

To contact NHS BSW ICB Medicines Optimisation Team:

✉ bswicb.prescribing@nhs.net

Website: <https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/>

BSW Area Prescribing Committee (APC) Updates

All recent decisions made by the BSW APC can be read in full [here](#) or in the newsfeed of the [BSWformulary homepage](#)

New and Updated Shared Care Agreements and Prescribing Guidance

- **NEW - BSW SCA for Guanfacine for the treatment of ADHD in Adults.** Used in line with NICE NG87 as a third-line option (off-label use) on the advice of a tertiary ADHD service. *Note that an update from BSW lead mental health commissioner is expected to follow soon on the ongoing work around the local commissioning arrangements for patients with ADHD transitioning out of paediatric services and patients seen by private providers.*
- **NEW - BSW SCA for Stiripentol for Dravet Syndrome in children from 3yrs to adulthood.** Used in line with NICE NG217 and on the advice of a tertiary epilepsy service. *Note that BSW APC recognises stiripentol is an expensive treatment, but patient numbers are expected to be extremely low.*
- **UPDATED – BSW HRT Formulary treatment options and pathway.** Update includes information on National HRT pre-payment certificate and updated sections on off-license prescribing and useful links.
- **UPDATED – Management of Infection Guidance for primary care.** [Full guidance](#) and [QRG for children](#) amendments made to the Scarlet Fever penicillin allergy antibiotics choice and course duration as per CKS.
- **UPDATED – SGLT2 Prescribing Information - all indications.** Guidance updated to clarify dosing in renal impairment in line with manufacturers Summaries of Product Characteristics.
- **UPDATED - DOACs for DVT and PE in adults: local pathways and prescribing criteria.** Updated with clearer introductory statement reminding prescribers that edoxaban should NOT be used as a first line treatment for VTE. Also includes updated contact details for specialist teams and links to local hospital treatment pathways.
- **UPDATED – BSW Sharps bin guidance.** Updated to include CGM consumables.

Other amendments to BSWformulary

- Sunsense Ultra range discontinued [Formulary \(bswformulary.nhs.uk\)](#)
- Fluocinolone acetonide 0.025% with clioquinol 3% (Synalar C®) discontinued [Formulary \(bswformulary.nhs.uk\)](#)
- Dithranol (Dithrocream®) range discontinued [Formulary \(bswformulary.nhs.uk\)](#)
- DMSO dimethyl sulphoxide bladder instillation – moved to non-formulary, no longer used locally. Sodium chondroitin bladder instillation (Uracyst®) discontinued [Formulary \(bswformulary.nhs.uk\)](#)
- Pholcodine-containing cough/cold medicines. Moved to non-formulary following withdrawal from UK market [Formulary \(bswformulary.nhs.uk\)](#)

££££ Drug Switch of the Month -- Fostair pMDI (Beclometasone/formeterol) 100/6 & 200/6 to Luforbec pMDI 100/6 & 200/6 £££££

Prescribing Beclometasone/formeterol (Fostair) pMDI as the branded generic Luforbec pMDI could make just over a 30% saving! It is now BSW's **first choice** ICS/LABA pMDI for asthma and COPD and **where clinically appropriate** BSW supports the switching of new and existing Fostair pMDI patients to Luforbec pMDI. (Please remember that the **200/6 strength is licensed for asthma only and not COPD**. Please **DO NOT** switch patients using Fostair Nexthaler as that is a different device!).

Plus, as an added bonus it is **certified carbon neutral** by offsetting.

Remember to **complete and submit the cost savings** recording template to bswicb.prescribing@nhs.net

Did you know ? SPS resources

[Using bisphosphonates with proton pump inhibitors \(PPIs\)](#) (Published 4 April 2023)

Although no interaction between bisphosphonates and PPIs is documented, the increased **risk of fractures** when given together should be reviewed and managed.

To sign up for **weekly SPS updates** such as this register [here](#) and tick box to receive updates , including regular newsletters.

FREE webinar: Audits as an antimicrobial stewardship tool

Join TARGET and RCGP for a free webinar. Register [here](#). **When? Thursday 18th May 2023, 18:30-19:30, Online**

This webinar will cover:

- Using audits as part of a wider action plan to support positive change, increase adherence to guidelines and reduce inappropriate antibiotic prescribing
- Audits help identify areas for improvement and areas to celebrate
- Example of carrying out an antibiotic audit using a TARGET audit template

Who is it for?

Primary care medical practitioners, including, but not limited to:

- GPs
- Nurses
- Clinical/ practice pharmacists
- Medicines optimisation teams

Ophthalmic Drug Shortages

Ophthalmology colleagues have alerted us to increasing enquiries from primary care where patients are experiencing difficulties in obtaining certain ophthalmic drugs, including Monopost® (preservative free latanoprost). As an interim measure, local specialists consider there is very low risk in switching to an alternative preservative free prostaglandin analogue for one month, as suggested in the RCOPTH college advice here [Drugs Shortages | The Royal College of Ophthalmologists \(rcophth.ac.uk\)](#)

BSW medicines Optimisation team support primary care to make this change as an interim measure to avoid treatment delays. If the patient specifically objects/ rejects the alternative, advice should be sought from a glaucoma consultant on alternative *treatment options*.

Medicines Optimisation website

Updated documents

OTC Hay fever – patient advice [OTC-Hay-Fever-patient-advice-leaflet](#)

BSW Prescribing 2023-24 Savings Recommendations Prescribe Well – Spend Less (April 2023) [Prescribe-Well-Spend-Less-document \(April 2023\)](#)

Delivering a net zero NHS-

[Greener NHS](#) As the NHS works towards reaching the net zero ambition, there are a few initiatives that we wanted to draw your attention to :

- [PenCycle](#) - prefilled insulin pen recycling scheme available to set up in pharmacies.
- TerraCycle offer a variety of [recycling boxes](#) and [waste collection programmes](#), including [PPE recycling](#).
- [Avon Needs Trees](#) – tree planting days available in the local area.
- Superdrug [blister pack recycling](#).
- Chiesi [toolkit](#) for setting up an inhaler recycling scheme (following 'Take AIR' pilot).
- Environmentally Sustainable Healthcare [e-learning](#).
- The [PrescQIPP work plan](#) for 2023-25 includes a focus on sustainability in medicines optimisation.
- The [Greener NHS Bulletin](#) is available for anyone that would like to know more about the progress being made towards net zero.
- Further resources are available from the [RCGP](#) and [Centre for Sustainable Healthcare](#).
- Chiesi offer free inhaler training, as well as various resources on [Chiesi air](#) and [The Lung Letters](#) websites, which may help to promote inhaler compliance.

Localisation of Ardens Templates

The screenshot shows a formulary template for DPP-4 inhibitors. It lists several drugs with their respective strengths and dosages, and their localisation status based on eGFR. For example, Atoglipitin has three options: 6.25mg od (greyed out), 12.5mg od (highlighted), and 25mg od (greyed out). Linagliptin has 5mg od (highlighted). Saxagliptin has 5mg od (greyed out) and 2.5mg od (greyed out). Sitagliptin has 25mg od (greyed out), 50mg od (highlighted), and 100mg od (greyed out). Vildagliptin has 50mg od (greyed out) and 50mg bd (greyed out). The form also includes a section for 'Renal function checked' and 'Override local DPP4i formulary'.

We have recently started the process of localising some of the Arden formulary templates, so they more closely reflect our [BSW Formulary](#). This will take some time and there's no time frame for when this work will be completed. The overall aim is to localise all the Ardens formulary templates. From the example below you can see that the non-formulary DPP-4 Inhibitors have been 'greyed' out so its clearer on which are our formulary options.

In the event that you need to prescribe a non-formulary option, remember it is possible to override the formulary by ticking the **highlighted box** on any formulary template.

BSW ICB Anticholinergic Burden Score Calculator

The screenshot shows the BSW ICB Anticholinergic Burden Score Calculator interface. It displays the 'Anticholinergic Cognitive Burden Scale' and a list of 'Current All Meds' with their respective scores. The total score is shown as 3. The interface includes a search bar, a list of drugs, and a 'Calculate' button.

You may be aware that in 2022, the BSW ICB Medicines Optimisation team published an **anticholinergic burden (ACB)** score calculator in SystmOne. Use of this calculator was included in the 2022/23 Prescribing Incentive Scheme.

Ardens have recently published their own Anticholinergic Cognitive Burden Scale template, with similar functionality to the BSW ICB version, enabling users to calculate and record a patient's ACB score:

Action - Now the Ardens version is available, the BSW ICB ACB score calculator will **be retired on 31st May 2023** and **will not be available** to practices after this date.

Please **update** your F12 launcher menu, toolbar icons and any other shortcuts to use the new Ardens template.

For information - Update on the funding of Inclisiran (Leqvio®)

NHS E has updated the reimbursement for Inclisiran , full details can be found [here](#)
See section 2.3 -Inclisiran is available in general practice as a personally administered item reimbursed via an FP10 prescription and is listed in the Drug Tariff (Part VIII C) at a Reimbursed Amount of £55 (**£50 from 01 April 2023**) per injection (the £45 Nominal Charge identified at 2.2 plus £10 (**£5 from 01 April 2023**)). **BSW ICB updated guidance for Primary Care** can be found [here](#)