

Greenwich Clinical Matters

August 2021

MEDICINES MANAGEMENT

[South East London Prescribing Support Dietetic Service](#)

The Prescribing Support Dietetic service has been commissioned by SEL Medicines Optimisation. As part of the medicines optimisation agenda, the service has been set up to maximise the quality of patient care whilst optimising value in a safe and evidence-based way. This service is run by dietitians who will review prescriptions for oral nutritional supplements (ONS) and Cow's Milk Allergy. The dietitians will assess and provide individual nutrition care plans for patients to ensure that they are receiving the most appropriate prescription. This service aims to support all primary care clinicians in SEL to improve health outcomes for our patients.

The team aims to:

- Maximise the quality of care while optimising value in a safe and evidence-based way.
- Provide good quality dietetic care plans.
- Help ensure that prescriptions for adult oral nutritional supplements (ONS) and cow's milk allergy are clinically appropriate and cost effective.

The SEL PSD service has been commissioned to complete the work referenced, the service is independent and is not associated with any individual feed provider company, it would be encouraged that our service is utilised to support your practice in the appropriate management of ONS and hypoallergenic infant formulae prescriptions.

Action: For more information, training and education or to arrange a review for your practice please contact South East London Prescribing Support Dietitians Email: gst-tr.prescribingsupportdietitians@nhs.net

[National Protocol and PGD for inactivated influenza](#)

The [national protocol](#) and [patient group direction](#) for the administration of inactivated influenza vaccine to individuals in accordance with the national influenza vaccination programme were published on 1st September 2021.

Action: Please see resources attached.

[Shingles vaccine \(Shingrix®\): patient group direction \(PGD\) template](#)

This PGD template supports the administration of Shingrix® vaccine for immunocompromised individuals in accordance with the national shingles immunisation programme. It is valid from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2023.

Action: To access this PGD please click [here](#)

[Out of stock update](#)

Supply issue with Metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution

Alternative: Metformin tablets. See attachment for further details on management.

MEDICINES MANAGEMENT

[British Menopause Society \(BMS\) further update on HRT supply shortages \(20 July 2021\)](#)

BMS recognise that many women have been experiencing difficulties in obtaining HRT supplies with the ongoing HRT shortages. The burden of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health service and resulting difficulties in obtaining clinical appointments and accessing pharmaceutical services is likely to have added further to this situation.

The BMS have issued a [further update](#) on the current availability of HRT products to provide guidance to BMS members and clinical practitioners on HRT product availability. Prescribers should consider equivalent preparations to that which their patients are using. If an exact match is not possible, prescribers can seek guidance available on the BMS document on alternative HRT preparations and the [practical prescribing chart](#) on the BMS website and Menopause Matters website, to clarify equivalent doses. Consideration could also be given to prescribing estrogen and progestogen separately to make the closest match or find a suitable alternative. Different brands for the same medication may vary in appearance or excipients. However, they would provide equivalent amounts of hormones when used in similar doses. Signposting could also be provided to resources on the BMS website as well as Women's Health Concern (WHC) website, Menopause Matters and the Primary Care Women's Health Forum (PCWHF).

Action: The information on stock availability and supplies on the [BMS website](#) was obtained from the pharmaceutical companies manufacturing these products. Availability from wholesale supplier may lag behind and thus sometimes vary slightly from the information provided by the manufacturers. Therefore, practices are encouraged to work alongside community pharmacists on current stock availability.

[SPS Medicines monitoring recommendations](#)

The specialist pharmacy services (SPS) have created an interactive tool to summarise medicines monitoring recommendations for a range of medicines.

Action: See [Medicines Monitoring – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](#). This is a pilot service, if you have any feedback for improvement, please email lnwh-tr.drugmonitoring@nhs.net

[eRD Workshop recording](#)

Please see link below for the recording of Workshop 1/3: Identifying patients and medication for eRD via EMIS, when to set up eRD, setting up multiple medications as eRD for a patient. <https://youtu.be/m10JiuHGSUG> (slides attached)

MEDICINES MANAGEMENT

Upcoming CVD webinars

SEL Lipid management webinars:

- 23 September 2021 – 12.30 to 14.00 Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/south-east-london-primary-care-lipid-management-educational-webinar-tickets-169442482025>
- 5 October 2021 – 12.30 to 14.00. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/south-east-london-primary-care-lipid-management-educational-webinar-tickets-169444100867>

There is also the national PM CVD conference on 22nd Sept: [National Integrated Care Conference for Cardiovascular Medicines \(pharman.co.uk\)](#).

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

Bromley, Lewisham, Greenwich (BGL) PITstop courses

The PITstop portfolio are a range of diabetes courses commissioned by SEL CCG and offer accredited diabetes training designed to meet the needs of primary care health care professionals.

Action: Please see the flyer attached and/or click [here](#) for further information on type of courses available and dates. Book directly through the website with the code **GREENWICH**.

REMINDER: OPTIMISE Rx®

OptimiseRx® has replaced ScriptSwitch® as the clinical decision support solution for SEL CCG which integrates with GP systems to deliver patient-specific messages at the point of care that ensures appropriate, cost-effective prescriptions. It is tailored to the medical record and takes into consideration current and previous medications, comorbidities, observations and measurements to support prescribers to make the safest, most clinically appropriate prescribing decision. The knowledge base is continually maintained by the OptimiseRx® team of clinicians and researchers with the support of Medicines Optimisation teams locally. It is in line with current safety, best practice and cost saving guidance. OptimiseRx® content is taken from local policy and guidance plus a wealth of nationally recognised, evidence-based sources. OptimiseRx® is compatible with EMIS Web, as Greenwich practices are migrating to EMIS, we will have a phased mobilisation to switch over to OptimiseRx®

Action: See below for upcoming OptimiseRx® workshops

Day of Week	Time	Date	TEAMS Link
Thursday	1-2pm	23/09/2021	Click here to join the meeting
Wednesday	12-1pm	13/10/2021	Click here to join the meeting
Thursday	1-2pm	18/11/2021	Click here to join the meeting

MEDICINES MANAGEMENT

SEL Integrated Medicines Optimisation Committee (IMOC)

The following IMOC decisions / outputs have been ratified through SEL IMOC and SEL Medicines Optimisation sub-Committee Chair's action and can be accessed via the links:

NEW:

- Methotrexate 10mg tablets – [Position statement and template letters](#).
- The paediatric formulary is now available via an app. To download the app, search for the "Paediatric Formulary" on the AppStore on iOS and Android.
- The adult RAGG list will be retired from the SEL IMOC website. The most up to date RAGG information for adult formulary medicines can be accessed via the [SEL Joint Medicines Formulary](#) website.
- Andexanet alfa – following publication of a [NICE technology appraisal](#), andexanet alfa has been included in the [SEL Joint Medicines Formulary](#) as a RED category medicine (hospital only).

UPDATED:

- [Shared care guideline](#): Melatonin for treatment of sleep disorders in children and adolescents (age 1-17 years). The shared care guideline has been updated to incorporate the [local prescribing guidance](#) for melatonin in paediatric sleep disorders.
- Rheumatology treatment pathways and monitoring framework: The [rheumatoid arthritis \(RA\) pathway](#) has been updated to incorporate a recent NICE technology appraisal covering the use of adalimumab, etanercept and infliximab in moderate RA. The [seronegative spondyloarthropathies \(SpA\) pathway](#) has also been updated to incorporate 3 recently published NICE technology appraisals. The associated [monitoring framework](#) for these pathways has been refreshed and now includes a programme of rolling audits for the locally commissioned elements of the pathways.
- The review dates for the [SEL Interface Policy](#) and the [Prescribing guide for the NHS/Private interface](#) have been extended to March 2022.

SEL IMOC website is changing

The current IMOC resources are held on the old "Lambeth CCG" website. Pressures from the pandemic and vaccination programme have led to a delay in the move of all previous websites to the new SEL CCG website, including the SEL IMOC website. This month, the existing SEL IMOC website content will move to the [SEL CCG website](#). This will result in a change to the links to SEL IMOC related guidance. Further detail on how to access SEL IMOC content on the new webpages will be provided once the website move is complete.

Contact Details

Meds Management: greccg.pharmacy@nhs.net (020 3049 9000)

Primary Care: Jan Matthews: jan.matthews@nhs.net

System Development: Alex Pini: a.pini@nhs.net