

**PACE SHORTS July/August 2013**

Drug	Indication	Decision	Notes
Azelastine & fluticasone propionate nasal spray ( <i>Dymista</i> )	Allergic rhinitis - perennial & seasonal	RED-RED	High cost combination product of steroid & topical antihistamine (£18.91/120doses). Trial data is limited to 14 day comparisons with placebo & individual components. Comparative data against steroid & oral antihistamine dual therapy is lacking.
Fluticasone furoate 27.5mcg nasal spray ( <i>Avamys</i> )	Allergic rhinitis	GREEN	Where a fluticasone product is indicated the furoate salt ( <i>Avamys</i> ) is lower cost (£6.44/120sprays) and should be used. Fluticasone propionate ( <i>Flixonase</i> ) is now RED-RED for new patients (£11.01/150). All existing patients can continue on the propionate salt until it is appropriate to stop or change to a lower cost alternative. Beclometasone 50mcg nasal spray remains the first choice nasal steroid (£2.32/200), budesonide 64mcg (generic or <i>Rhinocort Aqua</i> ) is a suitable second line steroid (£3.85/120). Mometasone 50mcg ( <i>Nasonex</i> , £7.68/140) is a third line, once daily, alternative to <i>Avamys</i> (£6.44/120)
Fluticasone propionate 50mcg nasal spray ( <i>Flixonase</i> )	Allergic rhinitis	RED-RED	50mcg nasal spray remains the first choice nasal steroid (£2.32/200), budesonide 64mcg (generic or <i>Rhinocort Aqua</i> ) is a suitable second line steroid (£3.85/120). Mometasone 50mcg ( <i>Nasonex</i> , £7.68/140) is a third line, once daily, alternative to <i>Avamys</i> (£6.44/120)
Omalizumab injection ( <i>Xolair</i> )	Severe persistent IgE mediated allergic asthma	RED	NICE TA 278 (April 13) recommended as an option in people aged 6 years & over. Already approved for use in those aged 12 years and older.
Midazolam oromucosal & buccal preparations ( <i>Buccolam</i> & <i>Epistatus</i> )	Management of seizures	AMBER	Two midazolam preparations are in use locally: <i>Buccolam</i> 2.5mg, 5mg, 7.5mg & 10mg prefilled syringes containing midazolam hydrochloride 10mg in 2ml & <i>Epistatus</i> containing midazolam maleate 10mg in 1ml. To reduce the potential for errors prescribers are asked to prescribe by brand name & to specify the dose in both milligrams & mls. <i>Buccolam</i> is licensed in children & is the preferred option, particularly in new patients. Existing patients using the unlicensed <i>Epistatus</i> product (10mg/ml) should remain on this until their specialist considers it appropriate to change or stop. Adults under the care of the Learning Disabilities Services are likely to remain on <i>Epistatus</i> .

**UPDATED:** Shared Care Guideline on use of methylphenidate, dexamfetamine & lisdexamfetamine in the management of ADHD

Reference: *PACE Bulletin* Vol 7 No 12 (July 2013)