

# Medicines management bulletin

## Product updates and profile management

### Repeat prescribing toolkit

We were delighted to see the launch of the RCGP RPS Repeat Prescribing Toolkit earlier this month, after they were commissioned by NHSE to address recommendation 7 of the National Overprescribing Review.

Designed to help practices improve the consistency of repeat prescribing processes, this toolkit has been much anticipated as the first national good practice in repeat prescribing in over 20 years! With the addition of a new dashboard through ePACT2 on oversupply of medicines, focusing in on high-risk medicines.

If you haven't already read the toolkit, you can listen to this [pre-recorded webinar](#) from the RPS which gives you the background, key points and a useful summary of the new dashboards (time stamp 36 mins 22 secs if you want to skip through to that part).

Whilst much of the toolkit focuses on self-assessment and process mapping for practices and PCNs, there are 12 recommendations towards the back of the report, a combination of system / tool enhancements, contractual frameworks, training needs, marketing campaigns, policies, and procedures.

At this moment in time, the work required has not been mandated – however we suspect that over time ICBs may want to incentivise practices and PCNs to undertake the work outlined in the toolkit – as this is an opportunity to improve processes and prevent avoidable harm to patients.

It would be great to hear from any systems that have already started this work, how you are doing and any examples that we can share within the ScriptSwitch Prescribing community. Equally if there are any suggestions about how we can improve our products and services to align with new ways of working, then we would love to hear your suggestions.

Get in touch with your clinical pharmacist account manager to discuss how we can help.

#### Quick view of some of the stats:

- >1M people in England receive 10+ medicines on repeat prescriptions
- Overuse of antibiotics drives AMR, which is associated with >35,000 deaths in the UK every year
- Repeat prescribing makes up 75% of all prescription items dispensed
- 1 in 5 coroner reported preventable deaths involved medicines (2013-2022)
- In 2018 it was estimated that 237M medication errors occur in England every year

## Latest library content

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

### Optum quantity limit switches

Selected by our clinical team from careful analysis of national prescribing data to identify high-impact, overprescribed products.

These quantity limits for tirzepatide pens reflect the dosing stated in the Summary of Product Characteristics: The starting dose of tirzepatide is 2.5mg once weekly. After 4 weeks, the dose should be increased to 5mg once weekly. If needed, dose increases can be made in 2.5mg increments after a minimum of 4 weeks on the current dose. The recommended maintenance doses are 5, 10 and 15 mg.

Products	Quantity limit	Treatment duration
Tirzepatide (Mounjaro KwikPen) solution for injection 2.4ml pre-filled disposable devices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2.5mg/0.6ml, 7.5mg/0.6ml, 12.5mg/0.6ml strengths</li></ul>	1 pen	4 weeks (for intermediate titration dose)
Tirzepatide (Mounjaro KwikPen) solution for injection 2.4ml pre-filled disposable devices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5mg/0.6ml, 10mg/0.6ml, 15mg/0.6ml strengths</li></ul>	2 pens	8 weeks (for maintenance dose)

### KINES UK NATIONAL LIBRARY:

Medicines supply notifications	Source	Number of products/ messages
<b>Torsemide 10mg tablets</b> are in limited supply until March 2025	CPE	1 (new)
<b>Trandate (Labetalol 50mg tablets)</b> will be discontinued from July 2025	CPE	2 (new)
<b>Creon 10000 and 25000 gastro-resistant capsules, Nutrizym-22 capsules, Pancrex V 125mg capsules, Pancrex V oral powder</b> – message update to line referring to supply of Nutrizym-22 capsules	CPE	5 (updated)

## Cost-effectiveness updates

### NCSO price concessions granted in England and Wales for October 2024\* (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 (Oct 24)	Concession price	£ increase	% increase	Estimated impact on spend
Pregabalin 50mg capsules	84	£5.00	£11.93	£6.93	139%	£94,518
Ketoconazole 2% shampoo	120	£20.52	£24.00	£3.48	17%	£45,849
Propantheline bromide 15mg tablets**	112	£20.74	£103.50	£82.76	399%	£43,366
Methylphenidate 54mg modified-release tablets	30	£36.80	£73.62	£36.82	100%	£41,901
Quetiapine 100mg tablets	60	£3.61	£12.39	£8.78	243%	£34,804
Tacrolimus 0.1% ointment	60	£39.74	£47.28	£7.54	19%	£30,303
Hydroxocobalamin 1mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules**	5	£11.27	£11.75	£0.48	4%	£22,210
Metformin 500mg modified-release tablets	56	£2.11	£2.93	£0.82	39%	£20,285
Quetiapine 150mg tablets	60	£3.73	£15.50	£11.77	316%	£14,736
Quetiapine 25mg tablets	60	£1.92	£3.02	£1.10	57%	£12,408
Quetiapine 300mg tablets	60	£6.12	£13.24	£7.12	116%	£8,330
Levetiracetam 500mg tablets	60	£3.82	£5.50	£1.68	44%	£7,150
Nefopam 30mg tablets	90	£3.18	£3.89	£0.71	22%	£6,264
Nortriptyline 10mg tablets	100	£3.68	£4.54	£0.86	23%	£5,967
Olanzapine 10mg tablets	28	£2.34	£4.27	£1.93	82%	£5,817
Clarithromycin 250mg/5ml oral suspension	70	£6.22	£8.48	£2.26	36%	£5,616

## Cost-effectiveness updates continued ...

Product	Pack size	DT price (Oct 24)	Concession price	£ increase	% increase	Estimated impact on spend
Mometasone 0.1% ointment	30	£2.92	£3.39	£0.47	16%	£4,461
Olanzapine 5mg tablets	28	£1.40	£2.54	£1.14	81%	£3,491
Metronidazole 0.75% cream	40	£9.88	£12.35	£2.47	25%	£3,152
Pregabalin 150mg capsules	56	£2.29	£2.65	£0.36	16%	£3,142
Sodium cromoglicate 2% eye drops	13.5	£2.50	£3.14	£0.64	26%	£2,788
Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops	10	£2.65	£2.90	£0.25	9%	£2,430
Pregabalin 200mg capsules	84	£3.77	£4.30	£0.53	14%	£2,292
Escitalopram 10mg tablets	28	£1.34	£1.65	£0.31	23%	£2,026
Cefalexin 500mg capsules	21	£2.40	£2.67	£0.27	11%	£1,989
Carbimazole 5mg tablets**	100	£1.58	£1.98	£0.40	25%	£1,849
Flucloxacillin 250mg/5ml oral solution sugar free	100	£4.43	£5.63	£1.20	27%	£1,662
Olanzapine 15mg tablets	28	£2.33	£3.74	£1.41	61%	£1,411
Rizatriptan 10mg tablets	3	£7.11	£8.15	£1.04	15%	£1,244
Metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution sugar free	150	£20.34	£22.45	£2.11	10%	£1,234

\*As of 21/10/24

\*\*Concession price rolled over from previous month

## 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:

- **Zomorph 10, 30 mg MR capsules (34)**
- **Stexerol-D3 1,000unit tablets (24)**
- **Salazopyrin EN-Tabs 500mg (10)**
- **Epimax oatmeal cream (9)**
- **Metformin 500mg, 1g MR tablets (7)**
- **Brancico XL 50, 200 mg tablets (6)**
- **Apixaban 2.5, 5 mg tablets (5)**
- **Telmisartan 80mg tablets (5)**
- **Travoprost 40micrograms/ml / Timolol 5mg/ml eye drops (5)**
- **Isosorbide mononitrate 20mg tablets (4)**
- **Rozex 0.75% gel (4)**
- **Salamol 100mcg/dose inhaler CFC free (4)**
- **Strivit-D3 800unit capsules (4)**
- **Tadalafil 2.5, 5 mg tablets (4)**
- **Dorzolamide 20mg/ml / Timolol 5mg/ml eye drops (3)**
- **Fresubin Jucy drink (3)**
- **Latanoprost 50micrograms/ml / Timolol 5mg/ml eye drops (3)**
- **Mefenamic acid 250mg tablets (3)**
- **Xaggitin XL 18, 27 mg tablets (3)**
- **Xenidate XL 18, 27, 54 mg tablets (3)**
- **Bupeaze 35mcg/hour patches (2)**
- **Carbimazole 5mg tablets (2)**
- **Emcozin 30mg/500mg tablets (2)**
- **Irbesartan 300mg tablets (2)**
- **Morphgesic SR 10mg tablets (2)**
- **Soprobec 50, 200 mcg/dose inhaler (2)**
- **Tacrolimus 0.1% ointment (2)**
- **Yacella 0.03mg/3mg tablets (2)**

### One-off reports:

- 365 Non Woven Island dressing 5cm x 7.2cm
- Amfexa 5mg tablets
- Apollo Pro-Shield Safety Pen hypodermic insulin needles screw on 5mm/30gauge
- Brinzolamide 10mg/ml / Timolol 5mg/ml eye drops
- Calcipotriol 0.005% / Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% gel
- Ceyesto 1mg/ml oral solution
- Chemydur 60XL tablets
- Delmosart 18mg modified-release tablets
- Frisium 10mg tablets
- Isosorbide mononitrate 60mg MR capsules
- Lamotrigine 200mg tablets
- Levetiracetam 250mg tablets
- Linagliptin 5mg tablets
- Mometasone 0.1% cream
- Mylife Penfine Classic hypodermic insulin needles for pre-filled / reusable pen injectors screw on 4mm/32gauge
- Nizoral 2% shampoo
- Octasa 1g suppositories
- Phenergan 25mg tablets
- Uniroid HC suppositories
- Venlafaxine 150mg modified-release tablets
- VIZcellose 1% eye drops preservative free

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 prescribing 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):

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| • A8 TouchCare Nano insulin system [various products]                              | • Eylea 21mg/184microlitres solution for injection pre-filled syringes           |
| • Aace D3 2,200unit tablets  | • Intracinol 40mg/ml ophthalmic suspension 1ml bottles preservative free         |
| • Amgevita solution for injection pre-filled pens/ syringes [3 products]           | • LipoSil Liposomal Iron 15mg and Active folate 173.88microgram chewable tablets |
| • Apozyl orodispersible tablets [2 strengths]                                      | • Macusan A2 capsules  |
| • Augmentin oral suspension [2 strengths]  | • Motusol Max 12 Hour Pain Relief 2.32% gel                                      |
| • Augmentin-Duo 400/57 oral suspension   | • Noxafil 300mg/10ml gastro-resistant powder and solvent for oral suspension     |
| • Budenofalk 4mg suppositories   | • Obgemsa 75mg tablets   |
| • Byfavo 50mg powder for concentrate for solution for injection vials              | • Pangrol capsules [2 strengths]   |
| • Care Heartburn Relief oral suspension  | • PDE reach5 oral powder 18g sachets   |
| • Comirnaty JN.1 COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine 30micrograms/0.3ml dose pre-filled syringes | • Puroptics Hypromellose 0.3% eye drops  |
| • Dana insulin systems [various products]  | • Trokide 18microgram inhalation powder capsules / with Vertical-Haler           |
| • Diavic 6mg/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens                         |  |
| • Elozar orodispersible tablets [2 strengths]                                      |  |

### Generic products added (VMPs):

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| • Aflibercept 21mg/184microlitres solution for injection pre-filled syringes | • Nefopam 60mg tablets   |
| • Budesonide 4mg suppositories   | • Posaconazole 300mg/10ml gastro-resistant powder and solvent for oral suspension sachets sugar free |
| • Co-amoxiclav 400mg/57mg/5ml oral suspension                                | • Remimazolam 50mg powder for solution for injection vials   |
| • Copper sulfate 0.5% (copper 1.27mg/ml) oral solution                       | • Triamcinolone 40mg/ml ophthalmic suspension 1ml bottles preservative free                          |
| • Flecainide 25mg/5ml oral solution sugar free                               | • Vibegron 75mg tablets  |
| • Gadobutrol 1mmol/ml solution for injection 15ml pre-filled syringes        |  |

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