

# Area Prescribing Group report

**Date:** Friday 03 November 2023 **Quorate:** Yes

The items in this report are supported by the area prescribing group and approval by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) is detailed below.

Document links provided for any APG recommendations are temporarily hosted on the legacy Pan Mersey APC website as a pragmatic solution until such time as a Cheshire and Merseyside APG website is available. The [legacy Cheshire formulary](#) will also be updated to reflect these changes.

CMAPG governance documents are now hosted on the new [Prescribing](#) section of the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside website, which is currently being developed.

## New medicines other

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">Empagliflozin tablets for chronic kidney disease</a>	Grey	For noting. A grey RAG has been assigned pending publication of the NICE TA.	Approved by ICB MOP Group 23/11/23
<a href="#">Daridorexant tablets for long-term insomnia</a>	Grey	For noting. A grey RAG has been assigned pending publication of the NICE TA.	Approved by ICB MOP Group 23/11/23

## Safety

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
CLOZAPINE: reducing the risk of harm (no document)	Not applicable	For noting. Update to Mersey Care contact details. The medicine supply contract with Rowlands came to an end and the pharmacy is now a satellite to the main Trust Pharmacy based at Maghull.	Approved by ICB MOP Group 23/11/23

## APG governance documents

Title	Date	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">APG approvals and DSS executive summary report</a>	November 2023	For noting. Re-designed report to accompany APG documents through their development lifetime and providing subgroup commentary to APG; subgroup and APG commentary to MOP; and feedback from MOP to APG.	Approved by ICB MOP Group 23/11/23
<a href="#">Fast-track process</a>	November 2023	<p>For approval. This has been developed to support the need for an APG recommendation process with a short turnaround for significant prescribing updates or to support delivery of national or local priorities, when the usual APG process schedule will not provide a timely enough response. The aim is to be reactive to issues that require timely consideration whilst still ensuring adequate governance and accountability.</p> <p>It is assumed that the default APG process and schedule will normally apply unless it is identified that it is necessary as a system to apply the fast-track process. The document describes the process and provides estimated timescales and a comparison to usual process.</p>	Approved by ICB MOP Group 23/11/23

<a href="#">Appeals form</a>	November 2023	For approval. This has been developed in accordance with the APG policy. The APG agreed to add a recommendation that the appeal should be discussed with the appellant's local Medicines Management lead prior to submission, and clarify that conflicts of interest include assistance in completing the appeals form.	Approved by ICB MOP Group 23/11/23
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## APG reports

Title	Date	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">NICE TA formulary adherence</a>	September 2023	For noting	Noted by ICB MOP Group 23/11/23

## Outstanding ICB approvals

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">DRAFT Semaglutide injection (Wegovy®▼) for managing overweight and obesity</a>	Red	<p><b>Date of NICE TA publication:</b> 08 March 2023. Implementation period began when semaglutide (Wegovy®) became commercially available from 04 September 2023.</p> <p><b>Approval for implementation:</b> 90 days</p> <p><b>Deadline for implementation:</b> 03 December 2023.</p> <p>Red statement in line with <a href="#">NICE TA875</a>. Semaglutide (Wegovy®) is only recommended for use within a specialist weight management service and is not for GP prescribing.</p>	Clinically supported by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy Group 23/11/23. Escalated within ICB for approval decision in line with Standing Financial Instructions (SFI) and Scheme of Reservation and

		<p>Cheshire and Merseyside APG recognise that there is inequitable access to weight management services across Cheshire and Merseyside and it is understood that NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB has a dedicated task and finish group to consider the impact of implementing this TA on the commissioning of the clinical pathway.</p> <p><i>Costs on the statement were correct at the time of APG consideration, however NICE has subsequently updated the resource impact template for NICE TA875. Ongoing discussions are taking place about the cost of implementing this NICE TA.</i></p>	Delegation (SORD) for the ICB.
<a href="#">DRAFT Bimekizumab for treating active psoriatic arthritis</a> *	Red	<p><b>Date of NICE TA publication:</b> 04 October 2023</p> <p><b>Approval for implementation:</b> 30 days</p> <p><b>Deadline for implementation:</b> 03 November 2023</p> <p>Red RAG rating to be assigned in formulary, in line with <a href="#">NICE TA916</a>. Bimekizumab is another treatment option for psoriatic arthritis and is available at a similar or lower cost to existing treatment options.</p> <p>Based on the NICE Resource Impact Statement, costs are expected to be less than £8,800 per 100,000 population, which equates to £237,600 for the Cheshire and Merseyside population.</p>	<p>Clinically supported by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy Group 23/11/23. Escalated within ICB for approval decision in line with Standing Financial Instructions (SFI) and Scheme of Reservation and Delegation (SORD) for the ICB.</p> <p>30 day deadline not being met noted by ICB MOP Group and acknowledged previously by ICB Medical Directorate.</p>
<a href="#">DRAFT Bimekizumab for treating axial spondyloarthritis</a> *	Red	<p><b>Date of NICE TA publication:</b> 11 October 2023</p> <p><b>Approval for implementation:</b> 30 days</p> <p><b>Deadline for implementation:</b> 10 November 2023</p>	<p>Clinically supported by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy Group 23/11/23. Escalated within</p>

		<p>Red RAG rating to be assigned in formulary, in line with <a href="#">NICE TA918</a>. Bimekizumab is another treatment option for active ankylosing spondylitis in adults and is available at a similar cost to existing treatment options.</p> <p>Based on the NICE Resource Impact Statement, costs are expected to be less than £8,800 per 100,000 population, which equates to £237,600 for the Cheshire and Merseyside population.</p>	<p>ICB for approval decision in line with Standing Financial Instructions (SFI) and Scheme of Reservation and Delegation (SORD) for the ICB.</p> <p>30 day deadline not being met noted by ICB MOP Group and acknowledged previously by ICB Medical Directorate.</p>
<p><a href="#">DRAFT Tofacitinib for treating active ankylosing spondylitis</a> *</p>	<p>Red</p>	<p><b>Date of NICE TA publication:</b> 18 October 2023</p> <p><b>Approval for implementation:</b> 30 days</p> <p><b>Deadline for implementation:</b> 17 November 2023</p> <p>Red RAG rating to be assigned in formulary, in line with <a href="#">NICE TA920</a>. Tofacitinib is additional, oral treatment option for ankylosing spondylitis in adults and is available at a similar or lower cost to existing treatment options.</p> <p>One declaration of interest was raised in NMSG for this item. This was not considered a significant conflict that required any other action than noting.</p> <p>Based on the NICE Resource Impact Statement, costs are expected to be less than £8,800 per 100,000 population, which equates to £237,600 for the Cheshire and Merseyside population.</p>	<p>Clinically supported by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy Group 23/11/23. Escalated within ICB for approval decision in line with Standing Financial Instructions (SFI) and Scheme of Reservation and Delegation (SORD) for the ICB.</p> <p>30 day deadline not being met noted by ICB MOP Group and acknowledged previously by ICB Medical Directorate.</p>

<p><a href="#">DRAFT Mirikizumab for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis</a> *</p> <p><b>plus</b></p> <p><a href="#">DRAFT High cost drug treatment pathway - inflammatory bowel disease in adults</a></p>	<p>Red</p>	<p><b>Date of NICE TA publication:</b> 25 October 2023</p> <p><b>Approval for implementation:</b> 30 days</p> <p><b>Deadline for implementation:</b> 24 November 2023</p> <p>Red RAG rating to be assigned in formulary, in line with <a href="#">NICE TA925</a>. Mirikizumab is another treatment option for ulcerative colitis in adults and is available at a similar or lower cost to existing treatment options.</p> <p>Although the cost per dose dose is the same for the IV infusion and SC maintenance dose, healthcare resource would required for extended induction and re-induction therapy.</p> <p>The IBD pathway has been updated to include mirikizumab.</p> <p>Based on the NICE Resource Impact Statement, costs are expected to be less than £8,800 per 100,000 population, which equates to £237,600 for the Cheshire and Merseyside population.</p>	<p>Clinically supported by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy Group 23/11/23. Escalated within ICB for approval decision in line with Standing Financial Instructions (SFI) and Scheme of Reservation and Delegation (SORD) for the ICB.</p> <p>30 day deadline not being met noted by ICB MOP Group and acknowledged previously by ICB Medical Directorate.</p>
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\* In accordance with the new NICE TA process, the NMSG has produced a red RAG report instead of a statement for these items. Once approved, these drugs / indications will be added to the formulary with a link to the NICE TA.