

Medicines management bulletin

Product updates and profile management

Optum Authored Content tab in Content Manager

Towards the end of last year, Optum were pleased to release an update to Content Manager to support our upcoming Targeted Switch content. These patient-targeted switch suggestions utilise the patient's medication history, conditions, or lab results, along with existing demographics, as well as the relevant product and dosage to offer clinically relevant switches.

Users of Content Manager may have seen the new **Authored Content** tab – where our new patient-centred targeted switch content is made available for profile authors to review, and self-select for deployment to practices alongside your regular recommendation profile.

Optum | Content Manager

Profile: Ravi Profile1(99915.000.039) | Version info | christina_m_weir@optum.com | Logout >

Add/Edit Submit Authorise Deploy Reports **Authored Content**

Rule F11 - Switch patients taking clopidogrel in addition to either omeprazole OR esomeprazole, to lansoprazole

Replacement Product: Lansoprazole 15mg orodispersible tablets

ID	View Details	Original Product	Status	Actions
-1000027	⌵	Omeprazole 10mg dispersible gastro-resistant tablets	Disabled ⚠	Enable
-1000028	⌵	Losec MUPS 10mg gastro-resistant tablets	Deployed ✓	Disable
-1000029	⌵	Mezzopram 10mg dispersible gastro-resistant tablets	Disabled ⚠	Enable

Replacement Product: Lansoprazole 30mg orodispersible tablets

Replacement Product: Lansoprazole 15mg gastro-resistant capsules

Replacement Product: Lansoprazole 30mg gastro-resistant capsules

It is important to note that these targeted switch recommendations are only applicable to practices using ScriptSwitch Prescribing version 7.10 or later, who have been enabled by us to utilise this content.

Earlier versions are not able to support these recommendations. However, profile managers are still able to access, review, and proactively enable and deploy recommendations, ready for when their practices are updated to the latest version, should you wish to do so.

Full details of the new Authored Content tab, and how to use it, are available in the [Release Notes](#).

If you'd like to learn more, or would like to check your current version of ScriptSwitch Prescribing and eligibility for activating this content, please contact your Pharmacist Account Manager or our Customer Services team at support@scriptswitch.com.

Overprescribing: a call to action

Harmful overprescribing linked to polypharmacy is a major issue for the NHS – and improving medicines management practice within primary care is an important part of the solution, as highlighted in a [new white paper](#) from Optum.

Around 40% of people over 65 are on five or more medications today. Of these, between 10% and 30% experience adverse drug reactions, and nearly half are non-adherent. It's thought the cost of adverse drug reactions alone could exceed £2.2 billion per year, while £300 million is wasted annually on unused medicines.

These numbers are likely to rise further as our population ages over the next few decades – so what steps can we take to address this growing issue? Optum recently facilitated a workshop at the HSJ's ICS Medicines Forum, bringing together healthcare professionals to explore the challenges and potential solutions.

The findings from Optum's workshop suggest five core challenges are stopping primary and community teams from ensuring harmful or problematic overprescribing is avoided.

1. **Technology** – delivering a more connected picture
2. **Data** – setting the parameters for success
3. **People** – putting patients at the heart of the process
4. **Pathways** – ensuring continuity of care
5. **Training** – enhancing deprescribing skills and capabilities



[Download the
Optum white paper](#)

How we can help

At Optum, we understand that technology alone won't solve every challenge, but we believe it can play a critical role in helping to overcome some of these barriers to action. Tools like Population360® offer repeat prescribing decision support.



We are recruiting ICBs, GP Practices and/or PCNs to try out Population360 free of charge.

Integrated with EMIS Web (no separate logons required), it helps to rapidly surface patients according to risk, manage repeat prescriptions, improve patient safety and the ability to action suggested recommendations for patients who may benefit from proactive interventions.

Support practice-based pharmacists and technicians to focus on the right patients, ensuring they get the most appropriate care and effective medicines for their needs. This approach minimises time, error and admissions through proactive population health management.

For an informal conversation or demo email us today at askoptum@optum.com

Make your voice heard and help us create the solutions you need

Our User Research team is dedicated to understanding the unique roles and tasks of our end users. We are currently seeking insights from PCN and Practice-based Pharmacists to better understand their job roles and responsibilities.

If you are interested in providing insight into your role as a Pharmacist, we invite you to participate in our 1:1 interviews.

Please share in your communication out to practices and MO newsletters to help spread the word.

Register your interest and email uxresearch@emishealth.com



Latest KINES Library content – January 2025

The following recommendations have been added to the Content Manager Library tab.

KINES UK National Library:

Medicines supply notifications	Source	Number of products/messages
Estradiol (Estradot®) 50micrograms/24hours transdermal patches – Out of stock until late February 2025	CPE	2 (updated)
Isosorbide mononitrate 10mg, 20mg and 40mg tablets (immediate-release) – Limited supply until late February 2025	CPE	3 (new)
Prednisolone 20mg/100ml rectal solution – Out of stock until February 2025	CPE	1 (updated)
Insulatard® (isophane insulin, human) Penfill® 100units/ml suspension for injection 3ml cartridges – Being discontinued	CPE	2 (updated)
Isosorbide Mononitrate 60mg SR/XL – Supply notification deleted	CPE	3 (deleted)
Lyxumia 20micrograms/0.2ml solution – supply notification deleted	CPE	1 (deleted)
Norethisterone 350microgram tablet – supply notification deleted	CPE	2 (deleted)

Cost-effectiveness updates

NCSO price concessions granted in England and Wales for January 2025* (from [CPE](#))

This list shows the top 30 concessions by estimated impact. If a product has multiple pack sizes with concessions, we have only included the concession with the biggest potential impact. The full and most up to date list of products and price concessions can be found on the CPE website. Please note these price concessions are not incorporated into the ScriptSwitch Prescribing pop up or reporting data.

Estimated impact on spend is based on the concession price increase and the number of prescriptions for each product logged by ScriptSwitch Prescribing across our UK customer base during the last 30 days to date*.

Product	Pack Size	DT price (Jan 25)	Concession price	£ Increase	% Increase	Estimated impact on spend
Hydroxocobalamin 1mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules	5	£9.96	£11.73	£1.77	18%	£79,878
Naproxen 500mg gastro-resistant tablets	56	£6.95	£18.95	£12.00	173%	£68,148
Gabapentin 600mg tablets	100	£5.41	£28.99	£23.58	436%	£59,374
Flucloxacillin 500mg capsules	28	£2.01	£2.78	£0.77	38%	£57,339
Tacrolimus 0.1% ointment	60	£34.68	£47.28	£12.60	36%	£49,946
Propantheline bromide 15mg tablets	112	£20.74	£103.52	£82.78	399%	£38,907
Desogestrel 75microgram tablets	84	£1.95	£2.57	£0.62	32%	£26,244
Naproxen 250mg gastro-resistant tablets	56	£3.12	£9.02	£5.90	189%	£24,013
Morphine sulfate 10mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules	10	£3.43	£5.85	£2.42	71%	£19,883
Codeine 15mg/5ml linctus	200	£2.40	£16.50	£14.10	588%	£19,035
Calcipotriol 0.005% / Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% gel	60	£18.76	£27.96	£9.20	49%	£18,225
Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops	10	£3.37	£4.60	£1.23	36%	£16,671
Lactulose 3.1-3.7g/5ml oral solution	500	£4.59	£4.95	£0.36	8%	£10,382
Estradiol 10microgram pessaries	24	£9.87	£10.68	£0.81	8%	£9,895
Chloramphenicol 1% eye ointment	4	£2.62	£3.49	£0.87	33%	£6,907
Cefalexin 500mg capsules	21	£2.41	£3.18	£0.77	32%	£5,793
Isosorbide mononitrate 20mg tablets	56	£1.07	£3.84	£2.77	259%	£5,271

Cost-effectiveness updates continued ...

Product	Pack Size	DT price (Jan 25)	Concession price	£ Increase	% Increase	Estimated impact on spend
Oxycodone 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free	250	£7.92	£8.66	£0.74	9%	£4,867
Nefopam 30mg tablets	90	£3.51	£4.09	£0.58	17%	£4,863
Co-amoxiclav 250mg/62mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free	100	£2.05	£4.65	£2.60	127%	£4,794
Clotrimazole 500mg pessary and Clotrimazole 2% cream	1	£5.73	£6.30	£0.57	10%	£4,587
Methenamine hippurate 1g tablets	60	£14.71	£16.09	£1.38	9%	£4,580
Mometasone 0.1% ointment	30	£2.67	£3.10	£0.43	16%	£4,299
Quetiapine 100mg tablets	60	£9.00	£10.17	£1.17	13%	£4,121
Travoprost 40micrograms/ml / timolol 5mg/ml eye drops	2.5	£8.19	£13.95	£5.76	70%	£3,525
Pregabalin 200mg capsules	84	£3.43	£4.25	£0.82	24%	£3,453
Pregabalin 100mg capsules	84	£1.98	£2.29	£0.31	16%	£3,038

*As of 21/01/25

Stock availability feedback

We have had recent pop-up feedback from individual practice prescribers across our national customer base, regarding availability of the following products. Those in **bold** have been reported from multiple practices (number of reports in brackets):

Multiple reports:

- **Salamol 100mcg/dose inhaler CFC free (51)**
- **Brancico XL tablets [all strengths] (12)**
- **Epimax excetra cream / oatmeal cream (10)**
- **Travoprost 40mcg/ml / Timolol 5mg/ml eye drops (6)**
- **Zomorph MR capsules [all strengths] (6)**
- **Butec transdermal patches [all strengths] (5)**
- **Zapain 30mg/500mg tablets (5)**
- **Scheriproct ointment , suppositories (4)**
- **Stexerol-D3 1,000unit tablets (4)**
- **Adipine MR 10 tablets (3)**
- **Emcozin 30mg/500mg tablets (3)**
- **Galzemic XL capsules [all strengths] (3)**
- **Vascalpha 10mg modified-release tablets (3)**
- **Vizidor 20mg/ml eye drops (3)**
- **Adaflex 2mg, 4mg tablets (2)**
- **Blerone XL 4mg capsules (2)**
- **Frisium 10mg tablets (2)**
- **Mezolar Matrix 25mcg/hour patches (2)**
- **Nasofan 50mcg aqueous nasal spray (2)**
- **Oxypro 5mg, 10mg MR tablets (2)**
- **Prothiaden 75mg tablets (2)**
- **Repinex XL 8mg tablets (2)**
- **Rizatriptan 10mg tablets, orodispersible tablets sugar free (2)**
- **Tolterodine 4mg MR capsules (2)**
- **Tolthen XL 4mg capsules (2)**
- **Utovlan 5mg tablets (2)**
- **Vencarm XL capsules [all strengths] (2)**

One-off reports:

- Calcipotriol 0.005% / Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% ointment
- Ceyesto 1mg/ml oral solution
- Citalopram 40mg tablets
- Co-amoxiclav 250mg/62mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free
- Estradiol 0.06% transdermal gel
- Evolve Hypromellose 0.3% eye drops PF
- Fixkoh Airmaster 50mcg/250mcg/dose dry powder inhaler
- Fultium-D3 20,000unit capsules
- Haloperidol 10mg/5ml oral solution sugar free
- Insupen Original hypodermic insulin needles screw on 6mm/31gauge
- Latanoprost 50micrograms/ml / Timolol 5mg/ml eye drops
- Longtec 30mg modified-release tablets
- Luforbec 200mcg/6mcg/dose inhaler
- Mefenamic acid 250mg tablets
- Mometasone 0.1% ointment
- Opiodur 25mcg/hour transdermal patches
- Oxeltra 5mg modified-release tablets
- Oxylan 5mg prolonged-release tablets
- Parmid XL 2.5mg tablets
- Propranolol 80mg tablets
- Sondate XL 200mg tablets
- Venlafaxine 75mg modified-release tablets
- Vizidor Duo 20mg/ml / 5mg/ml eye drops

This list is based purely on prescriber feedback related to specific local switches within our customer profiles across the whole customer base. Availability can vary geographically and also between wholesalers and individual community pharmacies. Up-to-date information should be sought from manufacturers, local community pharmacies and suppliers. If you have switches to any of these products in your profile, you may wish to review local stock availability accordingly.

ScriptSwitch product updates

New products on Content Manager

These are some of the notable product additions to our drug database, which can be selected on Content Manager for switches and information messages following the latest product update:

Branded products added (AMPs):

- CanesMeno Multi Support tablets
- CanesMeno Night tablets
- Clarinaze Hayfever Relief 0.05% nasal spray
- Comirnaty KP.2 COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine multidose vials
- DryMax Super dressing 5cm x 5cm square
- Eakin Freeseal Air
- Eakin Freeseal Versa
- Focusim XL capsules [4 strengths]
- Glucoject hypodermic insulin needles screw on 4mm/33gauge
- NEXA Foam dressing 15cm x 7.5cm x 2cm
- Ostoform Crest
- Proxor inhaler [2 strengths]
- Rudimet 500mg prolonged-release tablets
- Siliconex gel
- Similac Arize powder
- Strigol oral powder sachets [2 types]
- Wainzua 45mg/0.8ml solution for injection pre-filled pens

Generic products added (VMPs):

- Alteplase 12.5micrograms/0.1ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes
- Benzathine benzylpenicillin 2.4million unit powder for suspension for injection vials
- Chlorhexidine gluconate 0.05% eye drops preservative free
- Co-codamol 30mg/500mg effervescent tablets sugar free
- Eplontersen 45mg/0.8ml solution for injection pre-filled disposable devices
- Ganciclovir 2mg/0.1ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes
- Voriconazole solution for injection pre-filled syringes [2 strengths]

Need help and support with ScriptSwitch?

Email support@scriptswitch.com

or call 02476 214 700

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