 2. https://openprescribing.net/measure/desogestrel/