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## Items that have been removed from the drug tariff Part 7s

Omeprazole and ranitidine 5mg/5ml suspensions have been taken off part 7s of the Tariff. This includes all strengths of omeprazole;

- 5mg/5ml suspension
- 10mg/5ml suspension
- 20mg/5ml suspension

This means a substantial price hike for these products.

When clinically checking a prescription for omeprazole suspension the first question that should be asked is could MUPs be used instead.

When considering a prescription for ranitidine 5mg/5ml alternatives would be the effervescent tablets or oral solution.

If it is deemed that omeprazole or ranitidine suspension is required please look for the cheapest option and seek authorisation by emailing the prescribing support team at [dumf-uhb.Pharmacy-Specials@nhs.net](mailto:dumf-uhb.Pharmacy-Specials@nhs.net)

## Some New Year Resolutions

### Think quantities and volumes

- If starting a cream, prescribe a small volume e.g. 50g
- If starting when required analgesics for short term, consider asking patients to buy

### Rosuvastatin

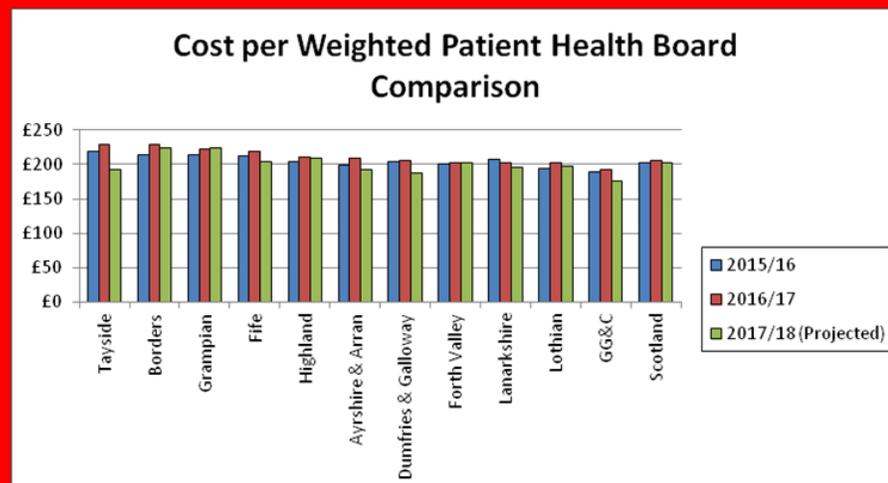
- review all patients on rosuvastatin, if able, switch to an alternative statin

### Self treatment

Use the right health care professional at the right time

## Good news!

Health Board Comparison of Costs across Scotland shows that NHS Dumfries & Galloway in terms of cost per weighted patient are looking good compared with other health boards. It can be seen that Dumfries Cost per weighted patient is amongst the lowest of Boards. However it is important to note that we are still overspent by approximately £1 million so need to continue with on-going cost saving initiatives.



## WHAT'S NEW IN THE COMMUNITY PHARMACY UNSCHEDULED CARE PGD

Over 24,000 items a month are supplied urgently to patients in Scotland using the Unscheduled Care PGD. Following a national consultation process, changes have now been made to the inclusion and exclusion criteria, with the aim of further improving patient care. The most important changes are summarised below:

### Removal of the requirement for the medication to be on a repeat prescription e.g.

- Patient recently discharged from hospital with new medication and has not organised a further supply of medication with their own prescriber who is now unavailable
- Prescribed medication lost, stored incorrectly, smashed bottle etc
- Medication is prescribed regularly but may not be on a repeat prescription
- Patient has been prescribed an acute medication but prescription not forwarded/received in the pharmacy and prescriber unavailable – *information held on Emergency Care Summary(ECS) obtained through NHS 24 would enable supply*
- Supply of alternative formulation e.g. cannot swallow

### Removal of the exclusion criteria that previously prevented successive supplies e.g.

- Patient unable to make an appointment to see their own prescriber before medication provided on PGD runs out

### Understanding of what "GP Unavailable" means

Following discussions with Dr Greycy Bell, and lead GPs from across Dumfries & Galloway, it has been agreed that "unavailable" during the "in hours" period in Dumfries and Galloway means that it would be appropriate to supply medicines using this PGD when:

- there is no GP in the practice
- the pharmacist judges that the requirement for a prescription from a GP would result in an unacceptable delay in the supply of a particular medicine to an individual patient, affecting the continuity of adherence to a medication regimen and/or ongoing patient care. For example, GPs are in the practice, however;
- The patient cannot get an appointment to see their GP within the necessary timeframe
- GPs are in surgery but will not be free to authorise or sign prescriptions within the necessary time frame

**Community Pharmacies and GP Practices are encouraged to work closely as a partnership to establish a clear agreement on how best this PGD can be used at a local level to further improve the care of patients.**





## Mindfulness over the festive season

At this time of year, exhaustion, stress and unhappiness can easily dominate our lives. Instead of really enjoying Christmas, we end up worrying about the next important thing to prepare for and thinking about what the New Year will bring, living outside of the moment. You can counteract this by implementing some simple mindfulness techniques. Mindfulness is simply paying full attention to the present moment, focusing on the here and now. It is about observation without criticism; being compassionate with yourself. Try choosing one or two of the following things to do (or perhaps come up with your own ideas):

- Be kind to your body. Have a nice hot bath; have a nap for thirty minutes (or perhaps a little less); treat yourself to your favourite food without feeling guilty; have your favourite hot drink

- Do something you enjoy. Visit or phone a friend (particularly if you've been out of contact for a while); get together what you need so you can do your favourite hobby; take some exercise; bake a cake; read something that gives you pleasure (not 'serious' reading); listen to some music that you have not listened to in a long while, go for a walk.

So, take a deep breath and have a mindful Christmas and New Year.

Emily Kennedy



# Happy Christmas & All the best for 2018!

## Summary of the latest Scottish Medicines Consortium decisions; for full advice see: [www.scottishmedicines.org.uk](http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk)

### Accepted

**tiotropium (Spiriva-Respimat®)** Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd: as a maintenance bronchodilator treatment to relieve symptoms of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

### Accepted with restricted use

**eliglustat (Cerdelga®)** Sanofi Genzyme: for the long-term treatment of adult patients with Gaucher disease type 1 (GD1) who are CYP2D6 poor metabolisers, intermediate metabolisers or extensive metabolisers.

### Accepted by SMC but NOT routinely available in D&G currently

**olaratumab (Lartruvo)** Eli Lilly and Company Ltd: In combination with doxorubicin for the treatment of adult patients with advanced soft-tissue sarcoma who are not amenable to curative treatment with surgery or radiotherapy and who have not been previously treated with doxorubicin.

**glecaprevir / pibrentasvir (Maviret)** AbbVie Ltd: Treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in adults.

**midazolam (as maleate) 10mg/1mL oromucosal solution (Epistatus®)** Special Products Limited: treatment of prolonged, acute, convulsive seizures in children and adolescents aged 10 to less than 18 years

**palbociclib (Ibrance®)** Pfizer: treatment of hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer:

-in combination with an aromatase inhibitor;

-in combination with fulvestrant in women who have received prior endocrine therapy.

-In pre- or peri-menopausal women, the endocrine therapy should be combined with a luteinising hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) agonist.

**pegvisomant (Somavert)** Pfizer Ltd: Treatment of adult patients with acromegaly who have had an inadequate response to surgery and / or radiation therapy and in whom an appropriate medical treatment with somatostatin analogues did not normalise IGF-1 [insulin-like growth factor 1] concentrations or was not tolerated.

**raltegravir 600mg film-coated tablets (Isentress)** Merck Sharp and Dohme Ltd: in combination with other anti-retroviral medicinal products for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection in adults and paediatric patients weighing at least 40kg.

**aviptadil phentolamine mesilate (Invicorp®)** Evolan Pharma: For the symptomatic treatment of erectile dysfunction in adult males due to neurogenic, vasculogenic, psychogenic, or mixed aetiology.

### NOT recommended for use in NHS Scotland and NOT added to D&G formulary

**mercaptamine, 25mg and 75mg** (as bitartrate), gastro-resistant hard capsules (Procysbi) Horizon Pharma; For the treatment of proven nephropathic cystinosis.

**abatacept 125mg solution for injection (pre-filled syringe); 125mg solution for injection in pre-filled pen; and 250 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion (Orencia)** (Bristol Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals Ltd: Alone or in combination with methotrexate for the treatment of active psoriatic arthritis in adult patients when the response to previous disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) therapy including methotrexate has been inadequate, and for whom additional systemic therapy for psoriatic skin lesions is not required.

**everolimus 0.25mg, 0.5mg and 0.75mg tablets (Certican)** Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd: Prophylaxis of organ rejection in adult patients at low to moderate immunological risk receiving an allogenic renal transplant

**ibrutinib 140-mg hard capsules (Imbruvica)** Janssen-Cilag Ltd: As a single agent for the treatment of adult patients with previously untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (who do not have 17p deletion or TP53 mutation).

**brodalumab (Kyntheum®)** LEO Pharma: for the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in adult patients who are candidates for systemic therapy.

**bezlotoxumab 25mg/mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Zinplava®)** Merck Sharp & Dohme Ltd: Prevention of recurrence of *Clostridium difficile* infection (CDI) in adults at high risk for recurrence of CDI.

**fulvestrant 250 mg solution for injection (Faslodex®)** AstraZeneca UK Limited: Treatment of oestrogen receptor positive, locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer in postmenopausal women not previously treated with endocrine therapy.

## Yellow Card Reporting

NHS Dumfries and Galloway was below the national average (27/100,000) for Yellow Card reporting with 25 reports per 100,000 population. 32% of reports were for patients over 65 years old for a variety of drugs.

For more information, please see link below:

<http://www.dgprescribingmatters.co.uk/document-summary.asp?documentID=762>

### Contact the Prescribing Support Team @

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