Lincolnshire Prescribing and Clinical Effectiveness Bulletin – Vol 14 No 3

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Optum in association with Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Groups, Lincolnshire Community Health Services, United Lincolnshire Hospitals Trust and Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust

The PACEF meeting scheduled to be held on March 18th was cancelled due to coronavirus outbreak. Following previously agreed process the following products were approved (virtually), for inclusion onto the Lincolnshire Joint Formulary.

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DRUG ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Product	Summary	Decision
Sildenafil 25mg & 50mg tablets	**Introduction:** Request received from United Lincolnshire Rheumatology service to review formulary status of sildenafil (25mg and 50mg tablets) and approve for the "off label" use in the treatment of severe Raynaud Syndrome and for use (in line with NHSE Commissioning policy) for the treatment of digital ulceration. Sildenafil 25mg and 50mg tablets are currently listed as GREEN for treatment of erectile dysfunction. **Further relevant information:** Sildenafil is not licensed for the treatment of digital ulceration however the NHSE commissioning policy does recognise that off-label use of sildenafil is approved second line treatment when an appropriate clinical response has not been achieved with recognised first line therapies. Rheumatologists have also requested that sildenafil can be considered for the treatment of severe Raynaud's Syndrome not responsive to calcium channel blockers and other first line treatments.	Approved for inclusion on the formulary as AMBER 2, for "off-label" use to treat these conditions.
InVita D3® soft capsules 800units Colecalciferol	**Introduction:** Licensed for the prophylaxis and treatment of Vitamin D deficiency. InVita D3® soft capsules in strengths 5,600units, 25,000units and 50,000units are already included on the formulary classed as GREEN for the treatment of vitamin deficiency. **Further relevant information:** This strength of InVita D3® was not available when the other InvitaD3® products were considered for inclusion onto the formulary. InVita D3® is currently the lowest cost 800units formulation, for those patients requiring a dose of 800-1600units colecalciferol. Approved for inclusion onto the formulary. Work is ongoing to review vitamin D guidance and this will be published at a later date.	Approved for inclusion on the formulary as GREEN. Prescribe all colecalciferol containing products by brand.
Octasa® 1600mg modified release mesalazine tablets	**Introduction:** Octasa® already on the formulary as preferred first line modified release mesalazine preparation in strengths 400mg and 800mg, licensed for the treatment of mild to moderate acute exacerbations of ulcerative colitis and for the maintenance of remission. There is now a 1600mg tablet available, which the ULHT gastroenterologists have requested is added to the formulary. Higher strength only licensed for use to treat ulcerative colitis. **Further relevant information:** The use of the 1600mg tablet reduces the tablet burden for those patients requiring a daily dose of and above 1600mg. There is an additional cost of £3.16 per person per 30 days treatment using a dose of 1600mg daily. However, it is felt that if use of 1600mg formulation improved adherence to treatment in those receiving higher doses, the additional cost would be justified.	Approved for inclusion on the formulary as AMBER 2.Only use in those patients requiring does of 1600mg daily or higher within licensed indication. Prescribe by brand.

Product	Summary	Decision
Xaggitin XL® methylphenidate hydrochloride prolonged-release tablets 18mg, 27mg, 36mg or 54mg.	**Introduction:** Xaggitin XL® is a lower cost "branded generic" prolonged release methylphenidate tablet. It is licensed for the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Its use is indicated as part of a comprehensive treatment programme for ADHD in children aged 6 years of age and over when remedial measures alone prove insufficient. Treatment must be under the supervision of a specialist in childhood behavioural disorders. **Further relevant information:** Xaggitin XL® is a lower cost "branded generic" prolonged release methylphenidate product costing approximately 50% less than the originator brand – Concerta XL®. This is one of a number of lower cost prolonged release methylphenidate tablets. Scrutiny of neighbouring CCG formularies has shown they all have Xaggitin XL® on their formularies, with some recommending its use first line for new patients. Approved for inclusion onto the Lincolnshire formulary. Can be used as first line prolonged release methylphenidate tablet for new patients at the request of the responsible specialist. All methylphenidate products should be prescribed by brand. There should be no switching from other methylphenidate prolonged release tablets to Xaggitin XL® unless at the request of a specialist.	Approved for inclusion on to the formulary as AMBER 1 (with shared care).
Ilube® Eye Drops	**Introduction:** Acetylcysteine 5% with Hypromellose 0.35% eye drops (Ilube®), requested by ULHT Ophthalmologists for the treatment of corneal filaments. **Further relevant information:** Ilube® eye drops were classed as RED/RED for use for the treatment of dry eye. This request is to treat a specific eye condition in line with current practice.	Approved for inclusion on the formulary as AMBER 2 only for the treatment of corneal filaments.

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