



Medicines Matters

Issue 44 – 29th January 2026

Lancashire and South Cumbria net Formulary Updates 2.12.25 – 14.01.26

LSCMMG Terms of Reference: final approved version setting out the membership, remit, responsibilities, and reporting arrangements of the group.

Updated and New Pathways and Guidelines

LSCMMG Recurrent UTI Treatment Pathway (adults): Pathway updated in line with NICE NG112 update. V1.3

Biosimilars policy position statement: A new document reflecting the principles agreed by Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB for using cost-effective biologic medicine by default. V8

Lipid Management Pathway for Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease: Guideline updated providing a new link to **LSC Statin Intolerance Pathway**. V1.2

LTHtr Policy and procedure for prophylaxis against, and treatment of, venous thromboembolism (VTE) in adult patients: Document added reflecting formulary switch to enoxaparin (Inhixa) and changes to dosing available in all sections. V3.7

Improving Information Supplied with Gabapentinoids (Pregabalin/Gabapentin), Benzodiazepines and Z-Drugs: Link to MHRA Drug Safety Update (January 2026) added to net Formulary.

Managing convulsive (tonic-clonic) status epilepticus (adults): A Lancashire and South Cumbria Network document for the in-hospital care drug management of adult hospital patients with status epilepticus. V2.

Melatonin Pathway (Children): updated version added to net Formulary. V5

Paracetamol dosing guideline: New document added supporting weight adjusted prescribing of paracetamol in adults in the community (applies to oral paracetamol only).

Lancashire and South Cumbria Critical Care Network: Continuous and Extended Antimicrobial Guideline V1: this is a new clinical guideline for critical care patients only.

Lancashire and South Cumbria Critical Care - Vancomycin Guideline:

Lipid Management Pathway for Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease V1.5: updated providing a new link to **LSC Statin Intolerance Pathway**. V1.2

Items Removed from Net Formulary

Silver sulfadiazine (Flamazine®)

DNP - Do Not Prescribe: NOT recommended for use by the NHS in Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Oxycodone with naloxone – not available to prescribe on the NHS in Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB

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

[Natamycin 5% eye drops:](#) (Unlicensed product) For the treatment of fungal eye infection. Specialist use only.

[Edoxaban, Dabigatran, Rivaroxaban, Apixaban:](#) When used in patients with limb casts as per Trust protocols.

[Cefazolin:](#) For the treatment of MSSA bacteraemia in penicillin allergic patients, on the advice of Microbiology only.

[Garadacimab](#) (Andembry®): For preventing recurrent attacks of hereditary angioedema in people aged 12 years and over. [NICE TA1101](#)

[Idebenone](#) (Raxone®): For treating visual impairment in Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy in people 12 years and over. [NICE TA1093](#)

[Delgocitinib](#) (Anzupgo®): For the treatment of moderate to severe chronic hand eczema in adults where topical steroids have not worked or are not suitable. [NICE TA1107](#)

[Botulinum Toxin Type A:](#) For the treatment of chronic anal fissure which has not healed despite a course of at least 8 weeks of topical management.

[L-ornithine L-aspartate sachets 3g](#) (Hepa-Merz® granules 3000): recommended for the treatment of patients unresponsive to lactulose and rifaximin with overt hepatic encephalopathy.

[Pentosan polysulfate sodium:](#) Bladder pain syndrome – information updated

[Neomycin sulphate:](#) (tablets 500mg/unlicensed import): Treatment of methane predominant SIBO on advice of gastroenterology only.

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

[Raloxifene:](#) Chemoprevention in women at high or moderate risk of breast cancer with a uterus who have severe osteoporosis or do not wish to take anastrozole; if they have no history or increased risk of thromboembolic disease and do not wish to take tamoxifen (unlicensed use).

[Dexamethasone with neomycin and polymyxin B sulphate:](#) Rag status updated to AMBER 0, for use under advice of specialist.

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 the relevant LSCMMG pathway.*

[Itraconazole:](#) Treatment of Pityriasis versicolor when topical treatment fails.

[Fidaxomicin:](#) (tablets 200mg, oral suspension 40mg/ml): Rag rating updated from Amber 0. Use restricted for the treatment of Clostridium difficile infections (CDI) in line with [NG199](#), following advice from Microbiology.