



Useful hyperlinks for Medicines Optimisation To open Press control and click the link below
[South Yorkshire Central ICB Medicines Optimisation Website.](#) **[MPD](#)**

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It is farewell but not goodbye...

"We would like to share that this will be our final bulletin in its current format, as the ICB restructures and re-aligns its functions. It has been a pleasure to produce the bulletin each month, sharing updates from local, South Yorkshire and National levels. Safe and cost-effective prescribing is at the heart of every decision we make within Medicines Optimisation, and we are keen to see that continue into the future. To support this, we would love your feedback on how reading the bulletin has influenced and shaped your practice."

NICE Type II diabetes quality standard guidance – we would like to remind clinicians' to be aware of this as part of horizon scanning

[Click here for NICE Guidance](#)

Fidaxomicin Supply pathway has been Updated

We would like to reassure practices that although community pharmacies do not stock the medication it can usually be obtained the next working day, and it is appropriate for prescribing via EPS if a consultant Microbiologist has advised it. Prescribing out of hours should only be considered if there is an urgent clinical need.

To access the updated document V9.0 [click here](#)

Stock shortages

- Co-codamol 30/500 shortages- This could present an opportunity for deprescribing and opioid reduction, or prescribers could suggest prescribing separately, although it may not be suitable to prescribe separately in patients who have to pay for prescriptions.
- Fluorouracil shortages- The Medicines Optimisation team have contacted the manufacturer new generic Viatrix. They are confident that stocks will arrive in wholesalers by mid-April but do not have a definite date for supply as yet. It is unlikely that this will affect the Actinic Keratosis guidance as Tolak is listed green for use in out of stock situations or where the patient has single or small lesions.

New and Updated Guidance

- Gluten Free Position Statement, developed by South Yorkshire ICB [Click here](#) for the full document.
- Denosumab Shared Care Protocol, highlighting the use of a new biosimilar product Stoboclo instead of Prolia. For the full documents. Please prescribe **Stoboclo by brand** [Click here](#)

All guidance documents are available on the Medicines Optimisation website



Formulary updates March 2026

The following items will be added/amended on the [MPD](#)

Formulary Section	Item	Indication	PMOC Action
7.4	Potassium Citrate MR tablets	Use in adults for the treatment of patients with kidney stones and hypocitraturia, or chronic calcium oxalate stones; the treatment and prevention of recurrent uric acid lithiasis with or without calcium lithiasis and cystine lithiasis; the treatment of renal tubular acidosis with calcium nephrolithiasis	Added to the MPD as RED non-formulary but may be changed after further discussion.
4.7.2	Tramadol MR to branded Maxitram MR	Cost effective switch	Approved to prescribe by brand in primary care (short term use only)
4.7.2	Tapentadol MR tablets to brand Tadamen 50mg, 100mg, 150mg, 200mg	Cost effective switch	Approved to prescribe by brand in primary care (short term use only)
2.5	Dapagliflozin	NEW: Prescribing Guidelines For The Use Of SGLT2 Inhibitors (Dapagliflozin And Empagliflozin) In The Management Of Chronic Heart Failure	Switched from Amber G to Green 1st line for CHF
2.5	Empagliflozin	NEW: Prescribing Guidelines For The Use Of SGLT2 Inhibitors (Dapagliflozin And Empagliflozin) In The Management Of Chronic Heart Failure.	Switched from Amber G to Green 2nd line for CHF
4.4	Methylphenidate (new MR chewable tablet formulation)	Use as part of a comprehensive treatment programme for attention deficit/ hyperactivity disorder in children and adolescents aged 6 to 17 years when remedial measures alone prove insufficient	New formulation added to the MPD entry for use when other preparations are not suitable

MHRA Safety Alert

Emollients and risk of severe and fatal burns

- Further incidents of deaths due to patients using emollients and being exposed to open flames [Click here](#)

Isotretinoin

- Changes to prescribing guidance and additional risk minimisation measures. [Click here](#)
- The MRHA update states that dual prescriber authorisation has been removed for oral Isotretinoin.
- This is a reminder that this is a RED, hospital only drug and should not be prescribed in primary care.
- It is expected that patients will be under the ongoing care of dermatology.

GLP-1 receptor agonists and dual GLP-1/GIP receptor agonists

- strengthened warnings on acute pancreatitis, including necrotising and fatal cases [Click here](#)

Semaglutide (Wegovy, Ozempic and Rybelsus)

- risk of Non-arteritic Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy (NAION) [Click here](#)

For the latest Out of Stock information Refer to your regular emails from medicines management Admin emails.