

Adult Joint Formulary Abbreviated list (adults)

Please note that NHS Ayrshire & Arran Formulary will be moving to the West of Scotland Formulary. The chapters current under review are indicated in red throughout

September 2025

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Introduction

This NHS Ayrshire & Arran Abbreviated Joint Formulary includes the names of those medicines recommended within the Joint Formulary. The medicines included may have prescribing restrictions, which will be indicated using the following abbreviations:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ① First choice within class | ② Second choice within class | ③ Third choice within class |
| H Hospital use | C Consultant initiation | S Specialist initiation |

The “Ctrl + F” function can be used to search for the specific medicine name to avoid scrolling through the entire abbreviated formulary. Alternatively page 1 contains quick links to the individual therapeutic sections.

The most current advice on individual medicines from the Scottish Medicines Consortium (www.scottishmedicines.org.uk) should be applied when prescribing. The current British National Formulary or individual Summary of Product Characteristics (www.medicines.org.uk) should be referred to for dosing advice, adverse effects etc.

Formulary choices should be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the relevant prescribing guideline section on AthenA](#)

Information on the following NHS Ayrshire & Arran policies can be located on both the local internet (www.nhsaaa.net) and intranet (AthenA) sites

- Managed Entry of New Medicines Process
- Individual Patient Treatment Requests
- Formulary Management, including prescribing non-formulary medicines
- Prescribing of unlicensed and “off-label use” of medicines

Updates

The abbreviated Joint Formulary list will be updated monthly and published on the NHS Ayrshire & Arran internet site.

For further information contact:
Medicines.information@aapct.scot.nhs.uk
Tel: 01292 614506

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ① First choice within class | ② Second choice within class | ③ Third choice within class |
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1: GASTRO-INTESTINAL SYSTEM

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the gastro-intestinal system section on AthenA](#)

1.1.1 Antacids and simeticone

co-magaldrox 195/220 suspension (*Mucogel®*)

1.1.2 Alginates

① Peptac® suspension

1.2 Antispasmodics and other drugs altering gut motility

(a) antispasmodics

hyoscine butylbromide tablets, injection

mebeverine tablets

peppermint oil capsules

1.3 Anti-secretory drugs and mucosal protectants

H₂-receptor antagonists:

①-famotidine tablets

Proton pump inhibitors:

① lansoprazole capsule, (orodispersible tablet if swallow issue/NG/PEG tube)

omeprazole capsules (infusion ②)

esomeprazole capsules (infusion ②, as per [ADTC 218](#): Administration of an intravenous infusion of esomeprazole for the treatment of bleeding peptic ulcers in adults)

Chelates and complexes

② sucralfate tablets

Drugs for the treatment of peptic ulcers

(a) ulcers associated with *Helicobacter pylori*

[Refer to local guidelines for the management of *H Pylori*](#)

1.4 Acute diarrhoea

① oral rehydration therapy (*acute diarrhoea*)

① loperamide capsules (tablets if absorption issues or short bowel syndrome)

codeine phosphate tablets

1.4.3 Carcinoid Syndrome Diarrhoea

② telotristat ethyl tablets

1.5 Chronic bowel disorders

10.5.1 Aminosalicylates

Oral mesalazine preparations

Prescribe mesalazine preparations by brand name

① ② Salofalk® gastro-resistant tablets, prolonged release granule sachets

② ② Octasa® modified release tablets

② ② Pentasa® modified release (m/r tablets, m/r sachets)

Other aminosalicylates preparations

② mesalazine suppositories

② mesalazine foam enema

② sulphasalazine

1.5.2 Corticosteroids

① prednisolone tablets (*excludes 25mg strength*), 5mg/5ml oral solution, soluble tablets

① prednisolone foam enema

① prednisolone retention enema

② budesonide mr capsules, capsules, granules

② budesonide prolonged release tablets (*Cortiment® brand for ulcerative colitis as per SMC restrictions*)

② budesonide rectal foam

1.5.3 Drugs affecting the immune response

Use as per local guidelines ([ADTC 402: Crohn's disease \(adults\)](#) ; [ADTC 401 Ulcerative colitis \(adults\)](#))

② adalimumab injection (*Amgevita® - brand of choice*)

② golimumab injection

② infliximab infusion, injection (*Remsima® - brand of choice*)

② tofacitinib tablets (*Xeljanz®*)

② ustekinumab injection

② vedolizumab injection

1.6 Laxatives

(a) bulk forming laxatives

ispaghula husk sachets

(b) stimulant laxatives

① senna tablets

bisacodyl tablets

co-danthramer suspension (*terminally ill patients*)

docusate sodium capsules

glycerol suppositories

① First choice within class

② Second choice within class

② Hospital use

② Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class

② Specialist initiation

(c) faecal softeners

arachis oil enema

(d) osmotic laxatives

Lactulose oral solution

Laxido® sachets

sodium citrate enema

phosphate enema

(e) bowel cleansing

Plenvu oral powder sachets

Picolax® powder for oral solution

Fleet Phospho-Soda® oral solution

Preparations for radiological procedures

Refer to local prescribing guideline ([ADTC 263](#))
for additional information.

(f) Peripheral opioid receptor antagonists

naloxegol tablets (Moventig®)

1.7 Local preparations for anal and rectal disorders

① Anusol® cream, ointment, suppositories

Anusol-HC® ointment, suppositories

Scheriproct® ointment, suppositories

1.9 Drugs affecting intestinal secretions

1.9.1 Drugs affecting biliary composition and flow

① **☒** ursodeoxycholic acid tablets, capsules

☒ obeticholic acid tablets (*case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available*)

1.9.2 Bile acid sequestrants

① Colestyramine sachets

1.9.4 Pancreatin

Creon® capsules

Creon® micro granules (*if swallowing problems present*)

Pancrex V® capsules, oral powder

2: CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the cardiovascular system section on AthenA](#) e.g. heart failure, hypertension, stroke, hyperlipidaemia, antiplatelet.

2.1 Positive inotrope drugs

2.1.1 Cardiac glycosides

- ① digoxin tablets
- ①  digoxin injection
-   Digoxin-Specific Antibody (Digifab®) infusion

2.1.2 Phosphodiesterase type 3 inhibitors

- ①   enoximone injection

2.2 Diuretics

2.2.1 Thiazide and related diuretics

- ① bendroflumethiazide tablets
- ① indapamide tablets
-  metolazone tablets

2.2.2 Loop diuretics

- ① furosemide tablets, injection
- ② bumetanide tablets (*excludes injection*)

2.2.3 Potassium-sparing diuretics and aldosterone antagonists

Aldosterone antagonists

- ① spironolactone tablets
- ②  eplerenone tablets

Potassium sparing diuretics

- ① co-amilofruse tablets

2.2.5 Osmotic diuretics

- ①  mannitol infusion

2.3 Anti-arrhythmic drugs

Class 1 anti-arrhythmic (membrane stabilising drugs)

- ①  flecainide tablets
- ②  propafenone tablets
- ②   lidocaine injection

Class II anti-arrhythmics (beta-blockers)

- ① bisoprolol tablets
- ②   metoprolol injection

Class III anti-arrhythmics

- ①  sotalol tablets
- ②  amiodarone tablets, injection ()

Class IV anti-arrhythmics (calcium channel blockers)

- ① verapamil tablets, injection ()

Other anti-arrhythmics

- ① digoxin tablets, injection ()
-  adenosine injection

2.4 Beta-adrenoceptor blocking drugs

Heart failure

- ① bisoprolol tablets
- ②  carvedilol tablets

Hypertension

- ① atenolol tablets
- ① bisoprolol tablets

Hypertension in pregnancy – refer to local guidelines

Angina

- ① atenolol tablets
- ① bisoprolol tablets

Post myocardial infarction

- ① bisoprolol tablets

Anxiety, thyrotoxicosis, essential tremor

- ① propranolol tablets

Intravenous formulations

-  atenolol injection (*as per prescribing guideline ADTC 129*)
-  esmolol injection
-  metoprolol injection
-  labetalol injection

2.5.1 Vasodilator antihypertensive drugs

- ①  hydralazine tablets
-   hydralazine injection

2.5.2 Centrally acting anti-hypertensive drugs

- ①  methyldopa tablets

2.5.4 Alpha-adrenoceptor blocking drugs

- ① doxazosin tablets
- ③   Third choice within class
-   Specialist initiation

① First choice within class

 Hospital use

② Second choice within class

 Consultant initiation

2.5.5.1 Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors

- ❶ lisinopril tablets
- ❶ ramipril capsules, tablets

Prophylaxis of cardiovascular events or post myocardial infarction with LVF

- ❶ ramipril capsules, tablets

2.5.5.2 Angiotensin-II receptor antagonists

Heart failure or hypertension:

- ❶ candesartan tablets
- ❶ losartan tablets

Diabetic nephropathy in type 2 diabetes mellitus:

- ❶ irbesartan tablets
- ❷ losartan tablets

Neprilysin/ Angiotensin-II receptor antagonists

❷ ❸ sacubitril/ valsartan (Entresto®) –*as per NHS Ayrshire & Arran heart failure guidelines / Entresto® protocol to support the initiation and up titration for heart failure*

2.5.6. Other medicines beneficial in heart failure – initiation *as per NHS Ayrshire & Arran heart failure guidelines*

- ❶ ❸ dapagliflozin tablets
- ❶ ❸ empagliflozin tablets
- ❷ ❸ ivabradine tablets

2.6 Nitrates, calcium-channel blockers and other antianginal drugs

2.6.1 Nitrates

- ❶ glyceryl trinitrate sublingual spray (infusion H)
- ❶ isosorbide mononitrate tablets, mr tablets

2.6.2 Calcium-channel blockers

Hypertension

- ❶ amlodipine tablets

Hypertension in pregnancy – refer to local guidelines

Angina – patients not receiving a beta blocker

- ❶ diltiazem mr tablets, mr capsules - *modified release preparations should be prescribed by brand name*
- ❶ verapamil tablets, mr tablets

❶ First choice within class

H Hospital use

❷ Second choice within class

❸ Consultant initiation

Angina – patients receiving a beta blocker

- ❶ amlodipine tablets

Supraventricular arrhythmias

- ❶ verapamil tablets, injection (H)

Subarachnoid haemorrhage

- ❶ ❷ H nimodipine tablets, infusion

Raynaud's disease

- ❶ nifedipine capsules

2.6.3 Other anti-anginal drugs

- ❶ nicorandil tablets

Intolerance or contraindication to beta-blockers and rate limiting calcium channel blockers

- ❶ ❸ ivabradine tablets

2.6.4 Peripheral vasodilators

Treatment should be reassessed after three months and discontinued if of no benefit.

- ❶ naftidrofuryl oxalate capsules

2.7 Sympathomimetics

Sympathomimetics:

- ❶ H adrenaline injection

Inotropic sympathomimetics

- ❶ H dobutamine infusion
- ❶ H dopamine infusion

Vasoconstrictor sympathomimetics:

- ❶ H ephedrine injection
- ❶ H noradrenaline acid tartrate injection

Severe orthostatic hypotension

- ❶ ❸ midodrine tablets (*as per SMC advice*)

2.8.1 Parenteral anticoagulants

- ❶ unfractionated heparin injection

Prophylaxis of DVT:

- ❶ dalteparin injection
- ❷ unfractionated heparin - *where immediate effect is needed or reversibility is appropriate or in patients with CrCl < 30 ml/min*

Unstable angina non ST and ST segment elevation myocardial infarction:

- ❶ fondaparinux 2.5mg prefilled syringe
- ❷ dalteparin injection
- ❸ Third choice within class
- ❹ Specialist initiation

Treatment of Deep Vein Thrombosis and/or Pulmonary Embolism

- ❶ dalteparin injection
- ❷ unfractionated heparin - where immediate effect is needed or reversibility is appropriate or in patients with CrCl < 30 ml/min

Other parenteral anticoagulants

- ❶ danaparoid injection
- ❷ argatroban injection
- epoprostenol injection

2.8.2 Oral anticoagulants

Prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation

Refer to local guidelines on the choice of oral anticoagulants in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation (ADTC 290)

- ❶ apixaban tablets
- ❷ warfarin tablets

Treatment of Deep Vein Thrombosis and/or Pulmonary Embolism

Refer to local guidelines on the choice of oral anticoagulants for the treatment of non-pregnant adults with suspected Deep Vein Thrombosis and/or Pulmonary Embolism (ADTC 302) or the ICP for IV Drug User with Suspected DVT (excluding pregnant patients) (ADTC 109)

- ❶ apixaban tablets
- ❷ warfarin tablets

Prophylaxis of venous thromboembolism in orthopaedics

- ❶ rivaroxaban tablets

Use in combination with aspirin in Coronary Artery Disease

- rivaroxaban 2.5mg tablet (Xarelto®) – restricted to patients with stable coronary artery disease that do not require dual antiplatelet therapy (SMC 2128)

Other indications

- ❶ warfarin tablets

2.8.3 Protamine sulphate

- ❶ protamine sulphate injection

2.8.4 Reversal of anticoagulation

- andexanet alfa infusion – as per local guideline
- idarucizumab (Praxbind®) injection/ infusion
 - ❶ First choice within class
 - ❷ Second choice within class
 - Hospital use
 - Consultant initiation

2.9 Antiplatelet drugs

Refer to [Secondary Prevention of Coronary Heart Disease and Stroke - Antiplatelet Guideline](#) and [Stroke and transient ischaemic attack \(TIA\) secondary prevention in patients aged over 16 years – these provide additional information on place in therapy](#)

- Aspirin dispersible tablets
- clopidogrel tablets
- ticagrelor tablets
- prasugrel tablets (specialist centre initiation)

Treatment of high risk unstable coronary syndrome

- tirofiban infusion

2.10.2 Fibrinolytic drugs

Acute myocardial infarction

- ❶ tenecteplase injection

Acute ischaemic stroke

- ❶ tenecteplase injection – as per local guidelines ADTC 88: [Stroke thrombolytic therapy with tenecteplase guideline and thrombectomy pathway for patients aged over 18 years](#)

Massive pulmonary embolism

- ❶ alteplase injection
- streptokinase injection

2.11 Antifibrinolytic drugs and haemostatics

- ❶ tranexamic acid tablets, injection ()

2.12 Lipid-regulating drugs

For use as per NHS Ayrshire & Arran [Hyperlipidaemia management guideline](#)

(a) statins

- ❶ atorvastatin tablets
- ❷ rosuvastatin tablets (capsules are available for use in patients with swallowing problems, as can be opened for use)

b) Cholesterol absorption inhibitors

ezetimibe tablets

c) bile acid sequestrants

None

❸ Third choice within class

Specialist initiation

d) fibrates

- ① fenofibrate tablets

e) others

- ① evolocumab injection - *Lipid clinic initiation*
② alirocumab injection - *Lipid clinic initiation*
③ inclisiran injection (Leqvio®) - *Lipid clinic initiation*
 bempepoic acid tablets (Nilemdo®) – *Lipid clinic initiation*
 bempepoic acid/ ezetimibe tablets (Nustendi®) – *Lipid clinic initiation*

2.13 Local sclerosants

- ① sodium tetradecyl sulphate injection

3: RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the respiratory system section on AthenA](#)

Inhalers should be prescribed as per local [asthma \(adult\)](#) or [COPD guidelines](#)

3.1 Adrenoceptor agonists (Sympathomimetics)

(a) short-acting beta2-agonist bronchodilators (SABA)

Inhaler preparations

With the **exception** of salbutamol Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI), please prescribe these inhalers by brand name

- ❶ salbutamol MDI
- ❷ Easihaler® salbutamol 100 micrograms

Other formulations

- ❶ salbutamol nebuliser solution, injection
- ❷ terbutaline nebuliser solution, injection

(b) long-acting beta2-agonist bronchodilators (LABA)

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.

- ❶ formoterol Easihaler®
- ❷ formoterol MDI (*Atimos Modulite®*)

3.1.2 Antimuscarinic bronchodilators

Long acting antimuscarinic (LAMA) inhaler preparations – asthma (adults)

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.

- ❶ tiotropium (*Spiriva® Respimat®*)

Long acting antimuscarinic (LAMA) inhaler preparations – COPD

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.
Choice determined by inhaler technique

- ❶ tiotropium (*Spiriva® Respimat®*)
- ❷ umeclidinium (*Incruse® Ellipta®*)

Other formulations

- ❶ ipratropium bromide nebuliser solution – when used long term, this must be administered via a mouthpiece

3.1.3 Theophylline

- ❶ theophylline (*Uniphyllin Continus®*) tablets
- ❷ aminophylline injection

3.1.4 Compound bronchodilator preparations

none

Combination long acting muscarinic antagonists and long acting beta 2 agonist (LAMA/ LABA combination)

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.

Choice determined by inhaler technique

- ❶ olodaterol/ tiotropium (*Spiolto® Respimat®*)
- ❷ umeclidinium / vilanterol (*Anoro® Ellipta®*)

3.1.5 Nebuliser diluent

- ❶ sodium chloride nebuliser solution

3.2 Corticosteroids

(a) inhaled corticosteroids (ICS)

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.
Choice determined by inhaler technique

DPI

- ❶ Easihaler® beclometasone
- ❷ Easihaler® budesonide

MDI

- ❶ beclometasone (*Soprobec®*) MDI

(b) other corticosteroids

Oral:

- ❶ prednisolone tablets 1mg, 5mg, 5mg/5ml oral solution, soluble tablets

Intravenous injection:

- ❶ hydrocortisone sodium succinate injection

(c) combination products (ICS/ LABA combination inhalers)

June 2025 update: Symbicort® Turbohaler® 200/6 and Symbicort® Turbohaler® 400/12 have been added to formulary. The current local asthma guidelines are being reviewed and updated to reflect the recommendations of SIGN 158 on management of asthma ([British guideline on the management of asthma](#)).

Once available the following formulary choices will be updated to reflect local guidelines.

Asthma (adults)

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.
Choice determined by inhaler technique

Asthma (adults)

Low Dose ICS/LABA combinations

DPI

❶ budesonide/formoterol (Fobumix®
Easyhaler®) 160/4.5 *

MDI

❶ beclometasone/formoterol (Luforbec®)
100/6*

Medium/High Dose ICS/LABA combinations

DPI

❶ budesonide/formoterol (Fobumix®
Easyhaler®) 160/4 *, ❷ 320/9

❷ fluticasone/vilanterol (Relvar® Ellipta®)
92/22**, ❸ 184/22

MDI

❶ fluticasone/salmeterol (AirFluSal®) MDI
125/25, ❷ 250/25

❷ beclometasone/formoterol (Luforbec®)
100/6*, ❸ 200/6 (

*Inhalers licensed for MART use

**Relvar® Ellipta®) 92/22 is low/medium dose

ICS/LABA combination

COPD

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.
Choice determined by inhaler technique

❶ fluticasone/ vilanterol (Relvar® Ellipta®)
92/22

❶ Beclometasone/ formoterol (Luforbec®)
100/6 MDI

d) combination products (ICS/ LABA/LAMA)

COPD

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.
Choice determined by inhaler technique

❶ Fluticasone furoate, umeclidinium, vilanterol
(as trifenatate) inhalation powder (Trelegy®
Ellipta®)

❶ Beclometasone dipropionate / formoterol
fumarate dihydrate / glycopyrronium metered
dose inhaler (Trimbow®)

Asthma

Prescribe these inhalers by brand name.

❷ ❸ Beclometasone dipropionate / formoterol
fumarate dihydrate / glycopyrronium metered
dose inhaler (Trimbow®)

3.3.1 Cromoglicate and related therapy

none recommended

3.3.2 Leukotriene receptor antagonists

❶ montelukast tablets

3.4 Antihistamines

Non-sedating antihistamines

❶ cetirizine tablets, oral solution

❷ loratadine tablets, oral solution

Sedating antihistamines

❶ chlorphenamine tablets, syrup

❷ hydroxyzine tablets (*Do not prescribe hydroxyzine to people with a prolonged QT interval or risk factors for QT interval prolongation – [MHRA warning](#)*)

❷ promethazine tablets, oral solution
(*alternative in patients where potential QT prolongation with hydroxyzine may be of concern*)

3.4.2 Allergen immunotherapy

IgE (immunoglobulin E) mediated asthma

Use as per [ADTC 291: Guidelines for the Prescribing of Omalizumab in Asthma in Adults ≥ 16 years in NHS Ayrshire and Arran](#)

❷ ❸ ❶ omalizumab injection

Severe refractory eosinophilic asthma

Use as per ADTC 316: [Guidelines for the prescribing of the monoclonal antibodies mepolizumab \(Nucala®\), benralizumab \(Fasenra®\) and dupilumab \(Dupixent®\) in eosinophilic asthma by Respiratory Specialists in adults ≥ 18 years](#)

❷ ❸ ❶ mepolizumab injection

❷ ❸ ❷ benralizumab injection

❷ ❸ ❸ dupilumab injection

3.4.3 Allergic emergencies

Anaphylaxis

adrenaline injection (includes EpiPen®)
chlorphenamine injection
hydrocortisone injection

Angioedema

C1 esterase inhibitor (*Berinert®*) injection – *tertiary centre clinician initiation*

3.5.1 Respiratory stimulants

caffeine citrate (*Peyona®*) oral solution

3.5.2 Pulmonary surfactants

poractant alfa endotracheopulmonary instillation suspension

3.6 Oxygen

oxygen

3.7 Mucolytics

- acetylcysteine 600 mg effervescent tablets (*NACSYS®*) (for COPD only – prescribe by brand name)
- dornase alfa nebuliser solution (for cystic fibrosis only)
- mannitol inhalation powder
- hypertonic sodium chloride

3.8 Aromatic inhalations

none recommended

3.9 Cough preparations

none recommended

3.10 Systemic nasal decongestants

Pseudoephedrine tablets

3.11 Antifibrotics

As per ADTC 269: [Guidelines for the prescribing of pirfenidone \(Esbriet®\) and nintedanib \(Ofev®\) in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis](#)

- pirfenidone capsules, tablets
- nintedanib capsules (Ofev®)

4: CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the central nervous system section on AthenA](#)

4.1 Hypnotics and anxiolytics

4.1.1 Hypnotics

- ❶ no treatment
- ❷ zopiclone
- ❸ temazepam

Chloral and derivatives

Clomethiazole (*not for alcohol withdrawal*)

4.1.2 Anxiolytics

chlordiazepoxide (*alcohol withdrawal*)
diazepam
lorazepam (injection )
propranolol

4.2 Antipsychotic drugs

First generation antipsychotic drugs

- ❶ haloperidol tablets, liquid, injection
- ❷ chlorpromazine tablets, liquid (*except the elderly*)
-   zuclopentixol acetate injection (*Clopixol Acuphase®*)

Second generation antipsychotic drugs

- ❶  quetiapine tablets, modified release tablets
- ❷ risperidone tablets, orodispersible tablets, liquid
-   aripiprazole tablets, liquid
-   olanzapine tablets, orodispersible tablets (injection  )
-   clozapine tablets, liquid (*use in conjunction with local protocols*)
-  amisulpride tablets, liquid
-  lurasidone tablets

Quetiapine first choice where depot injection is not part of the treatment plan.

Risperidone and aripiprazole second choice, but first choice if depot injection included in the treatment plan.

Choices 1,2,3 also indicated for hospital inpatients for treatment of acute mania.

4.2.2 Antipsychotic depot injections

First generation depot injections

- ❶  zuclopentixol decanoate
- ❷  flupentixol decanoate
- ❸  haloperidol decanoate

Second generation depot injections

- ❶  paliperidone palmitate (*Xeplion®*, *Trevicta®*)
- ❷  aripiprazole (*Abilify Maintena®*)
- ❸  risperidone (*Risperdal Consta®*)

4.2.3 Drugs for mania and hypomania

- ❶  lithium tablets, liquid (*Priadel®*)
- ❷  valproic acid (as semisodium valproate) tablets (*Depakote®*)
- ❸  carbamazepine tablets, liquid
- ❹  lamotrigine tablets, dispersible tablets
 - See the MHRA [Valproate \(Belvo, Convulex, Depakote, Dyzantil, Epilim, Epilim Chrono or Chronosphere, Episenta, Epival, and Syonell▼\): new safety and educational materials to support regulatory measures in men and women under 55 years of age](#)
 - *Lamotrigine is indicated for prevention of depressive episodes in patients with bipolar I disorder who experience predominantly depressive episodes*

4.3 Antidepressant drugs

Refer to the [NHS Ayrshire & Arran Primary Care Depression guideline](#) for further information for deciding on treatment choices.

4.3.1 Tricyclic and related antidepressant drugs

-  amitriptyline tablets
-  clomipramine capsules
-  imipramine tablets
-  lofepramine tablets
-  trazodone tablets, capsules

4.3.2 Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs)

-  moclobemide tablets
-  phenelzine tablets

4.3.3. Selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors (SSRIs)

First line choices (taking into considering cost and individual patient factors, as described in the [NHS Ayrshire & Arran Primary Care Depression guideline](#))

- ❶ sertraline tablets
- ❶ citalopram tablets
- ❶ fluoxetine tablets

Generalised anxiety disorder

Escitalopram tablets

4.3.4 Other antidepressant drugs

- ❷ mirtazapine tablets
- ❸ venlafaxine tablets
- ❹ duloxetine capsules
- ❺ vortioxetine tablet as per SMC restrictions

4.4 CNS stimulants and drugs used for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder

For prescribing in accordance with the Shared Care Agreements for children and adolescents age 6 – 18 years, which are available within the [prescribing guidelines page on AthenA](#) (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service section)

- ❻ atomoxetine
- ❺ dexamphetamine
- ❻ guanfacine
- ❺ lisdexamfetamine
- ❺ methylphenidate

4.5 Drugs used in the treatment of obesity

diet and lifestyle changes
orlistat

[NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Drug & Therapeutics Committee's statement on the availability of weight management medicines](#)

4.6 Drugs used in nausea and vertigo

(a) antihistamines

cyclizine
promethazine

(b) phenothiazine and related drugs

levomepromazine
prochlorperazine

(c) domperidone and metoclopramide

metoclopramide
domperidone

d) 5HT3 receptor antagonists

- ❶ ondansetron (❻ orodispersible film)
- ❷ granisetron (❻ patch)

e) Neurokinin receptor antagonists

- ❸ aprepitant
- fosaprepitant

f) Hyoscine

hyoscine hydrobromide

g) Other drugs for Ménière's disease

betahistine

4.7 Analgesics

Also refer to section 15.1.4.2 Peri-operative analgesics

Paracetamol tablets

Compound analgesic preparations

co-codamol 8/500 tablets
co-codamol 30/500 tablets

❺ methoxyflurane (Penthrox®) inhalation vapour – use as per ADTC 406: [Guideline for the use of Penthrox® \(methoxyflurane\) in adults ≥18 years old within the Emergency Department \(ED\)](#)

4.7.2 Opioid analgesics

Refer to local pain guidelines for further advice
buprenorphine transdermal patch (Butec®) – for use in patients over 65 years of age only.

Prescribe by brand name to avoid confusion
codeine phosphate tablets

diamorphine injection

dihydrocodeine tablets (injection ❻)

fentanyl patches

❺ fentanyl sublingual (Abstral®) tablets

❻ fentanyl injection

❺ hydromorphone capsules, mr capsules

❺ methadone liquid

morphine tablets, mr capsules, injection

- Zomorph® -recommended brand of oral modified release morphine

❺ Oxycodone capsules, mr tablets

- Oxypro® - recommended brand of oral modified release Oxycodone

- Shortec® recommended brand of oral immediate release Oxycodone

tramadol (injection ❻, excludes modified release, suppository and oral drop preparations)

❸ Third choice within class

❻ Specialist initiation

4.7.3 Neuropathic pain

Refer to local [persistent pain guideline](#) (ADTC 118 & appendices)

amitriptyline tablets

② duloxetine capsules – *diabetic neuropathy*

② gabapentin capsules

③ pregabalin capsules

4.7.4 Antimigraine drugs

4.7.4.1 Treatment of acute migraine

(a) mild to moderate migraine

① Aspirin (900mg) OR

① Ibuprofen (400mg) OR

① Paracetamol (1000mg)

(b) severe migraine

① sumatriptan tablets

② almotriptan tablets

② zolmitriptan tablets

③ zolmitriptan nasal spray - *where oral not appropriate*

③ sumatriptan injection - *where oral/nasal not appropriate*

4.7.4.2 Prophylaxis of migraine (adults)

For use in conjunction with local guideline ([ADTC463: Pharmacological Prophylaxis of Migraine in adults ≥18 years of age](#))

① propranolol capsules

amitriptyline tablets

atogepant tablets – use as per [ADTC463](#)

rimegepant oral lyophilisate – use as per [ADTC463](#)

☒ topiramate tablets – [see MHRA advice on Topiramate \(Topamax\): introduction of new safety measures, including a Pregnancy Prevention Programme](#)

☒ Botulinum toxin A (Botox®) - *Restricted to use as per approved protocol*

☒ Erenumab prefilled pen or syringe - *use as per approved protocol* ([ADTC348](#))

4.7.4.3 Treatment of cluster headache (adults)

① Sumatriptan subcutaneous injection

4.8 Antiepileptic drugs

4.8.1 Control of the epilepsies

carbamazepine

lamotrigine

oxcarbazepine

☒ sodium valproate (injection ☒)

① First choice within class

☒ Hospital use

② Second choice within class

☒ Consultant initiation

- Also refer to the MHRA [Valproate \(Belvo, Convulex, Depakote, Dyzantil, Epilim, Epilim Chrono or Chronosphere, Episenta, Epival, and Syonell▼\): new safety and educational materials to support regulatory measures in men and women under 55 years of age](#)

☒ second choice agents on specialist recommendation

4.8.2 Drugs used in status epilepticus

See local guidelines

diazepam rectal solution

☒ lorazepam injection

☒ phenytoin injection

4.8.3 Febrile convulsions

diazepam

paracetamol

4.9 Drugs used in parkinsonism and related disorders

4.9.1 Dopaminergic drugs used in Parkinson's Disease

(a) dopamine receptor-agonists

☒ apomorphine

bromocriptine

cabergoline

pramipexole

ropinirole

rotigotine (not first line)

(b) levodopa

co-beneldopa (Madopar®)

co-careldopa (Sinemet®)

☒ co-carelopa (Duodopa®) intestinal gel (case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available)

(c) monoamine oxidase B inhibitors

☒ selegiline

(d) Catechol-o-methyltransferase inhibitors

entacapone

levodopa/ carbidopa/ entacapone (use where compliance issues on taking individual components)

opicapone capsules

(e) Amantadine

amantadine

☒ Third choice within class

☒ Specialist initiation

4.9.2 Antimuscarinic drugs used in parkinsonism

orphenadrine

procyclidine (injection )

trihexyphenidyl

4.9.3 Drugs used in essential tremor, chorea, tics, and related disorders

chlorpromazine

haloperidol

propranolol

tetrabenazine

Torsion dystonias and other involuntary movements

  botulinum toxin A (*prescribe by brand name*) – use as per [ADTC 306: Botulinum toxin A \(BoNT A\) for pathological muscle hypertonia in patients aged 16 years and over](#))

4.10 Drugs used in substance dependence

Alcohol dependence

a) alcohol withdrawal

Use in conjunction with local protocols

Outpatients and general practice

 chlordiazepoxide capsules

In-patients

 diazepam tablets

 chlordiazepoxide capsules

 diazepam injection (emulsion) 5mg/mL (*Diazemuls[®]*)

b) maintenance of abstinence and relapse prevention

  acamprosate tablets

  naltrexone tablets

  disulfiram tablets

Opioid dependence

a) acute opioid withdrawal symptoms

 symptomatic relief

 lofexidine tablets

(b) Management of opioid dependence

 methadone 1mg/ml oral solution

  buprenorphine / naloxone (Suboxone[®]) tablet, sublingual film (*as per local guideline*)

 First choice within class

 Hospital use

 Second choice within class

 Consultant initiation

  buprenorphine oral lyophilisate (*Espranor[®]*) (*as per local guideline*)

  buprenorphine tablets (*as per local guideline for patients not requiring supervised administration*)

  buprenorphine prolonged released solution for injection (*Buvidal[®]*)

(c) Maintenance of abstinence and relapse prevention

  naltrexone tablets

(d) Opioid overdose prevention

  naloxone injection (*Prenoxyd[®]*)

  naloxone hydrochloride dihydrate nasal spray (*Nyxoid[®]*)

  naloxone hydrochloride dihydrate 1.26mg nasal spray

Nicotine dependence

Use as per local guideline

First line option

  smoking cessation support **AND**
Nicotinell[®] 7mg, 14mg, 21mg patches

Where dual therapy required:

  smoking cessation support **AND**
Nicotinell[®] 7mg, 14mg, 21mg patches **AND**
Nicotinell[®] 1mg, 2mg lozenges **OR** Nicotinell[®] 2mg, 4mg gum

  smoking cessation support **AND**
Nicotinell[®] 7mg, 14mg, 21mg patches **AND**
Nicorette[®] inhalator **OR** mouth spray

  varenicline

  bupropion

4.11 Drugs for dementia

For consultant initiation and treatment as per NICE TAG 217. Special prescribing agreements available on AthenA for use of following medicines in Alzheimer's - [donepezil](#), [galantamine](#), [memantine](#) and [rivastigmine](#).

  donepezil

  galantamine

  rivastigmine

  memantine

5: INFECTIONS

This section contains the medicines included in the NHS Ayrshire & Arran antimicrobial guidelines, listed according to BNF classification. The relevant antimicrobial guidelines **must** be referred to for further information on their place in therapy and any restrictions on use. A full list of antimicrobial guidelines for primary and secondary care patients can be found on the NHS Ayrshire & Arran intranet ([AthenA](#)) or for the adult (≥16 years old) guidelines are hosted on the [NHS Ayrshire & Arran's Adult Therapeutics Handbook](#).

In addition, some antibiotics are restricted to use for specific clinical indications which are detailed in the Protected Antimicrobial list (available on antimicrobial site on Athena). This list contains the approved indications for the use of protected antimicrobials in NHS Ayrshire and Arran by prescribers who are not Infection Specialists (Consultants in Infectious diseases or Consultant Microbiologists), either for empirical therapy or targeted at specific conditions / organisms. All use is subject to licensing and any SMC restrictions.

Further advice on treatment can be sought from the Consultant Microbiologists or the Antimicrobial pharmacists

indicates that should be on recommendations of Specialist Consultant such as Microbiology or Infectious Diseases

5.1 Antibacterial drugs

5.1.1 Penicillins

Benzylpenicillin and phenoxycephalothin

benzylpenicillin injection
phenoxycephalothin tablets

Penicillinase-resistant penicillins

Flucloxacillin capsules, injection
 temocillin injection

Broad-spectrum penicillins

amoxicillin capsules, injection
co-amoxiclav tablets, injection

Antipseudomonal penicillins

piperacillin with tazobactam injection

5.1.2 Cephalosporins, carbapenems, and other beta-lactams

Cephalosporins

cefuroxime injection
ceftriaxone injection
cephalexin tablets, capsules
 ceftazidime injection

Carbapenems

meropenem injection

5.1.3 Tetracyclines

Management of acne refer to section 13.6.2
doxycycline tablets, capsules
 tigecycline infusion

5.1.4 Aminoglycosides

amikacin injection
 amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion (Arikayce®)
 dalbavancin infusion
gentamicin injection
 tobramycin nebuliser solution

5.1.5 Macrolides

azithromycin capsules, tablets
 azithromycin injection
clarithromycin tablets, injection
erythromycin tablets

5.1.6 Clindamycin

clindamycin tablets, injection

5.1.7 Some other antibacterials

chloramphenicol injection
 daptomycin injection
 fidaxomicin tablets
 fosfomycin infusion
fosfomycin granules
 linezolid tablets, injection
 rifaximin 550mg tablets (Targaxan®)
sodium fusidate injection
teicoplanin injection
vancomycin capsules, infusion

5.1.8 Sulfonamides and trimethoprim

trimethoprim tablets
 co-trimoxazole tablets, injection

5.1.9 Antituberculosis drugs

Seek specialist advice for the management of tuberculosis

Third choice within class

Specialist initiation

First choice within class

Hospital use

5.1.10 Antileprotic drugs

dapsone tablets

5.1.11 Metronidazole and tinidazole

metronidazole tablets, infusion

5.1.12 Quinolones

Due to the risk of severe, disabling and potentially permanent adverse events, new restrictions apply to the prescribing of fluoroquinolones. Please see the [MHRA](#) advice (November 2018) and additional [MHRA](#) advice (March 2019) for more details.

ciprofloxacin tablets, infusion (IV on PL)

levofloxacin tablets, infusion

levofloxacin nebuliser solution

5.1.13 Lower Urinary-tract infections

Women (uncomplicated lower UI) - refer to local guidelines

Men (uncomplicated lower UTI) - refer to local guidelines

Pregnancy (uncomplicated lower UTI) - refer to local guidelines

5.2 Antifungal drugs

Triazole antifungals

Fluconazole capsules, infusion

Isavuconazole infusion

Itraconazole capsules, infusion

posaconazole tablets

posaconazole infusion

voriconazole tablets, infusion

Imidazole antifungals

Also see section 7.2.2 and 13.10.2

Polyene antifungals

liposomal amphotericin infusion

Echinocandin antifungals

caspofungin infusion

micafungin infusion

rezafungin infusion – as [per SMC2659](#)

Other antifungals

terbinafine tablets, cream

5.3 Antiviral drugs

5.3.1 HIV infection

Refer to NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines for the treatment of HIV in adults for the treatment choices - specialist consultant initiation only

emtricitabine/ tenofovir disoproxil tablets (Truvada®)- use in combination with safer sex practices for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 infection in adults at high risk is restricted to specialist use only by consultants in Infectious Diseases

5.3.2 Herpesvirus infections

Herpes simplex and varicella-zoster infection

aciclovir tablets, cream

aciclovir injection

Cytomegalovirus infection

ganciclovir infusion

valganciclovir tablets

5.3.3 Viral hepatitis

For Hepatitis C – refer to [NHS Scotland Clinical Guidelines for the treatment of HCV in adults](#)

5.3.4 Influenza

For initiation as per national guidance

oseltamivir capsules

zanamivir inhalation power

zanamivir infusion

5.4 Antiprotozoal drugs – seek specialist advice

5.5 Anthelmintics – seek specialist advice

5.6 COVID-19 infection

For initiation as per local guidelines (found on [prescribing guidelines within COVID-19 section on AthenA](#))

Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid®) tablets

Sotrovimab infusion

Tocilizumab injection

molnupiravir capsules

① First choice within class

■ Hospital use

② Second choice within class

□ Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class

■ Specialist initiation

6: ENDOCRINE SYSTEM

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the endocrine system section on AthenA](#)

6.1 Drugs used in diabetes

6.1.1 Insulins

Insulin should be initiated on specialist advice only. Choice depends on the particular needs of the individual patient, taking into account lifestyle, age, preference and capabilities. Type of insulin, device and needle size should be specified. Care should be taken to write the brand name in full.

Insulin preparations currently under review, and so the following is not a complete list

Short acting insulins

- ☒ soluble insulin 100units/ml injection (Actrapid®)
- ☒ Insulin aspart 100 units/mL solution for injection (Fiasp®)
- ☒ insulin aspart 100 units/mL solution for injection (NovoRapid®)
- ☒ insulin 100 units/ml solution for injection (Humalog®)

Insulin glargine

- ①☒ Insulin glargine 100 units/ml (Abasaglar®)
- ②☒ Insulin glargine 300 units/ml (Toujeo®)

- ☒ Insulin degludec (Tresiba®) as per protocol once available (under development)

6.1.3 Insulin Pen needles

- ① BD Viva® pen needles
- ② Omnican® 32G fine pen needles

6.1.2 Antidiabetic drugs

Refer to [SIGN 154](#) on the pharmacological management of type 2 diabetes

6.1.2.1 Biguanides

- ① metformin tablet
- ② metformin mr tablet

6.1.2.2 Sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors

- *SGLT-2 inhibitors are to be used with caution in cardiovascular conditions due to increased risk of volume depletion. Caution must be exercised when using diuretics concomitantly. Hypovolaemia requires correction before initiation with an SGLT2 inhibitor.*
- *SGLT2 inhibitor therapy should be temporarily discontinued in conditions that may lead to fluid loss e.g. GI illness, in particular those on concomitant diuretic therapy*
- *MHRA Drug Safety Update: [SGLT2 inhibitors: updated advice on the risk of diabetic ketoacidosis, April 2016](#)*
- *MHRA Drug Safety Update: [SGLT2 inhibitors: updated advice on increased risk of lower-limb amputation \(mainly toes\), March 2017](#)*

① -dapagliflozin tablets (includes dapagliflozin/metformin combination tablets for those with compliance issues)

② empagliflozin tablets (includes Synjardy® (includes empagliflozin/ metformin combination tablets for those with compliance issues))

6.1.2.3 Glucagon like peptide (GLP-1) agonists for type 2 diabetes

Daily preparation - initiation as per local guidelines ([ADTC 428](#))
Liraglutide injection (Diavic®, Zegluxen®)

NB: Liraglutide (e.g. Saxenda® brand) for weight management is currently excluded from the formulary (link to [NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Drug & Therapeutics Committee's statement on the availability of weight management medicines](#))

Weekly preparation - initiation as per local guidelines ([ADTC 428](#))

- ① semaglutide injection
- ② dulaglutide injection

NB: Semaglutide injection (Wegovy® brand), for weight management is currently excluded from the formulary (link to [NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Drug & Therapeutics Committee's statement on the availability of weight management medicines](#))

Oral preparations

semaglutide tablets – initiation as per local guidelines ([ADTC 428](#))

- ③ Third choice within class
- ☒ Specialist initiation

- ① First choice within class
- ☒ Hospital use

- ② Second choice within class
- ☒ Consultant initiation

6.1.2.4. Glucose dependent insulintropic polypeptide (GIP) and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist

☒ Tirzepatide solution for injection in pre-filled pen (Mounjaro®)

- Initiation by the secondary care diabetes service only for adults with type 2 diabetes only as per national consensus statement
- Tirzepatide for the weight management indication is currently excluded from the formulary (link to [NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Drug & Therapeutics Committee's statement on the availability of weight management medicines](#))

6.1.2.5 Sulphonylureas

- ❶ gliclazide tablets
❷ glimepiride tablets

6.1.2.6. Thiazolidinediones

- ❶ pioglitazone tablets

6.1.2.7. Dipeptidylpeptidase-4 (DPP-4) Inhibitors

This class of medicines are not considered the most cost-effective choice when used as first-line therapy, and even when used as 2nd or 3rd line, they may only result in a modest reduction of HbA1c. Patients initiated on these agents should be reviewed at 6 months and treatment should only continue if the patient has had a beneficial metabolic response (a reduction of at least 0.5% (5.5mmol/mol) in HbA1c)

- ❶ sitagliptin tablets (*includes sitagliptin/metformin tablet (Janumet®) for those with compliance issues*)
❷ alogliptin tablets (*includes alogliptin/metformin (Vipdomet®) tablets for those with compliance issues*)

6.1.4 Treatment of hypoglycaemia

Choice of treatment depends on the clinical situation and includes:

- glucose (oral)
glucagon injection
glucose infusion 20%

6.1.6 Diagnostic and monitoring devices for diabetes mellitus

Blood Glucose Monitoring meters recommended within the community setting:

Adult patient group	Meter	Test strips
Patients undertaking dual glucose and ketone testing (type 1 and ketosis prone type 2 diabetes patients)	① 4SURE Smart Duo	4SURE blood glucose test strips 4SURE β -ketone test strips
Patients undertaking carbohydrate counting	① FreeStyle InsuLinx	Freestyle Lite test strip
	② Accu-Chek Aviva Expert	Accu-Chek Aviva blood glucose test strips
Type 2 diabetes	① TRUE METRIX	TRUE METRIX blood glucose test strips
	② TEE2	Tee2 blood glucose test strips

Specialist initiation		
Adult patient group	Meter	Test strips
Patients with visual impairment (type 1 or 2 diabetes)	① GlucoRx Nexus Voice meter	GlucoRx Nexus Test Strips
Patients unable to self titrate insulin doses (type 1 diabetes and ketosis prone type 2 diabetes patients)	① FreeStyle Libre handset	FreeStyle Optium blood glucose test strips
Patients unable to handle individual strips and lancets (type 1 or 2 diabetes)	① Accu-Chek Mobile	Accu-Chek Mobile test cassette

Continuous Glucose monitoring

Use as per local guidelines – available on AthenA within Endocrine system section

① Freestyle Libre 2® Plus

② Dexcom ONE®+

① First choice within class
■ Hospital use

② Second choice within class
□ Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class
▣ Specialist initiation

6.2 Thyroid and antithyroid drugs

6.2.1 Thyroid hormones

levothyroxine

liothyronine (injection )

6.2.2 Anti-thyroid drugs

carbimazole

propylthiouracil

 aqueous iodine

6.3 Corticosteroids

6.3.1 Replacement therapy

Hydrocortisone (*excludes modified-release tablets*)

fludrocortisone

6.3.2 Glucocorticoid therapy

betamethasone

dexamethasone 2mg soluble tablets, 2mg tablets

hydrocortisone

methylprednisolone

prednisolone tablets (*excludes 25mg strength*), 5mg/5ml oral solution, soluble tablets

6.4 Sex hormones

6.4.1 Female sex hormones and their modulators

6.4.1.1 Oestrogens and HRT

Refer to local HRT guidelines for product choices

oral preparations

transdermal patches

tibolone

6.4.1.2 Progestogens and progesterone receptor modulators

norethisterone

progesterone

Uterine fibroids

ulipristal acetate (*Esmya®*) – refer to [MHRA advice on risk of severe liver injury](#).

linzagolix tablets – [as per SMC 2631 restrictions](#)

relugolix, estradiol, norethisterone acetate tablets (*Ryeqo®*) – as per [SMC 2442](#) restrictions

6.4.2 Male sex hormones and antagonists

testosterone (*Nebido®*) injection

testosterone gel

testosterone tablets

Anti-androgens

cyproterone

Dutasteride and finasteride

finasteride

dutasteride

dutasteride and tamsulosin (*Combodart®*)

6.5 Hypothalamic and pituitary hormones and anti-oestrogens

6.5.1 Hypothalamic and anterior pituitary hormones and anti-oestrogens

clomifene

Anterior pituitary hormones

Corticotrophins for testing

tetracosactide

Gonadotrophins

 chorionic gonadotrophin injection

 follitropin alfa and beta injection

 choriogonadotropin alfa pre-filled (*Ovitrelle®*) syringe

Growth hormone

Somatropin injection (*recommendations of specialist consultant at Yorkhill Hospital – centre provides a shared care protocol*)

Hypothalamic hormones

 gonadorelin

6.5.2 Posterior pituitary hormones and antagonists

(a) diabetes insipidus

desmopressin *nasal spray*

desmopressin *tablets*

 desmopressin injection

(b) antidiuretic hormone antagonists

demeclocycline

(c) oesophageal varices

 terlipressin

First choice within class

 Hospital use

Second choice within class

Consultant initiation

Third choice within class

Specialist initiation

d) idiopathic nocturnal polyuria

desmopressin 25 microgram, 50 microgram oral lyophilisate (Noqdirna®) – *use in patients aged 65 years and over only*

6.6 Drugs affecting bone metabolism

6.6.1 Calcitonin and parathyroid hormones

calcitonin (salmon)

6.6.2 Bisphosphonates and other drugs affecting bone metabolism

① alendronic acid tablets, effervescent tablets

② risedronate sodium tablets

H denosumab injection (Xgeva®), as per *West of Scotland Cancer Network protocol*

disodium etidronate

H disodium pamidronate

S ibandronic acid tablets

H ibandronic acid injection

raloxifene

sodium clodronate

strontium ranelate

H zoledronic acid infusion

romosozumab injection

6.7 Other endocrine drugs

6.7.1 Bromocriptine and other dopaminergic drugs

bromocriptine

cabergoline

6.7.2 Drugs affecting gonadotrophins

Gonadorelin analogues

buserelin nasal spray

goserelin injection

triptorelin (Decapeptyl SR®) injection

6.7.3 Metyrapone

metyrapone

7: OBSTETRICS, GYNAECOLOGY & URINARY- TRACT DISORDERS

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the relevant section on AthenA](#)

7.1 Drugs used in obstetrics

7.1.1 Prostaglandins and oxytocics

- carboprost
- dinoprostone (excludes 10mg vaginal delivery system)
- ergometrine
- gemeprost
- oxytocin
- ergometrine/ oxytocin (Syntometrine®)

7.1.1.1 Drugs affecting the ductus arteriosus

Maintenance of patency

- alprostadil

Closure of ductus arteriosus

- indometacin injection

7.1.2 Mifepristone

- mifepristone
- mifepristone/ misoprostol (Medabon®) combipak

7.1.3 Myometrial relaxants

- salbutamol injection

7.2 Treatment of vaginal and vulval conditions

7.2.1 Preparations for vaginal changes

- ① Ovestin®
- Ospemifene tablets (Senshio®)

7.2.2 Vaginal and vulval infections

Preparations for vaginal and vulval candidiasis

- ① clotrimazole
- ② econazole

Other infections

- povidone iodine

Bacterial vaginosis

Refer to antimicrobial guidelines on NHS Ayrshire & Arran intranet ([AthenA](#)) or via [Antimicrobial Companion](#) for further information and treatment choices

- ② dequalinium chloride vaginal tablets –for patients who fail initial treatment options.

7.3 Contraceptives

Refer to [West of Scotland Sexual Health MCN clinical guidelines](#)

7.3.1 Combined hormonal contraceptives Combined Oral Contraceptives (COCs)

7.3.1.1 Monophasic low strength (21-day preparations)

(NB: low strength monophasic COCs are considered **second line agents** as breakthrough bleeding is more common than with standard strength monophasic COCs)

- ① Gedarel 20/150® (ethinylestradiol 20mcg with desogestrel 150mcg) tablet

7.3.1.2 Monophasic standard strength (21-day preparations)

(NB: Monophasic standard strength COCs are considered **first line agents**)

- ① Levest® (ethinylestradiol 30mcg with levonorgestrel 150mcg) tablet
- ① Rigevidon® (ethinylestradiol 30mcg with levonorgestrel 150mcg) tablet
- ② Brevinor® (ethinylestradiol 35mcg with norethisterone 500mcg) tablet

7.3.1.3 Monophasic standard strength (28-day 'Every day' preparations)

- ① Microgynon 30 ED® (ethinylestradiol 30mcg with levonorgestrel 150mcg) tablet

Vaginal (low strength)

- NuvaRing® (ethinylestradiol with etonogestrel)

7.3.2 Oral progestogen-only contraceptives

- ① Noriday® (norethisterone 350 mcg) tablet
- ① Norgeston® (levonorgestrel 30 mcg) tablet
- ② Cerelle® (desogestrel 75mcg) tablet

① First choice within class
■ Hospital use

② Second choice within class
■ Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class
■ Specialist initiation

7.3.2.2 Parenteral progestogen- only contraceptives

Refer to [West of Scotland Sexual Health MCN clinical guidelines](#)

- ❶ medroxyprogesterone acetate (Depo-Provera®) intramuscular injection
- ❶ medroxyprogesterone acetate (Sayana® Press) subcutaneous depot injection (*Sexual Health clinic or Ayrshire Maternity Unit Day ward initiation for women undertaking self-administration, as per local standard operating procedures*)
- etongestrel (Nexplanon®) implant

7.3.2.3 Intra-uterine progestogen-only device

Prescribe by brand name to avoid confusion

Guidance from [Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare resource on New one-handed, reloadable 52mg levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system](#) should be used to help aid appropriate brand selection

- ❶ levonorgestrel (Levosert®) intrauterine system
- ❶ levonorgestrel (Benilexa®) intrauterine system
- ❷ levonorgestrel (Mirena®) intrauterine system
- ❷ levonorgestrel (Jaydess®) intrauterine delivery system
- ❷ levonorgestrel (Kyleena®) intrauterine delivery system

7.3.4 Contraceptive devices

Refer to [West of Scotland Sexual Health MCN clinical guidelines](#)

7.3.5 Emergency contraception

Copper IUD is more effective than any oral method and should be considered as an option
levonorgestrel 1500 mcg tablets (*patients presenting within 72 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse*)
ulipristal (EllaOne®) tablets (*patients presenting 72 to 120 hours after unprotected sexual intercourse*)

7.4 Drugs for genito-urinary disorders

7.4.1 Drugs for urinary retention

a) alpha-blockers

- ❶ tamsulosin modified release capsules
- alfuzosin tablets (❶ in younger men)
- ❷ doxazosin tablets

b) 5α-reductase inhibitors

- ❶ finasteride tablets
- ❷ dutasteride capsule

c) combination products

dutasteride plus tamsulosin *capsules*
solifenacain plus tamsulosin modified release tablets

7.4.2 Drugs for urinary frequency, enuresis and incontinence

- ❶ tolterodine immediate release tablets
- ❷ solifenacain tablets
- ❸ mirabegron modified release tablets
- *should be restricted to third line use in patients who have not responded to treatment with two different antimuscarinics or in whom antimuscarinics are contraindicated.*
- *It may also be considered as a first line option where there is concern that patients have a high anticholinergic load. Further information about anticholinergic load can be read in the [Scottish Government Polyparmacy Guidance March 2015](#).*

Stress urinary incontinence in women
pelvic floor muscle exercises

7.4.3 Drugs used in urological pain

- ❷ Pentosan polysulfate sodium capsules (Elmiron®)

Alkalisation of urine

potassium citrate
sodium bicarbonate

7.4.4 Bladder instillations and urological surgery

sodium chloride 0.9% for irrigation

Maintenance of indwelling urinary catheters

Sodium chloride 0.9% for irrigation
Solution G irrigation
Solution R irrigation

7.4.5 Drugs for erectile dysfunction

Alprostadil

- ❷ alprostadil injection, urethral application

Phosphodiesterase type-5 inhibitors

- ❶ sildenafil tablets
- ❷ vardenafil tablets (*except oro-dispersible formulation*)

- ❸ Third choice within class

- ❹ Specialist initiation

❶ First choice within class

❷ Hospital use

❸ Second choice within class

❹ Consultant initiation

7.5 Drugs used in Chronic Kidney Disease

7.5.1. Mineralocorticoid Receptor Antagonists

 finerenone tablets (Kerendia®)

7.5.2. Sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors

Initiation as per local guideline - [Advice for prescribing of sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 inhibitors \(SGLT2i\) \(dapagliflozin, empagliflozin, canagliflozin\) in chronic kidney disease](#)

 dapagliflozin tablets

 empagliflozin tablets

8: MALIGNANT DISEASE and IMMUNOSUPPRESSION

8.1 Cytotoxic Drugs

Use of these medicines should be in accordance with any guidelines/ protocols from [West of Scotland Cancer Network](#).

Some medicines may require a *case by case form to be completed for specific indications until a protocol is available* – [refer to local list](#)

Treatment for cytotoxic-induced side effects

Chemotherapy induced mucositis and myelosuppression

- calcium folinate tablets
- folic acid (as disodium salt) injection

Urothelial toxicity

- mesna tablets, injection

8.1.1 Alkylating drugs

- bendamustine (Levact®) infusion
- busulfan tablets
- chlorambucil tablets
- cyclophosphamide tablets, injection
- ifosfamide injection
- melphalan tablets, injection
- thiotepa infusion

8.1.2 Anthracyclines and other cytotoxic antibiotics

- bleomycin injection
- daunorubicin injection
- Liposomal formulation of daunorubicin/ cytarabine (Vyxeos®) infusion
- doxorubicin injection
- epirubicin injectionolap
- idarubicin injection
- mitomycin injection
- mitoxantrone injection

8.1.3 Antimetabolites

- azacitidine injection, tablets
- capecitabine tablets
- cladribine injection
- cytarabine (*excludes lipid formulation*) injection
- Liposomal formulation of daunorubicin/ cytarabine (Vyxeos®) infusion
- fludarabine tablets, injection
- fluorouracil injection, infusion
- gemcitabine infusion

① First choice within class

■ Hospital use

② Second choice within class

■ Consultant initiation

- mercaptopurine tablets
- methotrexate tablets, injection
- pemetrexed infusion

8.1.4 Vinca alkaloids and etoposide

- etoposide capsules, injection, infusion
- vinblastine injection
- vincristine injection
- vinorelbine capsules, injection

8.1.5 Other antineoplastic drugs

- abemaciclib tablets
- acalabrutinib capsules
- afatinib tablets
- afibbercept infusion
- alectinib capsules
- amsacrine infusion
- arsenic trioxide infusion
- asciminib tablets
- atezolizumab infusion
- avelumab infusion
- blinatumomab infusion
- brigatinib tablets
- bortezomib injection (includes subcutaneous formulation)
- bosutinib tablets
- brentuximab infusion
- cabazitaxel infusion
- carboplatin infusion
- carfilzomib infusion
- ceritinib capsules
- cetuximab infusion
- cisplatin infusion
- crizantaspase injection
- crizotinib capsules
- dacarbazine injection, infusion
- dacomitinib tablets
- daratumumab infusion (includes subcutaneous formulation)
- darolutamide tablets
- dasatinib tablets
- docetaxel infusion
- durvalumab infusion
- elranatamab injection (Elrrexio®)
- encorafenib capsules
- entrectinib capsules
- epcoritamab injection (Tepkinly®)
- erdafitinib tablets
- eribulin injection
- erlotinib tablets
- everolimus tablets
- ③ Third choice within class
- Specialist initiation

- **H** fedratinib capsules
- **H** gemtuzumab ozogamicin infusion
- **H** gilteritinib tablets
- **H** glofitamab infusion (Columvi®)
- **H** hydroxycarbamide capsules, solution (solution licensed for sickle cell disease only)
- **H** ibrutinib tablets
- **H** idelalisib tablets
- **H** imatinib tablets
- **H** inotuzumab ozogamicin infusion
- **H** irinotecan infusion
- **H** ivosidenib tablet
- **H** loncastuximab tesirine infusion
- **H** lorlatinib tablets
- **H** midostaurin capsules
- **H** momelotinib tablet (Omjara®)
- **H** neratinib tablets
- **H** nilotinib capsules
- **H** nintedanib capsules
- **H** nivolumab infusion
- **H** olaparib tablets
- **H** osimertinib tablets
- **H** oxaliplatin infusion
- **H** paclitaxel (*includes Abraxane®*) infusion
- **H** palbociclib capsules
- **H** panitumumab infusion
- **H** pegasparaginase injection
- **H** pembrolizumab infusion
- **H** pentostatin injection
- **H** pertuzumab infusion
- **H** pertuzumab and trastuzumab subcutaneous injection (Phesgo®)
- **H** polatuzumab infusion
- **H** ponatinib tablets
- **H** procarbazine capsules
- **H** quizartinib tablets (Vanflyta®)
- **H** raltitrexed infusion
- **H** regorafenib tablets (Stivarga®)
- **H** ribociclib tablets
- **H** ruxolitinib tablets
- **H** sacituzumab govitecan infusion
- **H** selinexor tablets (Nexpovio®)
- **H** selpercatinib capsules (Retsevmo®)
- **H** sotorasib tablets
- **H** talazoparib capsules
- **H** tepotinib tablets
- **H** topotecan capsules, infusion
- **H** trastuzumab (*includes subcutaneous formulation*) injection, infusion
- **H** trastuzumab emtansine infusion (Kadcyla®)
- **H** trastuzumab deruxtecan infusion (Enhertu®)

❶ First choice within class
❷ Hospital use

❸ Second choice within class
❹ Consultant initiation

- **H** tretinoïn capsules
- **H** trifluridine/ tipiracil tablets (*Lonsurf®*)
- **H** tucatinib tablets
- **H** venetoclax tablets
- **H** zanubrutinib capsules (*Brukinsa®*)

8.2 Drugs affecting the immune response

8.2.1 Antiproliferative immunosuppressants

- **H** azathioprine injection
- azathioprine tablets
- mycophenolate mofetil tablets

8.2.2 Corticosteroids and other immunosuppressants

(a) corticosteroids

- dexamethasone 500 micrograms, 2mg soluble tablets, 2mg tablets
- prednisolone tablets (*excludes 25mg strength*), 5mg/5ml oral solution, soluble tablets

other immunosuppressants

- tacrolimus (*including Envarsus®*) capsules, tablets
- ciclosporin capsules
- **H** ciclosporin injection
- voclosporin capsule (*Lupkynis®*) – (*case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available*)

8.2.3 Anti-lymphocyte monoclonal antibodies

- **H** Isatuximab infusion
- **H** obinutuzumab infusion
- **H** rituximab (*includes subcutaneous formulation*) injection, infusion

8.2.4 Other immunomodulating drugs

- **H** avacopan capsules (*Tavneos®*) (*as per local guideline*)
- **H** interferon alfa-2b injection
- **H** lenalidomide capsules
- **H** panobinostat capsules
- **H** peginterferon alfa-2a injection (*Pegasys®*)
- **H** peginterferon alfa-2b injection (*ViraferonPeg®*)
- **H** pomalidomide capsules
- **H** thalidomide tablets

Multiple sclerosis

For MS medicines, to be used as per [ADTC 350: NHS Ayrshire & Arran supplement to West of Scotland Multiple Sclerosis Service Clinical Management Algorithm for Disease Modifying Treatments \(DMTs\) in Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis \(RRMS\)](#)

- cladribine tablets (Mavenclad®)
- dimethyl fumarate capsules
- diroximel fumarate capsules (*Vumerity®*) - *(case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available)*
- fingolimod capsules
- glatiramer injection (Brabio®)
- interferon beta 1a injection
- natalizumab infusion
- ocrelizumab infusion
- ofatumumab injection (Kesimpta®)
- ozanimod capsules
- peginterferon beta-1a injection (*Plegridy®*)
- ponesimod tablets (*Ponvory®*) *(case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available)*
- siponimod tablets (Mayzent®) *(case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available)*
- teriflunomide tablets

BCG bladder instillation

- Bacillus Calmette-guerin instillation (*OncoTice®*)

8.3 Sex hormones and hormone antagonists in malignant disease

Use should be in accordance with any guidelines/ protocols from [West of Scotland Cancer Network](#)

8.3.2 Progestogens

- medroxyprogesterone acetate tablets
- megestrol acetate tablets

8.3.4 Hormone antagonists

8.3.4.1 Breast Cancer

- anastrozole tablets
- fulvestrant injection
- letrozole tablets
- tamoxifen tablets
- exemestane tablets
- goserelin injection

8.3.4.2 Gonadorelin analogues and gonadotrophin-releasing hormone antagonists

Anti-androgen

- bicalutamide tablets
- flutamide tablets
- abiraterone tablets
- enzalutamide capsules
- apalutamide tablets

Gonadorelin analogue:

- leuprorelin (*Prostap® DCS*) injection
- triptorelin injection (*Decapeptyl SR®*)
- degarelix (*Firmagon®*) injection

8.3.4.3 Somatostatin analogues

Short-acting:

- octreotide injection
- pasireotide injection

Long-acting:

- octreotide depot (*Sandostatin LAR®*) injection

First choice within class

Hospital use

Second choice within class

Consultant initiation

Third choice within class

Specialist initiation

9: NUTRITION and BLOOD

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the nutrition and blood section on Athena](#)

9.1 Anaemias and some other blood disorders

9.1.1 Iron-deficiency anaemias

9.1.1.1 Oral iron

ferrous fumarate tablets, liquid
ferrous sulphate tablets
sodium feredetate liquid

9.1.1.2 Parenteral iron

Use as per local guidelines:

ADTC 170: [Guideline for the treatment of renal anaemia](#)

ADTC 279: [Guideline for the Use of Intravenous Iron for the Treatment of Iron Deficiency Anaemia in Adults Aged \$\geq 16\$ years](#)

- H ferric carboxymaltose (*Ferinject*®) injection
- H ferric derisomaltose injection
- H ferric derisomaltose injection (*Diafer*®) – renal anaemia only as per ADTC 170
- H iron sucrose (*Venofer*®) infusion

9.1.2 Drugs used in megaloblastic anaemias

folic acid tablets
hydroxocobalamin injection

9.1.3 Drugs used in hypoplastic, haemolytic, and renal anaemias

Renal anaemia

Initiation as per ADTC 170: [Guideline for the treatment of renal anaemia](#)

- ① H darbepoetin alfa (*Aranesp*®) injection.
- ① H epoetin beta (*NeoRecormon*®) injection
- ② H methoxy polyethylene glycolepoetin beta (*Mircera*®)
- ③ H roxadustat (*Evrenzo*®) tablets

Iron overload (as per any [SMC restrictions](#))

- ① H desferrioxamine injection
- ② H deferasirox tablets (*Exjade*®)

9.1.4 Drugs used in platelet disorders

- ① H eltrombopag (case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available)
- ② H romiplostim (for patients when eltrombopag not absorbed orally - (case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available))
- H anagrelide capsules
- H lusutrombopag tablets
- H avatrombopag tablets

9.1.6 Drugs used in neutropenia

- ① H filgrastim injection (Current brand of choice *Accofil*®)
- ② H-Pegfilgrastim injection

9.2 Fluids and electrolytes

9.2.1.1 Oral potassium

Sando-K® effervescent tablets

Management of hyperkalaemia

calcium polystyrene sulphonate powder (*Calcium Resonium*®)
sodium polystyrene sulphate powder (*Resonium A*®)
□ H sodium zirconium cyclosilicate powder for oral suspension – as per [SMC 2288 restriction](#)
sodium zirconium cyclosilicate powder for oral suspension – use in the emergency care setting for the treatment of acute, life-threatening hyperkalaemia alongside standard care, use as per [local guidelines](#)

9.2.1.2 Oral sodium and water

None recommended

Oral rehydration therapy

oral rehydration salts

9.2.1.3 Oral bicarbonate

- sodium bicarbonate
- potassium bicarbonate

9.2.2 Parenteral preparations for fluid and electrolyte imbalance

refer to BNF

9.2.2.2 Plasma and plasma substitutes

- Dextran 70 infusion
- Gelofusine/ Gelaspan infusion

① First choice within class

② Second choice within class

H Hospital use

□ Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class

■ Specialist initiation

9.3 Intravenous nutrition

☒ Contact the hospital nutrition team for advice

9.4 Oral nutrition

Oral nutritional supplements

Refer to the separate [NHS Ayrshire & Arran Oral nutritional supplements formulary \(adults\) – primary care](#)

9.5 Minerals

9.5.1.1 Calcium supplements

calcium chloride injection
calcium gluconate injection
calcium carbonate chewable tablet (*Adcal®*)
☒ calcium carbonate chewable tablet (*Calcichew®*)
calcium carbonate effervescent tablets (*Cacit®*)

9.5.1.2 Hypercalcaemia and hypercalciuria

☒ cinacalcet (*not for primary hyperparathyroidism*)

9.5.1.3 Magnesium

☒ magnesium sulphate injection
magnesium aspartate dihydrate (*Magnaspionate®*)
Magnesium glycerophosphate 4mmol chewable tablets

9.5.2 Phosphorus

9.5.2.1 Phosphate supplements

Phosphate-Sandoz® effervescent tablets

9.5.2.2 Phosphate-binding agents

①☒ sevelamer carbonate tablets, powder for solution

Second/ third line choice depends on patient's blood results/ tolerability

☒ calcium acetate tablets
☒ calcium carbonate chewable tablets (*Calcichew®*)
☒ lanthanum carbonate chewable tablets, oral powder
☒ sucroferric oxyhydroxide chewable tablets

9.5.4 Zinc

zinc sulphate effervescent 125mg tablets

9.6 Vitamins

9.6.1 Vitamin A

vitamin A and D capsules

9.6.2 Vitamin B group

☒ *Parbrinex®* injection, infusion
pyridoxine tablets
thiamine tablets

9.6.3 Vitamin C

ascorbic acid tablets

9.6.4 Vitamin D

Refer to *NHS Ayrshire & Arran treatment of vitamin D deficiency & insufficiency guideline in adults*

alfacalcidol tablets, oral drops
☒ alfacalcidol injection
colecalciferol 1000 unit and 25,000 unit tablets (*Stexerol D3®*)
cholecalciferol 50,000 units/ml oral solution (*InVita D3®*), *when cannot swallow oral formulations*
☒ calcitriol capsules
ergocalciferol 300, 000 unit injection
calcium with colecalciferol

① Accrete D3® tablets - 600 mg calcium (as calcium carbonate 1500 mg) and 10 micrograms of colecalciferol (equivalent to 400 IU vitamin D3)

② Accrete D3® one a day chewable tablets - 1,000 mg calcium (as calcium carbonate) and 22 micrograms cholecalciferol (vitamin D₃ equivalent to 880IU)

Calfovit D3® sachets – *where tablet or chewable tablet formulations are unsuitable*

9.6.5 Vitamin E

alpha tocopheryl acetate oral suspension

9.6.6 Vitamin K

Malabsorption syndromes (water- soluble preparation required):

menadiol sodium phosphate tablets

Fat soluble formula (not malabsorption):

Phytomenadione injection

9.6.7 Multivitamin preparations

Abidec® drops
Vitamin capsules BPC
☒ Ketovite® liquid
☒ Forceval ® capsules (*post bariatric surgery only*)

① First choice within class
☒ Hospital use

② Second choice within class
☒ Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class
☒ Specialist initiation

10: MUSCULOSKELETAL and JOINT DISEASES

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the musculoskeletal system section on AthenaA](#)

10.1 Drugs used in rheumatic diseases and gout

10.1.1 Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

ibuprofen tablets
diclofenac sodium tablets
naproxen tablets
naproxen effervescent tablets (*only for patients unable to swallow naproxen tablets*)
mefenamic acid (*gynaecological conditions only*)

Cyclo-oxygenase-2-selective inhibitors

celecoxib
meloxicam

10.1.2 Corticosteroids

10.1.2.1 Systemic corticosteroids

① prednisolone tablets (excludes 25mg strength), 5mg/5ml oral solution, soluble tablets
① methylprednisolone intravenous injection

10.1.2.2 Local corticosteroid injections

① methylprednisolone with lidocaine (*Depo-Medrone® with lidocaine*) injection

10.1.3 Drugs that suppress the rheumatic disease process

* *A combination of these medicines may be used as guided by specialists*

① methotrexate 2.5mg tablets, pre-filled pens (*Metoject®*)
② hydroxychloroquine tablets
② leflunomide tablets
② sulfasalazine e/c tablets
③ azathioprine tablets
③ ciclosporin capsules - *patients should be maintained on same brand*
③ cyclophosphamide tablets
③ penicillamine tablets

Cytokine modulators

Rheumatoid Arthritis

All medicines should be prescribed as per the local guidelines for the management of rheumatoid arthritis (adults)

- ① adalimumab prefilled syringe/ pen (*Amgevita® brand of choice*)
- ① baricitinib tablets (*oral treatment*)
- ② etanercept prefilled syringe/ pen (*Benepali® brand of choice*)
- ② certolizumab prefilled syringe, pens
- ② golimumab prefilled syringe/ pen
- ② infliximab infusion (*Remsima® brand of choice*)
- ② tocilizumab infusion
- ② rituximab infusion (*Rixathon® brand of choice*)
- ② sarilumab prefilled syringe/ pen
- ③ abatacept prefilled syringe, pens

Psoriatic Arthritis

All medicines should be prescribed as per the local guidelines for the management of psoriatic arthritis (adults)

- ① apremilast tablets (*oral treatment*)
- ① secukinumab prefilled syringe/ pen
- ② adalimumab prefilled syringe/ pen (*Amgevita® brand of choice*)
- ③ etanercept prefilled syringe/ pen (*Benepali® brand of choice*)
- ③ golimumab prefilled syringe/ pen
- ③ infliximab infusion (*Remsima® brand of choice*)
- ③ certolizumab prefilled syringe, pens
- ③ ustekinumab prefilled syringe
- ③ tofacitinib tablets

Ankylosing Spondylitis

All medicines should be prescribed as per the local guidelines for the management of ankylosing spondylitis (adults)

- ① adalimumab prefilled syringe/ pen (*Amgevita® brand of choice*)
- ② secukinumab prefilled syringe/ pen
- ③ etanercept prefilled syringe/ pen (*Benepali® brand of choice*)
- ③ certolizumab prefilled syringe, pen
- ③ golimumab prefilled syringe/ pen
- ③ infliximab infusion (*Remsima® brand of choice*)

Still's disease, including Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (SJIA) and Adult-Onset Still's Disease (AOSD)

anakinra injection - as per [SMC 2104](#)

Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) (adults)

tocilizumab prefilled syringes, pens– as per [SMC 2014](#) (case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available)

10.1.4 Gout and cytotoxic-induced hyperuricaemia

Use as per [ADTC 398 Guideline for the management of acute and chronic gout](#)

Acute attacks of gout

- ① NSAID e.g. naproxen
- ② colchicine tablets

Long term control of gout

- ① allopurinol tablets
- ② febuxostat tablets

10.2 Drugs used in neuromuscular disorders

10.2.1 Drugs that enhance neuromuscular transmission

pyridostigmine bromide

10.2.2 Skeletal muscle relaxants

baclofen
dantrolene
diazepam
 tizanidine

Nocturnal leg cramps

quinine sulphate tablets

10.3 Drugs for the relief of soft-tissue disorders and topical pain relief

10.3.2 Rubefacients, topical NSAIDs, capsaicin, and poultices

- ① ibuprofen 5% gel
- ① ketoprofen 2.5% gel

Capsaicin

capsaicin 0.075% cream (*Axsain®*) (Diabetic neuropathy only)
capsaicin 0.025% cream (*Zacin®*)
 capsaicin cutaneous patch (*Qutenza®*)

Poultices

Kaolin poultice

① First choice within class

② Second choice within class

Hospital use

Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class

Specialist initiation

11: EYES

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the eye section on AthenA](#)

11.3 Anti-infective eye preparations

11.3.1: Antibacterials

- ① chloramphenicol eyedrops/ointment
- ② fusidic acid eyedrops
- propamidine (*Brolene*®) eyedrops/ ointment
- ☒ gentamicin eye drops

Quinolones

- ① ☒ ofloxacin eye drops
- ② ☒ ciprofloxacin eye drops

11.3.2: Antifungals

Consultant ophthalmology initiation – contact pharmacy for advice on products available

11.3.3: Antivirals

- ☒ ganciclovir 0.15% w/w eye gel

11.4 Corticosteroids and other anti-inflammatory preparations

11.4.1: Corticosteroids

- ☒ betamethasone 0.1% eye drops
- ☒ dexamethasone 0.1% eye drops (*Maxidex*®)
- ☒ dexamethasone 0.1% preservative free eye drops
- ☒ dexamethasone 0.1% with neomycin and polymyxin B eye ointment (*Maxitrol*®)
- ☒ fluorometholone 0.1% eye drops (*FML*®)
- ☒ prednisolone sodium phosphate 0.5% eye drops, preservative free single dose drops
- ☒ prednisolone acetate 1% eye drops (*Predforte*®)

Intra-vitreal corticosteroids

- ☒ dexamethasone (*Ozurdex*®) (*awaiting protocol for use*)
- ☒ fluocinolone acetonide (*Iluvien*®) (*awaiting protocol for use*)

11.4.2 Other anti-inflammatory preparations

- ① sodium cromoglicate eye drops
- ② olopatadine eye drops

11.5 Mydriatics and cycloplegics

Antimuscarinics:

- ☒ atropine preservative-free eye drops
- cyclopentolate eye drops
- tropicamide eye drops

Sympathomimetic:

- ☒ phenylephrine eye drops

11.6 Treatment of glaucoma

a) Prostaglandin analogue

- ① ☒ latanoprost 50 micrograms/ml eye drops
- ② ☒ bimatoprost 300 micrograms/ml eye drops

Preservative free prostaglandin analogue

Restricted to use in patients with a proven sensitivity to preservatives e.g. benzalkonium chloride

- ① ☒ latanoprost 50 micrograms/ml preservative free eye drops
- ② ☒ bimatoprost 300 micrograms/ml preservative free eye drops

Combination products

Restricted to use in patients where compliance or the excessive number of drops they need to administer daily is a problem

- ① ☒ latanoprost 50 micrograms/ml with timolol 5mg/ml eye drops
- ② ☒ bimatoprost 300 micrograms/ml with timolol 5mg/ml eye drops (*Ganfort*®)

Preservative free combination products

Restricted to use in patients with a proven sensitivity to preservatives e.g. benzalkonium chloride

- ① ☒ latanoprost 50 microgram/ml with timolol 5mg/ml preservative free eye drops (*Fixapost*®)
- ② ☒ bimatoprost 300 micrograms/ml with timolol 5mg/ml preservative free eyedrops (*Ganfort*®)

b) Beta-blockers

- ☒ timolol 0.25% eye drops
- ☒ betaxolol 0.25%, 0.5% eye drops

Long acting beta blocker – where compliance an issue

- ☒ timolol 0.25% eye gel (*Timoptol LA*®)

① First choice within class
☒ Hospital use

② Second choice within class
☒ Consultant initiation

③ Third choice within class
☒ Specialist initiation

Preservative free beta-blockers

Restricted to use in patients with a proven sensitivity to preservatives e.g. benzalkonium chloride

① timolol 0.1% unit dose eye gel (*Tiopex®*)

c) Sympathomimetics

① brimonidine 0.2% eye drops

Combination products

Restricted to use in patients where compliance or the excessive number of drops they need to administer daily is a problem

brimonidine 0.2% with timolol 0.5% eye drops (*Combigan®*)

brinzolamide 1% with brimonidine tartrate 0.2% eye drops (*Simbrinza®*)

d) Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors and systemic drugs

① brinzolamide 10mg/ml eye drops

② dorzolamide 2% eye drops

Preservative free prostaglandin analogue

Restricted to use in patients with a proven sensitivity to preservatives e.g. benzalkonium chloride

① dorzolamide 2% preservative free eye drops

Combination products

Restricted to use in patients where compliance or the excessive number of drops they need to administer daily is a problem

① brinzolamide 1% with timolol 0.5% eye drops

② dorzolamide 2% with timolol 0.5% eye drops

Preservative free combination products

Restricted to use in patients with a proven sensitivity to preservatives e.g. benzalkonium chloride

dorzolamide 2% with timolol 0.5% preservative free eye drops

Systemic drugs

① acetazolamide tablets, modified release capsules

acetazolamide injection

e) Miotics

① pilocarpine 2%, 4% eye drops

Preservative free miotics

Restricted to use in patients with a proven sensitivity to preservatives e.g. benzalkonium chloride

① pilocarpine 2% preservative free eye drops

11.7 Local anaesthetics

oxybuprocaine eye drops

tetracaine eye drops

lidocaine and fluorescein eyedrops

proxymetacaine eyedrops

11.8 Miscellaneous Ophthalmic Preparations

11.8.1 Tear deficiency, ocular lubricants and astringents

a) Options for patients with mild to moderate dry eyes

① Hypromellose 0.3% eye drops (preservative free preparations excluded)

② Carbomer 980 0.2% (*Clinitas® Carbomer gel*) ophthalmic gel

liquid paraffin preservative free eye ointment (*Laci-lube®*)

Preservative-free formulations are available, for patients in whom the above options are not suitable:

sodium hyaluronate 0.03% preservative free eyedrops (*HYLO-Fresh®*) NB: bottle can be used for upto 6 months after opening

sodium hyaluronate 0.1% preservative free eyedrops (*HYLO-Tear®*) NB: bottle can be used for upto 6 months after opening

Xailin® Night eye ointment preservative free

b) Options for patients with severe dry eyes

sodium hyaluronate 0.2% preservative free eyedrops (*HYLO-Forte®*) NB: bottle can be used for upto 6 months after opening

Hylo-night® preservative free eye ointment

ciclosporin eyedrops (*Ikervis®*) - severe keratitis in adults with dry eye disease which has not improved despite treatment with tear substitutes

11.8.2 Ocular diagnostic and peri-operative preparations and photodynamic treatment

Ocular diagnostic preparations

fluorescein sodium eye drops

Ocular peri-operative drugs

- ☒ H acetylcholine chloride intra-ocular irrigation solution (Miphtel®)
- ☒ apraclonidine eye drops
- ☒ cefuroxime injection (Aprokam®)
- ☒ diclofenac sodium eye drops
- ☒ flurbiprofen sodium eye drops
- ☒ ketorolac trometamol eye drops
- ☒ H Mydrane® (*tropicamide, phenylephrine hydrochloride and lidocaine hydrochloride*) intra-cameral injection
- ☒ nepafenac eye drops
- ☒ H sodium hyaluronate injection (Eyefill C®)
- ☒ H balanced Salt Solution

Subfoveal Choroidal neovascularisation

- ☒ H ranibizumab injection
- ☒ H aflibercept injection (2mg dose)
- ☒ H faricimab injection – *case by case forms required until protocol available*

12: EAR, NOSE and OROPHARYNX

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the ear, nose and oropharynx section on AthenA](#)

12.1 Drugs acting on the ear

12.1.1 Otitis externa

Anti-inflammatory preparations

- ❶ acetic acid 2% solution (EarCalm®) spray
- ❶ betamethasone sodium phosphate 0.1% ear drops

Antibacterial preparations

- ❷ ciprofloxacin 2mg/mL ear drops single dose container (Cetraxal®)

Anti-inflammatory with anti-bacterial preparations

If ear drum not perforated

- ❶ betamethasone 0.1% with neomycin 0.5% (Betnesol-N) eardrops
- ❶ Otomize® (dexamethasone 0.1%, neomycin sulfate 3250units/ml, glacial acetic acid 2%) ear spray
- ❷ ❷ gentamicin 0.3% with hydrocortisone 1% ear drops

If ear drum perforated or suspected perforation – specialist use

Although contra-indicated by manufacturers due to risk of Ototoxicity, ENT-UK Consensus statement 2007 states safe to use in patients with perforated eardrums

- ❶ ❷ Sofradex® (dexamethasone 0.05%, framycetin 0.5%, gramicidin 0.05%) ear drops (off-label use)

Fungal infection suspected

- ❶ clotrimazole 1% solution

12.1.2 Otitis media

- ❷ ciprofloxacin 3mg/mL with dexamethasone 1mg/mL ear drops - treatment of acute otitis media in patients with tympanostomy tubes (AOMT)

12.1.3 Removal of earwax

- ❶ sodium bicarbonate 5% ear drops
- ❶ olive oil ear drops

❶ First choice within class
❷ Hospital use

❷ Second choice within class
❸ Consultant initiation

12.2 Drugs acting on the nose

12.2.1 Drugs used in nasal allergy

- ❶ beclometasone dipropionate 50 microgram per actuation nasal spray
- ❶ mometasone furoate 50 micrograms per actuation nasal spray

Anti-histamines

- ❶ azelastine 0.1% nasal spray

Combination preparation

- ❶ azelastine hydrochloride 137micrograms plus fluticasone propionate 50micrograms per actuation nasal spray (Dymista®)
- ❶ olopatadine hydrochloride/ mometasone furoate monohydrate nasal spray (Ryaltris®)

Nasal polyps

- ❶ ❷ betamethasone sodium phosphate 0.1% nasal drops
- ❶ ❷ fluticasone 400 microgram (Floronase® Nasule®)

12.2.2 Topical nasal decongestants

- ❶ xylometazoline 0.1% nasal drops, nasal spray

Antimuscarinics

- ❶ Ipratropium bromide 21 micrograms per metered dose nasal spray

12.2.3 Nasal preparations for infection

- ❶ Naseptin® nasal cream
- ❶ Mupirocin 2% nasal ointment (Bactroban Nasal®) - eradication of staphylococci only

12.3 Drugs acting on the oropharynx

12.3.1 Drugs for oral ulceration and inflammation

Aphthous ulcers:

- ❶ Benzydamine 0.15% oral rinse or 0.15% oromucosal spray
- ± chlorhexidine 0.2% gluconate mouthwash

Betamethasone mouthwash (0.5mg tablet dissolve in 10ml of water)

Oral ulceration

hydrocortisone sodium succinate 2.5mg lozenge Gelclair® oral gel (use if mouth dry and unable to tolerate Adcortyl®)

- ❸ Third choice within class
- ❷ Specialist initiation

12.3.2 Oropharyngeal anti-infective drugs

Oral thrush

❶ nystatin 100,000 units/ml oral suspension

Miconazole oral gel

12.3.3 Lozenges, sprays and gels

No products recommended

12.3.4 Mouthwashes, gargles and dentifrices

❶ fluoride toothpaste, mouthwash

❶ sodium chloride mouthwash (*edentulous*)

❶ chlorhexidine gluconate mouthwash (*patient is dentate and unable to brush teeth or at high risk of secondary bacterial infections*)

12.3.5 Treatment of dry mouth

❶ Biotene Oral Balance® gel

❶ Saliva stimulating tablets (patients with residual salivary function)

❷ AS Saliva Orthana® spray

13: SKIN

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the skin section on AthenA](#)

13.2.1 Emollients (moisturisers)

① Epimax ointment

Epimax original cream

Epimax oatmeal cream

Epimax isomol gel

QV® cream

white soft paraffin 50% / liquid paraffin 50%

13.2.1.1 Emollient bath and shower preparations

Hydromol® emollient bath and shower emollient

QV® wash, bath oil

Bath and shower preparations with antimicrobials

Oilatum Plus® bath additive

Dermol® 500 & 600 lotion (*excludes Dermol® 200*)

13.2.2 Barrier preparations

See also [Pharmacy Information Notice relating to the use of barrier products \(2022/04\)](#)

① Conotrane® cream

Sudocrem® cream

zinc & castor oil ointment

Skin Protectors

Cavilon® cream, sachet and spray

13.3 Topical local anaesthetics and antipruritics

calamine cream

crotamiton cream

menthol 1% in aqueous cream

☒ difelikefalin injection (as per [SMC2623](#))

13.4 Topical corticosteroids

Mild corticosteroid:

① hydrocortisone 0.5%, 1% cream, ointment

Moderately potent corticosteroid:

clobetasone butyrate 0.05% cream, ointment (*available as generic preparation or branded Eumovate®*)

betamethasone valerate 0.025% (*Betnovate-RD®*) cream, ointment (*note if 100g sizes required, then Betnovate-RD® is the most cost effective option*)

① First choice within class

☒ Hospital use

② Second choice within class

☒ Consultant initiation

Potent corticosteroid:

betamethasone valerate 0.1% cream, ointment (*available as generic preparation or branded Betnovate®*)

fluocinolone acetonide 0.025% (*Synalar®*) gel
mometasone furoate 0.1% cream, ointment, lotion (*available as generic preparation or Elocon®*)

betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% / salicylic acid 3% (*Diprosalic®*) ointment

betamethasone valerate 0.1% (*Betacap®*) scalp solution

Very potent corticosteroid:

clobetasol propionate 0.05% cream, ointment, scalp application (*available as generic preparation or branded Dermovate®*)

Topical corticosteroid with antimicrobials

Mild potency

hydrocortisone 1%, clotrimazole 1% (*Canesten HC®*) cream

hydrocortisone 1%, miconazole 2% (*Daktacort®*) cream, ointment

hydrocortisone 1%, fusidic acid 2% (*Fucidin H®*) cream (*NB: caution with use due to increased risk of antibiotic resistance*)

hydrocortisone 0.5%, nystatin 100,000 units/g (*Timodine®*) cream

Moderate potency

clobetasone butyrate 0.05%, oxytetracycline 3%, nystatin 100,000units/ g (*Trimovate®*) cream

Potent

betamethasone valerate 0.1%, clioquinol 3% cream, ointment

betamethasone valerate 0.1%, fusidic acid 2% (*Fucibet®*) cream (*Note: consider for a maximum of 14 days as longer use increases the risk of antibiotic resistance*)

13.5 Preparations for eczema and psoriasis

13.5.1 Preparations for eczema

ichthammol 1% ointment/ paste

zinc paste bandages

wet wraps using Comfifast bandages

ZipZoc® bandage

③ Third choice within class

☒ Specialist initiation

13.5.2 Preparations for psoriasis

Vitamin D and analogues

calcitriol ointment

calcipotriol ointment

calcipotriol and betamethasone dipropionate ointment, gel (NB: *should only use for a maximum of 4 weeks (scalp) or 8 weeks ("non-scalp" areas), see full formulary for additional notes*)

Tars

Exorex® lotion

Psoriderm® cream

Sebco® scalp ointment

Oral retinoids for psoriasis

acitretin capsules

13.5.3 Drugs affecting the immune response

ciclosporin capsules, oral solution

methotrexate tablet, injection

tacrolimus ointment

Cytokine modulators

adalimumab (*Amgevita® brand of choice*) (as per local protocols; for hidradenitis suppurativa -case by case form requires to be completed until protocol available)

etanercept injection (*Benepali® brand of choice*) (as per local protocols)

13.6 Acne and rosacea

13.6.1 Topical preparations for acne

Benzoyl peroxide and azelaic acid

benzoyl peroxide (use 2.5% or 5% depending on tolerability)

Topical retinoids and related preparations for acne

adapalene cream

adapalene 0.1% and benzoyl peroxide 2.5% (*Epiduo®*) gel

tretinoin 0.025%, clindamycin (as phosphate) 1% (*Treclin®*) gel

Topical antibacterials for acne

Zineryt® topical solution

Duac® Once daily gel

13.6.2 Oral preparations for acne

Oral antibacterials for acne

oxytetracycline

lymecycline

doxycycline

erythromycin

Hormone treatment for acne

Co-cyprindiol (*cyproterone acetate 2mg, ethinylestradiol 35 micrograms*) tablets

Oral retinoid for acne

isotretinoin capsules

13.6.3 Topical preparations for rosacea

azelaic acid (*Finacea®*) gel

metronidazole 0.75% cream, gel

brimonidine gel (*moderate to severe persistent facial erythema associated with rosacea*)

ivermectin cream (*moderate to severe inflammatory lesions of rosacea where other topical treatments are unsuitable or ineffective*).

13.7 Preparations for warts and calluses

Occlusal® application

Salatac® gel

Anogenital warts

podophyllum solution

imiquimod cream *restricted to Sexual Health initiation*

camellia sinensis (green tea leaf extract) (*Catephen®*) ointment – *restricted to Sexual Health initiation*

13.8 Sunscreens and camouflagers

13.8.1 Sunscreen preparations

Only preparations with SPF above 30 should be prescribed and as per [Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances \(ACBS\) criteria](#)

Uvistat® cream (SPF 30 or 50)

Anthelios® Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50+,

First choice within class

Hospital use

Second choice within class

Consultant initiation

Third choice within class

Specialist initiation

Photodamage

- ❶ diclofenac gel 3% (Solaraze®)
- ❷ fluorouracil cream (Efudix®)
- ❸ fluorouracil 0.5% / salicylic acid 10% cutaneous solution (Actikeral®)
- ❹ imiquimod cream (Aldara®)
- ❺ methyl aminolevulinate cream

13.10.5 Preparations for minor cuts and abrasions

magnesium sulphate paste

13.11 Skin cleansers, antiseptics and desloughing agents

Refer to *Control of Infection manual*

13.9 Shampoos and other preparations for scalp and hair conditions

- Capasal® shampoo
- ketoconazole shampoo
- Sebco® scalp ointment

13.11.6 Oxidisers and dyes

- potassium permanganate tablets (refer to separate guidelines)
- hydrogen peroxide cream

Hirsutism

- eflornithine cream

13.12 Antiperspirants

- aluminium chloride hexahydrate

13.10 Anti-infective skin preparations

13.10.1 Anti-bacterial preparations

Topical antibiotics

- mupirocin cream, ointment
- silver sulfadiazine cream
- fusidic acid cream
- metronidazole cream

13.10.2 Antifungal preparations

Yeast infections

- ❶ clotrimazole cream
- ❷ miconazole cream

Dermatophyte infections

- ❶ terbinafine cream
- amorolfine cream, nail lacquer

13.10.3 Antiviral preparations

- aciclovir cream, tablets

13.13.1 Wound management products

Refer to [NHS Ayrshire & Arran Wound Dressings Formulary](#)

13.10.4 Parasiticidal preparations

Refer to local treatment guidelines for further information

Scabies

- permethrin 5% dermal cream
- malathion 0.5% aqueous liquid

Head lice:

- malathion 0.5% aqueous liquid
- dimethicone 4% lotion (Hedrin®)
- dimeticone 92% dual formula spray (NYDA®)

❶ First choice within class
❷ Hospital use

❸ Second choice within class
❹ Consultant initiation

❺ Third choice within class
❻ Specialist initiation

15: ANAESTHESIA

Formulary choices to be used in conjunction with the appropriate NHS Ayrshire & Arran guidelines where available [within the Anaesthesia, Surgery & Acute Pain Service section on AthenA](#)

15.1 General anaesthesia

❶ **S H** sodium citrate liquid

15.1.1 Intravenous anaesthetics

❶ **S H** propofol injection

❷ **S H** ketamine injection

S H thiopental injection

S H etomidate injection

15.1.2 Inhalational anaesthetics

❶ **S H** sevoflurane

❷ **S H** desflurane

S H nitrous oxide

15.1.3 Inhalation analgesia

S H Entonox® or Equanox® (containing 50% nitrous oxide and 50% oxygen)

15.1.3 Antimuscarinic drugs

H atropine sulphate injection

H glycopyrronium bromide injection

H hyoscine hydrobromide injection

15.1.4 Sedative and analgesic peri-operative drugs

15.1.4.1 Benzodiazepines

Pre-operative sedation

H diazepam tablets, oral solution, injection, rectal solution tubes

S H temazepam tablets, oral solution

S H lorazepam tablets

Intravenous sedation (specialist training required)

S H midazolam injection

15.1.4.2 Peri-operative analgesics

Non-opioid analgesics

S H diclofenac sodium injection

S H ketorolac trometamol injection

Opioid analgesics

Also refer to section 4.7

S H alfentanil injection

S H fentanyl injection

S H remifentanil injection

H Paracetamol infusion

15.1.5 Neuromuscular blocking agents

Non-depolarising neuromuscular blocking drugs

❶ **S H** rocuronium bromide injection

❷ **S H** vecuronium bromide

S H atracurium besilate injection

S H mivacurium injection

S H cisatracurium injection

Depolarising neuromuscular blocking drugs

❶ **S H** suxamethonium chloride injection

15.1.6 Drugs for reversal of neuromuscular blockade

❶ **S H** neostigmine with glycopyrronium bromide injection

❷ **S H** sugammadex-injection

15.1.7 Antagonists for central and respiratory depression

Opioid receptor antagonist

❶ naloxone injection

Benzodiazepine antagonist

❶ flumazenil injection

Respiratory stimulants

H doxapram injection

15.1.8 Drugs for malignant hyperthermia

❶ **S H** dantrolene sodium injection

15.2 Local anaesthesia

❶ Tetracaine gel (Ametop®)

❷ Emla® cream (containing lidocaine 2.5% and prilocaine 2.5%)

S H chloroprocaine hydrochloride injection

S H lidocaine injection

S H lidocaine with adrenaline injection

S H lidocaine with phenylephrine

S H prilocaine hydrochloride injection

S H prilocaine hydrochloride (Prilotechal® hyperbaric solution for injection)

S H bupivacaine with glucose (Marcain® Heavy)

S H levobupivacaine

lidocaine patches (post herpetic neuralgia only)

S mepivacaine injection (podiatry use only)

❸ Third choice within class

S Specialist initiation