

RELAXATION OF SPECIALS AUTHORISATION

24/03/2020

Dear Colleagues,

As promised in yesterday's Key Messages for the Day, we are removing the need for community pharmacy teams to seek authorisation for unlicensed medicines and import **with immediate effect until 30th June 2020**. This will be under review throughout the time frame.

However, we would ask for community pharmacy contractors to be reasonable with costs and if the ULM has already been authorised, to use this price as a guide for the next three months. To help with this, I have provided a list of our Top 18 (we couldn't quite get 20 common ones) and expected costs. This information was compiled from information held within our specials database intelligence obtained from all of our calls from you!!

Community pharmacy teams are asked to continue to follow their normal ordering/procurement processes and order stock through their normal suppliers, using the attached prices as a guide.

If you are presented with a script for a ULM or import not on the list or has been previously authorised for you, then contact the office for a guide price. This is not an authorisation and there will be no code provided but we can give you some indication of the price you should expect to be charged by the wholesalers, or for you to ask for a price match. We will not record any patient data and it should allow you a faster response and less time on the phone.

Please note that after the announcement last night, staff are working from home and calls will be diverted.

There will be analysis of the Specials payments as normal once the dust settles, and the usual process will be followed i.e. I will contact the contractor with a query on the price. This will give 28 days for the contractor to contact me to discuss the recovery. Each will be considered on an individual basis so I hope that this is a fair way of addressing this problem but without losing absolute control over the drug costs as a result of this.

I know that this is a difficult time for you and hopefully that this will ease some of the workload burden slightly. Your help and cooperation in managing the costs at a reasonable level will be very much appreciated.

Many thanks in advance.

*Regards
Elaine*

Elaine Paton | Senior Prescribing Adviser | NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Central Prescribing Team, Pharmacy Services | 1st Floor | Clarkston Court | 56 Busby Road | Clarkston |
Glasgow G76 7AT | T: 0141 201 6038 (66038) | F: 0141 201 6018 | M: 07815 586327 | E:
elaine.paton@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Guide Prices for Commonly Requested Unlicensed Medicines

Please use the prices and information below to procure and endorse unlicensed specials or imports effective from 24th March until 30th June. You can also use prices obtained previously for the same drug for different patients as a guide.

If you have an item prescribed that you have not supplied before and require a price, please contact the office on 0141 201 6023 for a guide price (i.e. not authorised and there will be no code provided).

- Omeprazole 10mg/5ml (2mg/ml): now licensed preparation
- Omeprazole 20mg/5ml (4mg/ml): now licensed preparation
- Melatonin 1mg/1ml: licensed preparation is now alcohol free
- Melatonin 3mg tablets: licensed preparation included in the Scottish drug tariff

Medication	Strength	Pack Size	Cost Expected
Atorvastatin	10mg/5ml	1 x 150ml	£79.95
Co-Phenotrope		1x 100	£29
Fleet Bisacodyl enema	10mg/30ml	1 x 30ml	£10.95
Hyoscine Butylbromide	10mg/5ml	1 x 100ml	£49
Hyoscine Hydrobromide	300mcg/5ml	1 x 100ml	£66.78
Ivermectin	3mg	1 x 4	£39
Levomepromazine	6mg	1 x 28	£34.99
Levinan (needed for 3mg dose)	6mg	1 x 28	£67.47
Melatonin capsules	3mg	1 x 60	£7.50 - £16.92
Melatonin capsules	2mg	1 x 60	£16.92
Metolazone Tablets	2.5mg	1 x 100	£37.02
Metolazone Tablet	5mg	1 x 50	£24
Olanzapine solution	2.5mg/5ml	1 x 100ml	£54.67
Paraldehyde in olive oil rectal	50%	10ml	£23.70
Phenelzine	15mg	1 x 60	Up to £275
Potassium Chloride MR	600mg	1 x 100	£26.80
Prazosin	2mg	1 x 100	£48
Prazosin	5mg	1 X 100	£32
Sucralfate Tablet	1g	1 x 40	£10.73
Terbinafine suspension	250mg/5ml	1 x 50ml	Up to £34