

Medicines and Appliances of Limited Clinical Value

It is recommended that medicines classified as GREY under the Nottinghamshire Traffic Light System are not routinely prescribed on the NHS.

The grey classification is defined as '*medicines which the Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee does not recommend for use at present due to limited clinical and/or cost effective data*'.

In order to improve prescribing efficiency and support the release of further savings from the CCGs prescribing budgets, the grey classification should be reinforced amongst all prescribers.

In addition the following medicines have been agreed as having limited clinical value* and should either NEVER be prescribed on the NHS (The "NEVER" List) or only be prescribed in exceptional circumstances (The "RARELY PRESCRIBED" List).

*previously known as the Low Priority List

The "NEVER" List – The following products should NEVER be prescribed on the NHS in Nottinghamshire (unless agreed via the [Individual Funding Request](#) process).

Product	Traffic Light	Comments
Bath and shower emollients	GREY Oilatum [®] Plus is RED for MRSA treatment at NUH where Octenisan [®] is not appropriate	See Notts APC Emollient formulary here . See Greater Notts and Mid Notts emollient position statements here . Note that topical emollients / soap substitutes may still be prescribed if self-care is not appropriate.
Cannabis extract (Sativex [®])	GREY	Limited evidence base
Co-danthramer & co-danthrusate	GREY	Risk of dantron burns and control is usually achieved with alternative. Capsules discontinued, suspension is expensive.
Co-proxamol	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions) See PrescQIPP bulletin (need to log in)
Dapoxetine (Priligy [®])	GREY	Alternative, more cost effective, treatments are available for premature ejaculation.
Eflornithine cream (Vaniqa [®])	GREY	Not to be prescribed for any indication on NHS. Removal of excessive hair (hirsutism) is not commissioned under the East Midlands Commissioning Policy for Cosmetic procedures .
Glucosamine and Chondroitin preparations	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions)
Herbal treatments	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions)
Homeopathy	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions) Notts APC position statement here
Infantile colic products (e.g. Infacol [®] gripe water & Colief [®])	GREY *Infacol [®] is RED for gastroenterology use in endoscopy only	See NHSE guidance . NHSE states that the condition is self-limiting and will clear up on its own without the need for treatment. Patient support available
Light support underwear garments		Advice can be sought from the Nottinghamshire Appliance Management Service (NAMS) or secondary care stoma nurses.

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Product	Traffic Light	Comments
Liothyronine (new patients*)	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions for new patients*). See APC position statement for management of hypothyroidism and PrescQIPP bulletin (need to log in). *All patients currently receiving liothyronine on the NHS in the Nottinghamshire area will be reviewed and the NHS will only support continued prescribing in exceptional circumstances and only under recommendation from an NHS Endocrinologist.
Lomitapide (Lojuxta [®])	GREY	Costs over £17,000 per month.
Malaria prophylaxis (chloroquine, mefloquine, proguanil, Malarone [®])	GREY for malaria prophylaxis RED For malaria treatment	For overseas travel, supply is only available through private prescription.
Mefenamic acid	GREY	Significantly more expensive than alternatives and naproxen is as effective and ibuprofen almost as effective for dysmenorrhoea. Mefenamic acid not good in overdose - See review See NICE CKS review of evidence.
Gluten free products	GREY	The prescribing of gluten free products on the NHS is no longer supported in Nottinghamshire. See position statements for Greater Nottingham and Mid Notts .
Ocular multivitamin supplements (e.g. ICAPS [®])	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions) – in Lutein and antioxidants section
Oxycodone & naloxone (Targinact [®])	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions)
Rubefacients (e.g. Movelat [®] , Transvasin ^{®*} & Algesal [®]) – excluding topical NSAIDs *Transvasin [®] is RED for use in cardiac catheter suite at SFH only	GREY	See NHSE guidance (no exceptions) See PrescQIPP bulletin (need to log in) Note that ibuprofen gel is the only topical NSAID on formulary.
Silk garments	GREY	For both adults and children
Tadalafil once daily	GREY	Reviewed and rejected for the treatment of erectile dysfunction and use post-prostatectomy. See NHSE guidance and PrescQIPP bulletin (need to log in)
Tramacet [®] (tramadol 37.5mg/paracetamol 325mg)	GREY	Sub-therapeutic doses of tramadol and paracetamol. See NHSE guidance (no exceptions)
Vaginal moisturisers (e.g. Replens MD ^{®*} , Sylk [®] & Yes [®] .)	GREY * Replens MD [®] is RED for GU med only at SFH as it does not interfere with a specific test like normal lubricating gel does.	

The “**RARELY PRESCRIBED**” List – The following products should only be prescribed in EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES (listed) on the NHS in Nottinghamshire (unless agreed via the [Individual Funding Request](#) process).

Product	Traffic Light	Comments
Acetylcysteine as a mucolytic	GREY For use as a mucolytic	Oral use as a mucolytic reclassified as GREY at May 17 APC.
Aliskiren (Rasilez [®])	GREY	Not included in NICE hypertension guideline as insufficient evidence of its effectiveness. Also some safety concerns (see MHRA alert).
Dosulepin	GREY	No prescribing for new patients. Work currently taking place to switch all patients from this medication as per NHSE guidance .
Doxazosin modified release	Amber 2 4th line for management of hypertension GREY for other indications	Modified release doxazosin reserved for specialist initiation in patients with difficult to treat hypertension that are unable to tolerate standard release doxazosin. See NHSE guidance .
Felodipine	GREY	Amlodipine is preferred as felodipine is four times the price without any perceived advantages.
Fentanyl – immediate release (e.g. buccal, sublingual, nasal spray)	GREY for non-cancer related pain. Nasal spray and sublingual tablets are RED	Not to be prescribed in primary care. Prescribing is restricted to specialists (i.e. RED) and only for the management of breakthrough pain in adult patients using opioid therapy for chronic cancer pain, when other short-acting opioids are unsuitable.
Lidocaine 5% patches	Amber 2 for post herpetic neuralgia RED for other indications	On recommendation of pain management service for pain due to post herpetic neuralgia. Specialist only prescribing for other indications (exceptional circumstances only). See NHSE guidance .
Migraine treatment for infrequent migraine	GREEN (Sumatriptan is first line choice) Migraleve [®] is GREY	Prescriptions for the treatment of mild migraine should not routinely be offered in primary care as the condition is appropriate for self-care. See NHSE guidance .
Omega 3 fatty acids (e.g. Prestylon [®] & Omacor [®])	Amber 3 (Prestylon [®] for hypertriglyceridaemia) GREY (Omacor [®])	See NHSE guidance . For the treatment of Hypertriglyceridaemia ONLY in line with Hypertriglyceridaemia guideline . Prestylon [®] is preferred brand. Not recommended by NICE for either prevention or treatment of cardiovascular disease (CVD) as per NICE recommendation
Sun protection	GREY (Sunsense [®] Ultra is GREEN for photodermatoses only)	See NHSE guidance and PrescQIPP bulletin (need to log in). Exception: ACBS approved indication of photodermatoses (i.e. where skin protection should be prescribed).
Trimipramine	GREY	No prescribing for new patients. Work currently taking place to switch all patients from this medication as per NHSE guidance .