

Eye lubricant products

[Click here for guidance algorithm](#)



Brand names are provided for use in when prescribing on an FP10. Prescriptions which are to be dispensed within secondary care should be prescribed generically to allow the most cost effective brand to be supplied according to current contracts and pricing agreements. Patients may be switched between equivalent products across the interface.

Formulary options

Viscosity	Preserved	Preservative free <small>(See guidance for when PF recommended)</small>
Thin	Hypromellose 0.3% (£1.50, 10ml, 1 month expiry)	Evolve® Hypromellose (0.3%, £2, 10ml, 3 month expiry)
Middle	Hypromellose 0.5% (£1, 10ml, 1 month expiry) or Sno-tears® (Polyvinyl alcohol 1.4%, £1, 10ml, 1 month expiry)	Evolve® Carmellose (0.5%, £5, 10ml, 3 month expiry) or Celluvisc® UDVs (Carmellose 0.5%, £6 for 30)
Thick	Carbomer 0.2% (10g, 1 month expiry) <small>(Clinitas Carbomer® brand £1.50 best for GPs)</small>	Celluvisc® UDVs (Carmellose 1%, £3 for 30) or Hylo-Forte® (Hyaluronate 0.2%, £9.50, 10ml, 6 month expiry)
Ointment	→	VitA-POS® eye ointment (Liquid paraffin, £3, 6 month expiry)

Ophthalmologist recommendation only	Notes
Clinitas UDVs® (£5.70 for 30) or Clinitas Multi® (£7 for 10ml, 3 month expiry)(both Hyaluronate 0.4%)	Very severe dry eyes
Ilube® drops (Acetylcysteine + hypromellose, £15, 10ml, 1 month expiry)	Corneal filaments
Oxyl® (Hyaluronate 0.15%, £4, 10ml, 2 month expiry)	Punctate keratitis
Optive Plus® drops <small>(Carboxymethylcellulose, glycerine & castor oil. £7.50, 10ml, 6 month expiry)</small>	Meibomian gland deficiency
Systane Ultra® (Hydroxypropyl guar eye drops, £7, 10ml, 6 month exp)	Meibomian gland deficiency
Systane Balance® (Hydroxypropyl guar with mineral oil, £7.50, 6m exp)	Meibomian gland deficiency

Other products on the market, but instead use an equivalent product from above

Viscosity	Preserved	Preservative free
Thin	Tears Naturale® (Hypromellose 0.3%/Dextran, £2, 10ml, 1 month expiry)	Artelac Rebalance® (Hyaluronate 0.15%, 10ml, £4, 1 month expiry) Hydromoor® (Hypromellose 0.3% UDVs, £5 for 30, single use) Hylo-Fresh® (Hyaluronate 0.03%, £5, 10ml, 6 month expiry) PF Drops® Carmellose 0.5% (10ml, 2 month expiry) PF drops® Hypromellose 0.3% (10ml, 2 month expiry) Tear-Lac® (Hypromellose 0.3% 10ml £6, 6 month expiry) Xailin® fresh UDVs (Carmellose 0.5%, £4 for 30, single use)
Middle	Liquifilm tears® (Polyvinyl alcohol 1.4%) £2, 15ml, 1 month expiry)	Artificial tears® (Hydroxyethylcellulose 0.44% UDVs, £9 for 20, single use) Carmize® UDVs (Carmellose 1%, (£3 for 30, 12hr expiry) Cellusan light® (Carmellose 0.5%, £5 for 10ml, 3 month expiry) Evolve® HA (Hyaluronate 0.2%, £6, 10ml, 3 month expiry) Hylo-Tear® (Hyaluronate 0.1%, £9, 10ml, 6 month expiry) Thealoz Duo® (Hyaluronate 0.15%, Trehalose 3%, £9 for 10ml, 3 mo expiry) Vismed multi® (Hyaluronate 0.18%, £7 for 10ml, 3 month expiry) VisuXL® (Hyaluronate 0.1%, Coenzyme Q10, £11, 2 month expiry)
Thick	GelTears® (Carbomer 0.2%, 10g, 1 month expiry) Viscotears® (Carbomer 0.2%, 10g, 1 month expiry) Xailin® (Carbomer 0.2%, 10g, 1 month expiry)	Cellusan® (Carmellose 1%, £5 for 10ml, 3 month expiry) Hydramed® (Hyaluronate 0.2%, £6, 10ml, 3 month expiry) Thealoz Duo Gel UDVs (Hyaluronate 0.15%, Carbomer 0.25%, Trehalose 3%, £7 for 30) Viscotears® UDVs (Carbomer 0.2% UDVs, £6 for 30) Xailin HA® (0.2% Hyaluronate, 10ml, £7, 1 month expiry)
Ointment	→	Xailin night® (Liquid paraffin eye ointment, £3, 2 month expiry) Lacri-lube® (Liquid paraffin eye ointment, £3, 1 month expiry) Simple eye ointment (£14, 1 month expiry)

Descriptions	
Thin	Almost like water
Middle	Like oil
Thick	Like jelly or thick oil, but only blurs vision for a minute
Ointment	Like thin Vaseline - blurs the vision

Note: Same ingredients are not always the same thickness. e.g. Evolve HA and Carmize 1% are thinner than other brands.

10ml bottles contain around 200 drops, so at 4 drops a day in each eye, should last around 25 days.