

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic an interim JAPC ToR has been devised to ensure that there is continuity of JAPC meetings during these extraordinary times. The increased pressures experienced by the CCG and providers necessitated the need to temporarily modify existing arrangements for the running of JAPC meetings and the work-up behind the review/production of clinical guidelines.

See http://www.derbyshiremedicinesmanagement.nhs.uk/medicines-management/joint_area_prescribing_committee

Key Messages - JAPC March 2021 virtual Meeting

MHRA NOTICES

Ulipristal acetate 5mg (Esmya)- risk of serious liver injury. Esmya should no longer be prescribed for controlling symptoms of uterine fibroids while waiting for surgical treatment. Already assigned DNP classification.

Pregabalin (Lyrica): reports of severe respiratory depression. Pregabalin has been associated with infrequent reports of severe respiratory depression, including some cases without the presence of concomitant opioid medicines. Patients with compromised respiratory function, respiratory or neurological disease, renal impairment; those using concomitant CNS depressants; and people older than 65 years might be at higher risk of experiencing these events and adjustments in dose or dosing regimen may be necessary.

Alkindi (hydrocortisone granules): risk of acute adrenal insufficiency in children when switching from hydrocortisone tablets. When children receiving replacement therapy for adrenal insufficiency are being switched from hydrocortisone tablets to Alkindi granules, parents or carers should be informed of the need to be extra vigilant for symptoms of adrenal insufficiency, such as tiredness, floppiness, unstable temperature, headache and vomiting. This is likely a consequence from variation in preparing soluble tablets or crushing hydrocortisone tablets previously.

Phyllocontin® 225mg and 350mg MR tablets are being discontinued in the UK. Remaining supplies of the 225mg/350mg strength are expected to be exhausted by 30th March 2021 and 5th April 2021 respectively.

Phyllocontin has been removed from the Derbyshire formulary chapter (respiratory) and assigned a DNP classification.

DHSC advice:

- Do not initiate new patients on aminophylline tablets.
- Review all affected patients and optimise inhaled therapies.
- Patients who still require a methylxanthine will need to be switched to theophylline tablets (Uniphyllin Continus®). See alert for detail on dose conversion and monitoring.
- Side effects that could indicate toxicity include nausea, vomiting, epigastric pain, haematemesis, restlessness, hypertonia, exaggerated limb reflexes, convulsions, hypotension, and sinus tachycardia.

NICE TA679 - Dapagliflozin for heart failure with reduced ejection fraction - GREEN specialist/consultant initiation and stabilisation

Dapagliflozin for treating heart failure with reduced ejection fraction has been assigned a drug traffic light classification of GREEN specialist/consultant initiation and stabilisation. Dapagliflozin is being incorporated into our local HF guidance with a draft returning next month. Consultants have been contacted and advice already sought. This will be specialist initiation and continuation in primary care (requires no special monitoring).

Traffic light changes

Drug	Date considered	Decision	Details
Aminophylline oral	March 2021	DNP	Discontinued in UK. Do not initiate. Review patients existing on treatment and optimise inhaled therapies
Cyclizine	March 2021	GREEN	Prescribing within licensed indications. Cyclizine use in pregnancy is off-label and classified GREY
Fluocinolone acetone/ Clioquinol (Synalar C)	March 2021	GREEN	For treatment of <u>localised</u> infected eczema. Avoid using for longer than two weeks or use on a regular basis.
Dapagliflozin	March 2021	GREEN specialist/consultant initiation and stabilisation	NICE TA679 - Dapagliflozin for treating chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. (Dapagliflozin place in treatment algorithm to be confirmed)
Brolucizumab	March 2021	RED	NICE TA672 Brolucizumab for treating wet age-related macular degeneration. CCG commissioned.
Filgotinib	March 2021	RED	NICE TA676 - Filgotinib for treating moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis. CCG commissioned
Mepolizumab	March 2021	RED	NICE TA671 Mepolizumab for treating severe eosinophilic asthma. NHSE commissioned – replace TA431. NHSE commissioned
Metreleptin	March 2021	RED	NICE HST14 - Metreleptin for treating lipodystrophy. NHSE commissioned
Niraparib	March 2021	RED	NICE TA673 Niraparib for maintenance treatment of advanced ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer after response to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy. NHSE commissioned
Pembrolizumab	March 2021	DNP	NICE TA674 Pembrolizumab for untreated PD-L1-positive, locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer when cisplatin is unsuitable (terminated appraisal)- replaces TA522. NHSE commissioned Monotherapy for the first-line treatment of metastatic microsatellite instability-high or mismatch repair deficient colorectal cancer in adults [new indication]
Vernakalant	March 2021	DNP	NICE TA675 Vernakalant for the rapid conversion of recent onset atrial fibrillation to sinus rhythm (terminated appraisal). NHSE commissioned
Autologous antiCD19-transduced CD3+ cells	March 2021	RED	NICE TA677- Autologous antiCD19-transduced CD3+ cells for treating relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma. NHSE commissioned
Omalizumab	March 2021	DNP	NICE TA678 - Omalizumab for treating chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (terminated appraisal). NHSE commissioned

Pemigatinib	March 2021	RED	Available through EAMS - Pemigatinib in the treatment of adults with locally advanced or metastatic cholangiocarcinoma with fibroblast growth factor receptor 2 (FGFR2) fusion or rearrangement that is relapsed or refractory after at least one line of systemic therapy. NHSE commissioned
Abrocitinib	March 2021	RED	Available through EAMS - Abrocitinib in the treatment of adult and adolescent patients with severe atopic dermatitis who are candidates for systemic therapy and have failed to respond, or who are intolerant of or ineligible for approved systemic therapies. NHSE commissioned
Pertuzumab + trastuzumab (Phesgo)	March 2021	RED	NHSE commission a new combined pertuzumab and trastuzumab subcutaneous injection, brand name PHESGO® , for all existing pertuzumab and trastuzumab indications as an alternative to IV pertuzumab and trastuzumab.
		DNP	For use in combination with chemotherapy in the neoadjuvant treatment of adults with HER2 positive, locally advanced, inflammatory, or early stage breast cancer at high risk of recurrence, adjuvant treatment of adults with HER2-positive early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence, and in combination with docetaxel in adults with HER2-positive metastatic or locally recurrent unresectable breast cancer, who have not received previous anti-HER2 therapy or chemotherapy for their metastatic disease. Awaiting national guidance
Pridinol (Myopridin)	March 2021	DNP	Central and peripheral muscle spasms (lumbar pain, torticollis, general muscle pain) in adults
Treprostinil sodium (Treprostinil Tillomed)	March 2021	RED	Treatment of idiopathic or heritable pulmonary arterial hypertension to improve exercise tolerance and symptoms of the disease in patients classified as NYHA functional class III. NHSE commissioned
Von Willebrand factor (Willfact)	March 2021	RED	Prevention and treatment of haemorrhages or surgical bleeding in von Willebrand disease when desmopressin treatment alone is ineffective or contraindicated. NHSE commissioned
Arachis hypogaea (Palforzia)	March 2021	DNP	Treatment of patients aged 4 to 17 years with a confirmed diagnosis of peanut allergy (Palforzia may be continued in patients 18 years of age and older)
Cabotegravir (Vocabria)	March 2021	RED	Short-term treatment of HIV-1 infection in adults who are virologically suppressed (HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL) on a stable antiretroviral regimen without present or past evidence of viral resistance to, and no prior virological failure with agents of the NNRTI and INI class for oral lead in to assess tolerability of Vocabria and rilpivirine prior to administration of long acting cabotegravir injection plus long acting rilpivirine injection, and as oral therapy for adults who will miss planned dosing with cabotegravir injection plus rilpivirine injection
Bempedoic acid (Nilemdo)	March 2021	DNP	Use in adults with primary hypercholesterolaemia (heterozygous familial and non-familial) or mixed dyslipidaemia as an adjunct to diet, in combination with a statin or statin with other lipidlowering therapies in patients unable to reach LDL-C goals with the maximum tolerated dose of a statin, or alone or in combination with other lipid-lowering therapies in patients who are statin- intolerant or for whom a statin is contraindicated
Bempedoic acid + ezetimibe (Nustendi)	March 2021	DNP	Use in adults with primary hypercholesterolaemia (heterozygous familial and non-familial) or mixed dyslipidaemia as an adjunct to diet, in combination with a statin or statin with other lipidlowering therapies in patients unable to reach LDL-C goals with the maximum tolerated dose of a statin, or alone or in combination with other lipid-lowering therapies in patients who are statin- intolerant or for whom a statin is contraindicated
Lidocaine + phenazone (Otigo)	March 2021	DNP	Local symptomatic treatment and relief of pain in the following diseases of the middle ear without tympanic perforation: acute, congestive otitis media, otitis in influenza, the so called viral bullous otitis, and barotraumatic otitis in adults and children
Amikacin (Arikayce)	March 2021	RED	Treatment of non-tuberculous mycobacterial lung infections caused by Mycobacterium avium complex in adults with limited treatment options who do not have cystic fibrosis
Buprenorphine + naloxone (Suboxone sublingual film)	March 2021	DNP	Substitution treatment for opioid drug dependence, within a framework of medial, social and psychological treatment in adults and adolescents aged >15 years who have agreed to be treated for addiction
Human fibrinogen + human thrombin (VeraSeal)	March 2021	RED	Supportive treatment in adults where standard surgical techniques are insufficient for improvement of haemostasis, and as suture support in vascular surgery
Ibuprofen by Dr Reddy's Laboratories (UK) Limited	March 2021	RED	Use in adults for the short-term symptomatic treatment of acute moderate pain, when administration by intravenous route is clinically justified when other routes of administration are not possible
Sofosbuvir + ledipasvir (Harvoni)	March 2021	RED	Treatment of chronic hepatitis C in adult and paediatric patients aged ≥3 years

Definitions:

RED: drugs are those where prescribing responsibility lies with a hospital consultant or a specialist.

AMBER: drugs are those that although usually initiated within a hospital setting, could appropriately become the responsibility of the GP, under a shared care agreement.

GREEN*: drugs are regarded as suitable for primary care prescribing.

GREY*: drugs are those that JAPC does not recommend for use, except in exceptional circumstances, due to lack of data on safety, effectiveness, and/or cost-effectiveness.

Do Not Prescribe (DNP)*: drugs, treatments or medical devices are **not** recommended or commissioned* (*unless agreed through the individual funding request route)

***Old nomenclature:**

- All **BLACK** drugs are now → **Do Not Prescribe (DNP)**
- All **BROWN** drugs are now → **GREY**

CONSULTANT/SPECIALIST INITIATION: consultant/specialist issues the first prescription usually following a consultation because:

- a. The patient requires specialist assessment before starting treatment and/ or
- b. Specialist short term assessment of the response to the drug is necessary.

GPs will be asked to continue prescribing when the patient is stable or predictably stable

CONSULTANT/SPECIALIST RECOMMENDATION: consultant/specialist requests GPs prescribe initial and on-going prescriptions, but ensures:

DERBYSHIRE MEDICINES MANAGEMENT, PRESCRIBING AND GUIDELINES WEBSITE

This website is the first port of call for information on local NHS decisions and guidance on medicines use. It includes: local prescribing formularies, JAPC decisions, traffic lights, shared care guidelines, medicines guidelines, newsletters, controlled drug resources, and other medicines management resources. The site improves upon previous sites in several ways. It is faster, more reliable, has its own search engine, and it is easier to find information. Content is constantly being updated and you can sign up for e-mail alerts to keep you up to date.