

Medicines Matters



Issue 3: 17th April 2025

Updates to the Lancashire and South Cumbria Medicines Management Group (LSCMMG) website and netFormulary 28.02.25 – 21.03.25

Guideline updates: (All pathways and guidance documents are now available on netFormulary [click here](#))

Varenicline Position Statement removed from website (see below)

LSC ICB formulary [Recommended Blood Glucose Test Strips and meters](#)

Medicine RAG rating decisions

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

Vedolizumab: *Immuno-oncology colitis*

Infliximab: *Immuno-oncology colitis.*

AMBER 0 RAG rating – suitable for prescribing in primary care following recommendation or initiation by a specialist

Azelastine/fluticasone (Dymista): *Allergic rhinitis- 3rd line agent if monotherapy with either intranasal antihistamine or glucocorticoid is not considered sufficient*

BioXtra gel: *xerostomia caused by radiation to oral cavity*

Nystatin pessaries: *For recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis with non-albicans candida species and azole resistance. On advice of microbiology, gynaecology or dermatology only.*

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

Saliveze® spray (artificial saliva): *Dry mouth*

Varenicline (Champix®): *Smoking cessation - Prescribed only as part of a programme of behavioural support for patients in England through NHS Stop Smoking Services.*

GREEN restricted RAG rating: Appropriate for initiation and ongoing prescribing in both primary and secondary care.

Prasterone (Intrarosa®): *Menopause -Use restricted to the treatment of vulvovaginal or vaginal atrophy in postmenopausal women having moderate to severe symptoms, if vaginal oestrogen, or non-hormonal moisturisers or lubricants have been ineffective or are not tolerated*

Oralieve moisturising mouth spray: *Symptomatic treatment of dry mouth in palliative care patients.*

Ospemifene (Senshio®) *Menopause - Use restricted to the treatment of vulvovaginal or vaginal atrophy in postmenopausal women having moderate to severe symptoms ONLY if the use of locally applied treatments is impractical, for example, because of disability. Use is not permitted in patients where there is simply a preference against locally applied treatments.*

Other useful links on netFormulary

Shared Care Guidelines – [click here](#)