

# Area Prescribing Group report

**Date:** Friday 04 August 2023 **Quorate:** No

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

The ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) group noted that the August APG meeting was non-quorate and agreed to accept all of the APG recommendations for consideration.

Document links provided 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.

## New medicines other

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">BARICITINIB tablets (Olumiant®) for COVID-19</a>	Red	<p>Adoption of template NHS England Clinical Commissioning Policy for the off-label use of baricitinib for treating COVID-19.</p> <p>Baricitinib is already in use as treatment option for COVID-19 and was previously commissioned by NHS England. However, ICBs are now the responsible commissioner for COVID-19 treatments and consideration of a commissioning position for baricitinib was identified as a priority by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB. NICE will not assess baricitinib through the TA process because the manufacturer is not pursuing a marketing authorisation.</p> <p>Based on an estimate of annual North West usage, costs are noted as approximately £1,209 per 100,000 population.</p>	<p>Supported by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) Group and approved by ICB Chief Pharmacist 24/08/23.</p> <p>Blueteq utilisation required by ICB in line with other COVID-19 Red drugs.</p>

<a href="#">NETARSUDIL-LATANOPROST eye drops (Roclanda®▼) for open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension</a>	Grey	Holding statement. Not recommended until NICE TA published.	Approved by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) Group 24/08/23
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## Formulary and guidelines

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">Sunscreens - formulary update</a>	Green	<p>Addition of Anthelios sunscreen lotion SPF 50 – 250ml, Uvistat Sun cream SPF 50 or SPF 30 – 125ml and Uvistat lipscreen SPF50 to both legacy formularies and the future harmonised formulary.</p> <p>Removal of Anthelios XL and Sensense Ultra, both of which have been discontinued.</p>	Approved by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) Group 24/08/23

## Interface Prescribing

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">Cheshire and Merseyside RAG definitions and criteria</a>	Not applicable	<p>A new Cheshire and Merseyside RAG definitions and criteria document to provide a foundation for the forthcoming formulary harmonisation.</p> <p>The RAG criteria names remain largely the same. The legacy Cheshire blue RAG has been changed to grey, in line with the legacy Merseyside RAG criteria, with the legacy Cheshire blue wording adopted. The Cheshire legacy grey RAG criteria has been added as an extra criteria in the black RAG definition.</p> <p>The amber recommended definition has been strengthened based on wording from the ICB document '<i>Consensus on the Primary and Secondary Care Interface</i>'.</p>	<p>Approved by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) Group 24/08/23.</p> <p>Going to ICB Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG) for noting 11/10/23</p>

## Safety

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">CLOZAPINE: reducing the risk of harm</a>	Not applicable	Safety guidance document to support safe systems of managing medicines for people taking clozapine.  Provides information for non-specialists to raise awareness of the common side-effects of clozapine that may lead to life-threatening complications.	Approved by ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) Group 24/08/23

## APG governance documents

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">Subgroup processes</a>	Not applicable	For noting.	Noted by MOP Group 24/08/23
<a href="#">New Medicines Subgroup: Processes for NICE TAs - Grey, Black or Red RAG rating</a>	Not applicable	For noting.	Noted by MOP Group 24/08/23
<a href="#">New Medicines Subgroup: Process for terminated, suspended and withdrawn NICE TAs</a>	Not applicable	For noting.	Noted by MOP Group 24/08/23
<a href="#">Decision Support Summary</a>	Not applicable	For noting. Re-drafted for usability. Grouped under domains borrowed from the IFR process of appropriateness, clinical effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, ethics and affordability. Individual considerations reworded to enable a yes or no response.	Noted by MOP Group 24/08/23

## APG reports

Drug and indication	Date	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">NICE TA formulary adherence</a>	June 2023	For noting.	Noted by MOP Group 24/08/23

## Outstanding ICB approvals

Drug and indication	RAG	Notes	ICB approval
<a href="#">Formulary RAG harmonisation rules</a>	Not applicable	This paper provides a set of rules to be used for the initial rapid harmonisation of the two formularies to provide a new formulary. This will enable the APG subgroups to begin to apply prioritisation principles to their workplans.	Supported by ICB MOP Group 18/07/23. Approved by ICB Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG) 09/08/23.