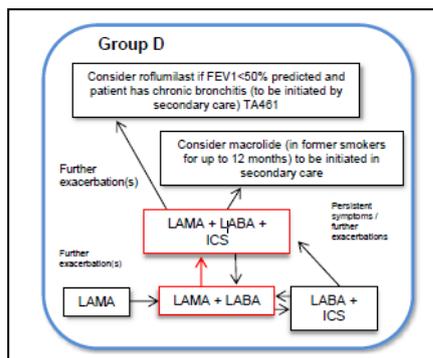


Prescribing Tip No. 209 Date: 12th July 2018

New Triple Inhalers for COPD- Trimbow[®] and Trelegy[®]



Lancashire Medicines Management Group (LMMG) have recently given the two triple inhalers for COPD, a **Green Restricted rating**, within the LMMG COPD pathway guidelines. They both contain an inhaled corticosteroid/ long-acting muscarinic antagonist/ long-acting β 2-agonist (ICS/LAMA/LABA) combination. They are both Black Triangle drugs (▼).

The Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD 2017) document recommends inhaled triple pharmacologic therapy (ICS/LAMA/LABA) **ONLY for patients with advanced COPD with persistent symptoms and risk of exacerbations**. These patients would fall into **Box D** of the GOLD guidelines- see above.

The current recommendation from the GOLD document is a **primary choice of dual therapy as a LABA /LAMA combination** before escalation to triple therapy, citing that a LABA / LAMA combination was superior to a LABA / ICS combination in preventing exacerbations and other patient reported outcome.

	TRIMBOW [®]	TRELEGY [®]
Generic drugs in inhaler	Beclometasone/glycopyrronium/formoterol/	Fluticasone furoate/ umeclidinium /vilanterol
Type of inhaler	Pressurised metered dose inhaler	Breath actuated dry powder device
Use with a spacer device?	Yes	No
Cost	£44.50 for 120 doses (30 days' supply)	£44.50 for 30 doses (30 days' supply)
Dose	Two inhalations twice a day	One inhalation daily

Licensed indication for both inhalers - maintenance treatment in adult patients with moderate to severe COPD who are not adequately treated by a combination of an ICS (inhaled corticosteroid) and a LABA (long-acting β 2-agonist)

In summary - Triple therapy should be reserved for patients who have failed to achieve or maintain an adequate response to an appropriate course of dual therapy. Triple inhalers cost less than the equivalent combination of currently available inhalers, when used to provide an equivalent regimen of ICS/LAMA/LABA. Both inhalers appear in the LMMG COPD inhaler pathways.

<http://www.lancsmmg.nhs.uk/download/guidelines/COPD-guideline-Version-1.7.pdf>

<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/8666/smpc> Trelegy spc

<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/761/smpc> Trimbow spc

http://goldcopd.org/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2016/12/wms-GOLD-2017-Pocket-Guide-Final.pdf

To contact the Medicines Optimisation Team please phone 01772 214302