**South East London Area Prescribing Committee**
**Formulary recommendation**

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| **Reference** | **034** |
| **Intervention:** | **Olopatadine (Opatanol®) eye drops for the treatment of ocular signs and symptoms of seasonal allergic conjunctivitis**<br>(Olopatadine is an antihistamine) |
| **Date of Decision** | **May 2015** |
| **Date of Issue:** | **June 2015** |
| **Recommendation:** | **GREEN – can be prescribed within agreed criteria for use in primary or secondary care** |
| **Further Information** | • Olopatadine (Opatanol®) is accepted for use in South East London in line with its licensed indication*.<br>• There are three main studies for the use of olapatadine which provide reasonably robust evidence to suggest that olopatadine is non-inferior to either topical sodium cromoglycate or levocabastine (not available in UK) and superior to topical placebo in reducing ocular itching and redness associated with allergic conjunctivitis in trials lasting up to 10 weeks.<br>• Olaptadione is administered twice daily which may be more acceptable than other treatments which may require administration four times a day.<br>• Treatment with olopatadine eye drops may be maintained for up to a maximum period of four months, if considered necessary.<br><br>*Opatanol eye drops are licensed for the treatment of ocular signs and symptoms of seasonal allergic conjunctivitis in adults and children over 3 years of age. |
| **Shared Care/ Transfer of care required:** | N/A |
| **Cost Impact for agreed patient group** | From the evidence evaluation and submission form:<br>• Based on current Drug Tariff prices (June 2015) olopatadine eye drops cost £4.68 for a month's treatment. This is less than the cost of other available antihistamine eye drops.<br>• It is not possible to quantify exactly what the cost impact will be. However, prescribing of olopatadine is already being undertaken by GPs in primary care, therefore it is not anticipated that this will have a significant additional cost impact. Usage will be monitored as per details below. |
| **Usage Monitoring & Impact Assessment** | Acute Trusts:<br>• Monitor usage on a 6-monthly basis and report back to APC. |
| | CCGs:<br>• Monitor epact data |
| **Evidence reviewed** | **References (from evidence evaluation)**<br>1. UpToDate accessed online<br>2. NICE CKS guidance accessed online via http://cks.nice.org.uk/conjunctivitis-allergic#!scenario<br>3. Katelaris et al. A comparison of the efficacy and tolerability of olopatadine hydrochloride 0.1% ophthalmic solution and cromolyn sodium 2% ophthalmic solution in seasonal allergic conjunctivitis.Clinical Therapeutics 2002; 24: 10 |

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| | 4. Abelson M.B et al. Comparative efficacy of olopatadine 0.1% ophthalmic solution versus levocabastine 0.05% ophthalmic suspension using the conjunctival allergen challenge model. Current Medical Research and Opinion 2004; 20: 12<br>5. Abelson M.B et al. A randomised, double-blind, parallel-group comparison of olopatadine 0.1% ophthalmic solution versus placebo for controlling the signs and symptoms of seasonal allergic conjunctivitis and rhinoconjunctivitis. Clinical Therapeutics 2003; 25: 3<br>6. Alcon Ltd. Summary of Product Characteristics for Opatanol Eye Drops, last updated April 2015.(accessed via eMC - http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/11776) |

**NOTES:**

a) Area Prescribing Committee recommendations and minutes are available publically on member CCG websites.

b) This Area Prescribing Committee recommendation has been made on the cost effectiveness, patient outcome and safety data available at the time. The recommendation will be subject to review if new data becomes available, costs are higher than expected or new NICE guidelines or technology appraisals are issued.

c) **Not to be used for commercial or marketing purposes. Strictly for use within the NHS**