

## BSW Formulary Update – March 2022

### New and Updated Shared Care Agreements and Prescribing Guidance

- **BSW Management of Infections in Primary Care:**  
[Full antibiotic guidance](#)  
[Quick Ref Guide for adults](#)  
[Quick Ref Guide for children](#)  
All updated in line with NICE [NG91](#) – Otitis media (acute): antimicrobial prescribing
- **BSW Guidance:** [Prescribing for hayfever and allergic rhinitis](#) – this updates and aligns separate documents that were originally written for the individual CCGs. Practices are reminded that **BSW CCG does not support the routine prescribing of preparations for mild to moderate seasonal hay fever or allergic rhinitis on the NHS**. Most preparations available for prescribing for hayfever/allergic rhinitis can be purchased over the counter (OTC) from pharmacies, supermarkets and reputable online retailers.
- **Updated:** [Rifaximin Shared Care Guideline for the reduction in recurrence of episode of overt hepatic encephalopathy \(HE\)](#) Previous versions (RUH/GWH/SFT) have been merged into one BSW SCA.
- **Updated:** [Denosumab Shared Care Guideline for Osteoporosis](#) – Previous versions (RUH/GWH/SFT) have been merged into one BSW SCA. Update includes information for use in males (this is a licensed indication although there is no national or BSW commissioning position for use in males). A reminder is included that the need for continued treatment should be re-evaluated periodically based on the benefits and potential risks of denosumab on an individual patient basis, particularly after 5 or more years of use. Primary care should continue to prescribe after 5 years whilst seeking guidance from specialist teams or referring back for review.

### New additions to BSWformulary

- [Phenazone/lidocaine hydrochloride 40mg/10mg/g \(Otigo®\) eardrops](#) added with **GREEN** TLS for use in line with [NG91](#) and [BSW Management of Infection Guidance for Primary Care](#) – Use in acute otitis media only if an immediate oral antibiotic prescription is not given, and there is no eardrum perforation or otorrhoea.

### Other BSWformulary website updates

- [Alprostadil \(Vitaros®\)](#) and [aviptadil/phentolamine \(Invicorp®\)](#) have been aligned for use across BSW with **AMBER** TLS
- DOACs – The existing [edoxaban entry](#) has been updated to specify edoxaban is first line DOAC for AF where clinically appropriate. A BSW decision aid to support switching patients to edoxaban from other DOACs, in line with the NHSE Investment and Impact Fund (IIF) indicator, is currently being written by local Specialists and will be available shortly.

- Liothyronine 5, 10 and 20 microgram **capsule** formulations are [now available](#) and are significantly more cost-effective than tablet formulation in primary care. Capsules have been added to formulary entry [here](#) as the preferred formulation. FDB are updating SystemOne TPP and we are in the process of updating the [BSW SCA](#) to reflect this change. Acute trusts may still be using tablets under existing procurement contracts. When GPs take on long-term prescribing in primary care, patients should be switched from tablet formulation if used in acute trusts and the prescription should specify capsules. The tablets and capsules are bioequivalent. **Please consider switching existing liothyronine patients from tablets to capsules.**

| Name           | Liothyronine 5microgram Capsules | Liothyronine 10microgram Capsules | Liothyronine 20microgram Capsules |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pack Size      | 28                               | 28                                | 28                                |
| NHS List Price | £55.00                           | £65.00                            | £55.00                            |
| GTIN           | 05060739220174                   | 05060739220150                    | 05060739220167                    |
| Pip-Code       | 1252089                          | 1252097                           | 1252105                           |
| Format         | Hard Capsule                     | Hard Capsule                      | Hard Capsule                      |
| Category       | POM                              | POM                               | POM                               |

- A **non-formulary** entry for [dessicated \(natural\) thyroid extract \(DTE\)](#) products has been included as a reminder that levothyroxine is the standard of care for treating hypothyroidism. DTE are not routinely recommended. Prescribers in primary care should not initiate DTE and should explain the clinical concerns around DTE to patients who ask about it. See SPS evidence review [here](#)

### **What the BSW CCG formulary team are currently working on**

- Working with the BSWCCG Medicines Optimisation Team to review Optimise Profiles in line with BSWformulary. *Please contact [bswccg.prescribing@nhs.net](mailto:bswccg.prescribing@nhs.net) in the first instance to clarify TLS status if you have prescribing queries.*
- Reviewing drugs currently assigned AMBER TLS on BSWformulary.
- Updating [local guidance on SGLT2s in heart failure](#) to incorporate information on empagliflozin in line with its recent NICE technology appraisal.
- Producing a BSW decision aid to support switching patients to edoxaban from other DOACs, in line with NHSE Investment and Impact Fund (IIF) indicator

*The BSW joint formulary remains under construction and is designed to be an evolving, dynamic resource. We are working to ensure the messages on GP prescribing systems are in line with the joint formulary. If you discover information you believe to be inaccurate or misleading, or for further information, email [bswccg.formulary@nhs.net](mailto:bswccg.formulary@nhs.net)*