

# Medicines Matters



June 2026

## Lancashire and South Cumbria (LSC) net Formulary Updates

### Updated and New Pathways and Guidelines

- [LSC Critical Care Medicines Information: Changing Vasoactive Medication Syringe Infusions Guide V2](#): The guideline has been updated by the critical care clinical effectiveness group, promoting a safe, standardised process for critical care practitioners to follow when changing inotrope syringe infusions.
- [Colomycin® For Nebulisation in Adult Patients with Non-Cystic Fibrosis Bronchiectasis V1.3](#): The prescribing information sheet has been updated removing discontinued products and a statement added regarding product selection.
- [Position Statement: Levetiracetam \(Keppra®\) prescribing: bioequivalence and antiepileptic drugs V1.1](#): The position statement has been updated with a reference from SPS reflecting 'switching brand and generic anti-seizure medicines for epilepsy' and a statement relating to people on a ketogenic diet.
- [Position Statement: Best-interest opioid reductions V1.1](#): The guideline has been updated in line with the new Faculty of Pain Medicine recommendations.

### Reviewed and Updated Shared Care Guidelines (SCG)

- [Riluzole V1.4](#)

### **RED RAG rating: *Specialist medicine not recommended for prescribing in primary care***

- [Boric acid pessaries](#): Unlicensed. Specialist use only. Treatment of chronic/recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis for which other treatments (inc. azoles, clotrimazole and nystatin) have failed as per BASHH guidance.
- [L-Ornithine L-Aspartate \(LOLA\) i/v](#): Unlicensed. Specialist use only. Restricted to the management of acute overt hepatic encephalopathy in hospital inpatients who are nil by mouth or who remain symptomatic despite optimised oral therapy, including high dose lactulose in combination with rifaximin and/or oral L ornithine L aspartate (LOLA).
- [Rozanolixizumab](#) (Rystiggo®): For treating antibody-positive generalized myasthenia gravis ([NICE TA1155](#)).
- [Obinutuzumab with mycophenolate mofetil](#): For treating lupus nephritis ([NICE TA1131](#)).
- [VSL#3 \(Probiotic\) Sachets](#): Removed from the drug tariff following review by the [ACBS](#).
- [Givinostat](#) (Duvyzat®): An option to treat Duchenne muscular dystrophy in people 6 years and over who are ambulant (able to walk or stand, with or without support) at the start of treatment ([NICE TA1157](#)).
- [Sotatercept](#) (Winrevair®): Specialist use only ([NICE TA1161](#)).

**AMBER 0 RAG rating:** *Suitable for prescribing in primary care following recommendation or initiation by a specialist*

- [VisuXL eye drops \(Sodium hyaluronate 0.1%, co-enzyme Q10 0.1%, vitamin E 0.5%\)](#): Preservative free preparation only to be used for those patients with documented allergies to preservatives. Short term use (max 1 month).
- [Tryptophan](#): Hospital specialist initiation only for long term severe and disabling depressive illness after a trial of standard antidepressant treatment and as an adjunct to other antidepressant medication. Requires specialist monitoring of efficacy and dose titration before transferring to Primary care. Appropriate for Primary care prescribing when Trust initiated, without formal shared care protocol. There is no requirement for additional monitoring.
- [Rivastigmine twice weekly patches \(Zeyzef\)](#): Zeyzef twice weekly patches 4.6 mg/24 hours and 9.5 mg/24 hours. To avoid confusion with the daily patch, Zeyzef must not be generically prescribed. For use only in patients where the use of twice weekly patches would be more appropriate than daily patches (e.g. patients who have limited carer support) Where patches are required, patients should be treated with the most cost-effective preparation (daily transdermal patches) and the dose should be clearly stated.

**GREEN Restricted RAG rated:** *Appropriate for initiation and ongoing prescribing in both primary and secondary care provided additional criteria specific to the medicine or device are met, or the medicine is used as described in the relevant LSCMMG pathway.*

- [Octenisan®](#): Antimicrobial wash. Restricted to use in line with local infection control protocol.
- [Tirzepatide \(Mounjaro®\)](#): Tirzepatide may be prescribed in primary care as per local guidance for the treatment of obesity for patients who meet the specified criteria. See full details in net Formulary.

**GREEN RAG rated:** *suitable for initiation and ongoing prescribing in primary and secondary care*

- [Estradiol vaginal 10microgram tablet/pessary](#): Additional wording requested by the sustainable medicines group has been added to the formulary highlighting that Vagirux® is a preferred sustainable option due to reduced plastic use compared with products supplied with single use applicators. See full details in net Formulary.

### Items Removed from net Formulary

- **Position Statement:** Trans-anal irrigation devices.

**DNP - Do Not Prescribe:** NOT recommended for use by the NHS in LSC

- [Minoxidil solution and foam](#): For the treatment of alopecia.
- [Riboflavin \(Vitamin B2\)](#): Patients to be advised to purchase over the counter.