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

BSW Area Prescribing Committee (APC) Updates

New additions to BSWformulary

- [Travoprost PF 40microgram/ml eyedrops in 0.1mL unit dose](#) (Visutrax®) – added with **GREEN** TLS as a cost-effective option where PF prostaglandin analogue eyedrop is required. *Note: Local guide for [pharmacological management of glaucoma in primary care](#) under review.*
- [Finerenone tablets 10mg and 20mg](#) – added to formulary in line with [NICE TA877](#) with **AMBER** (initiated) TLS. Finerenone may be prescribed in primary care following specialist initiation and stabilisation. *Note: TLS will be reviewed pending prescribing guidance.*
- [Maribavir tablets 400mg](#) (Livtency®) – added with **RED** TLS in line with NICE TA860 and as per NHSE service specification.

New and Updated Shared Care Agreements/Change in Traffic Light Status

- [Guanfacine tablets](#) (Intuniv®) for ADHD in paediatrics – change TLS from RED to **AMBwSCA** in line with updated [BSW SCA for ADHD in children and adolescents](#).
- [Colesevelam 625mg tablets](#) – due to better familiarity in primary care following stock shortages with alternatives, the historic RUH and SFT SCAs have been retired and colesevelam for the treatment of diarrhoea associated with bile salt malabsorption (off label) in patients unable to tolerate colestyramine or where colestyramine is unavailable is assigned a **GREEN** TLS. *Note: colesevelam remains non-formulary for hypercholesterolaemia.*

Prescribing Guidance (includes alignment of guidance for BSW)

[BSW Guide to Electronic Tools to Support Creatinine Clearance Calculation for DOAC](#) – this standardised local guide aims to achieve consistency across BSW when calculating doses for DOACs. Article on next page.

Minor amendments to Netformulary

- [Malaria prophylaxis and travel health advice](#) – document updated.
- [Adrenaline auto-injectors](#) – updated entry following recent MHRA Emerade® safety alert.

What the BSW CCG formulary team are currently working on

Reviewing the national NHSE [Shared Care Protocols](#) for implementation locally. The BSW APC has prioritised adoption of these according to existing local protocols (and their date of review) and patient safety factors.

- Updating BSW Shared Care Agreements for Subcutaneous methotrexate.
- Reviewing the contraceptive chapter of the BSW formulary.
- Working with colleagues across RUH/SFT/GWH to update information in our Shared Care Agreement on blood monitoring in females using testosterone as part of HRT regime

Addition of **Improving Medicines Value** page on MO website

The new [Improving Medicines Value](#) webpage is aimed at health and care professionals working across all sectors in BSW to highlight any **national** or **local resources** to promote and support **cost-effective prescribing practice**.

[Medicines Optimisation website](#)

New documents

Change default settings for prescription tokens- [Change default settings for prescription tokens](#)
BSW Guide – Electronic Tools to Support Creatinine Clearance Calculation for DOACs-[Electronic Tools to Support Creatinine Clearance Calculation](#)

Updated documents

BSW Prescribing 2023-24 Savings Recommendations Prescribe Well – Spend Less (June 2023)-
[Prescribe Well Spend Less \(June 2023\)](#)
Prescription Duration Statement- [Prescription Duration Statement](#)
Medication Reviews- [Medication Reviews](#)

Live well with pain whilst reducing and preventing harm from opioids.

Local clinicians Dr Arpit Srivastava and Dilesh Khandhia recently met with the SW Clinical Senate Council to explore how people in the South-West could be supported to live well with pain while reducing and preventing harm from opioids. The Senate Considered three key questions focusing on changing clinicians prescribing behaviour, better managing the interface between community and specialist services and better support for people to live well with pain. Recommendations from the senate's report are designed to give impetus to improving collaboration between community and inpatient services, and ensure resources are put to most effective use. Some recommendations were relevant to local health and care management organisations and were raised with South-West Integrated Care Board (ICB) medical directors and NHSE Medication Safety leads. Partner organisations working with people living with chronic pain will also find the recommendations of interest.

Recommendations **3, 4, 5, and 10** are particularly of interest to primary care, covering:

- Analgesic Stewardship which facilitates rational use, monitoring and discontinuation of analgesic medicines.
- The influence of continuity of care on prescribing.
- Empowering the person living with pain to self-manage their pain, educating them so they understand the risks of opioids, lack of long-term benefit and sharing development of care plans with them.

Speaking with people living with pain from the start as to expectations and duration of medication use.

Find the full report and associated presentations [here](#)

Have you seen?

NICE have partially updated [CG181 Cardiovascular disease: risk assessment and reduction, including lipid modification](#) accompanied by a revised and updated [Patient Decision Aid - Should I take a statin?](#) This practical resource includes a tool for patients to consider what is and is not important to them in CVD prevention and it also has visual representations showing risks/benefits of CVD prevention treatments.

Cost Saving switch of the month: Aerochamber to Easychamber

| Product | Cost | Switched To | Cost | Saving |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|--------|
| Aerochamber Plus | 5.21 | Easychamber Spacer | 3.98 | 1.23 |
| Aerochamber Plus with adult mask | 8.69 | Easychamber spacer with adult mask | 6.59 | 2.10 |
| Aerochamber Plus with child mask | 8.69 | Easychamber spacer with child mask | 6.55 | 2.14 |
| Aerochamber Plus with infant mask | 8.69 | Easychamber spacer with infant mask | 6.53 | 2.16 |

Note - Easychamber spacers are also anti-static, **dishwasher safe** and have **detachable masks**.

Correction - Please note that there was a spelling mistake in [May's MOP UP](#). **Aacomer** eye drops were spelt with only one 'A', when in fact it should have two. Apologies if this has caused any confusion.

Direct- Acting Oral Anticoagulant DOAC Update

NEW - BSW APC has recently approved a guide for the use of **Electronic Tools to Support Creatinine Clearance Calculation for DOACs**. In the absence of any national guidance on this area, this guide hopes to achieve consistency across the local healthcare system

Key Points:

- Always use *creatinine clearance* for direct-acting oral anticoagulants (DOAC) dose calculations and **NOT** eGFR
- Use either the **SystemOne renal disease calculator** or **MD+Calc** for calculating creatinine clearance as per your current practice. Both use the same dose adjustment algorithm for underweight/overweight/obese patients.
- When interpreting creatine clearance, ensure the renal function is in a steady state and an up-to-date weight and serum creatinine are documented. Take into account the trend of creatine clearance changes rather than point estimated value while making any relevant dosage adjustment.

See linked guide [here](#) for further details on key recommendations.

The **MHRA** has published a **new drug safety update** - [Direct-acting oral anticoagulants \(DOACs\): Paediatric formulations; reminder of dose adjustments in patients with renal impairment](#). The alert discusses the availability of paediatric-specific formulations, dosing and restrictions to the use of DOACs by renal function. **Rivaroxaban granules for oral suspension** are indicated for the treatment of venous thromboembolism (VTE) and prevention of VTE recurrence in patients younger than 18 years. See BSW formulary [here](#) and [SmPC](#) for further information.

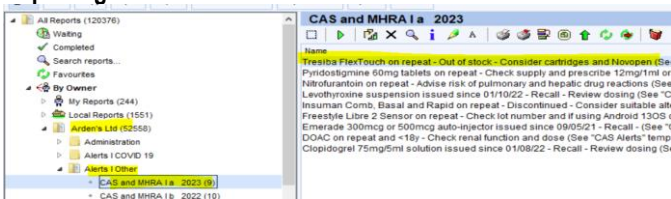
Patients and caregivers should be **counselled** about the reconstitution and dosing instruction to reduce the risk of medication errors. An educational video showing how to prepare and administer rivaroxaban can be accessed via the patient alert card for rivaroxaban granules for oral suspension (video [online](#)). **Report** suspected adverse drug reactions associated with DOACs on a [Yellow Card](#), including thromboembolic or haemorrhagic events.

ASK - BSW MO team would like to encourage colleagues to **vote and comment** on local SystemOne TPP development request Ref: 2f730000 **Update the presentation of Renal Disease Calculator. Present input parameters with record date** It can be found here: **System> Development Request > Input 2f730000 into the reference code box**

Medicines supply notification (MSN) Tresiba® FlexTouch® (Insulin degludec) 100units/ml pens

- **Tresiba® FlexTouch® (Insulin degludec) 100units/ml pens** will be out of stock from **August 2023 until January 2024**.
- **Tresiba Penfill® (Insulin degludec) 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml cartridges** remain available and can support increased demand.

To support practices in locating patients with a view to switching **Ardens** have created a search The search can be located here - **Reporting> Clinical Reporting> Ardens Ltd> Alerts Other> CAS and MHRA 2023 > Tresiba FlexTouch on repeat- Out of stock**,



See [MSN](#) and [Formulary](#) for further details
Tresiba Penfill® cartridges can be used with the **NovoPen 6® and NovoPen Echo Plus® devices**. It should be noted that **Tresiba® FlexTouch® U100 pens** are calibrated to adjust the dose in **1-unit increments** and:

- NovoPen 6® dials in **1-unit increments**
- NovoPen Echo Plus® dials in **½ unit increments**.

Ensure that patients have access to a suitable device and that the patient is **thoroughly counselled** on how to use this device.

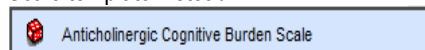
Caution Tresiba products may be available in **higher strengths**, **Take care in product selection** and patient counselling. See [DSU](#) for further information.

Deprescribing resources update

- [STOPP/START version 3](#) (STOPP = Screening Tool of Older Person's Prescriptions; START = Screening Tool to Alert doctors to Right Treatment) was published at the end of May, and now contains [133 STOPP criteria & 57 START criteria](#) – 67% more criteria than in version
- The [PrescQIPP IMPACT bulletin](#) version 3.0 (IMPACT = Improving Medicines and Polypharmacy Appropriateness Clinical Tool) was released in April, but a further update is in progress to reflect the new STOPP/START criteria. It brings together advice from many different sources in one place and aims to be a practical tool to aid medication reviews. To learn more about using the IMPACT tool in medication reviews, including how to use the online version to produce individual patient medicines priority lists, register for this [PrescQIPP webinar](#) on June 28th 1-2pm.
- [NICE has published a new decision aid](#) for patients considering stopping or reducing a benzodiazepine or z-drug.
- The Canadian Deprescribing Network has some great new [resources](#) for prescribers, including [videos](#) on deprescribing sleeping tablets & proton pump inhibitors.

Anticholinergic Burden Score calculator in SystemOne

From 1st June the **BSW ICB anticholinergic burden score calculator** has been **retired** from SystemOne. **NB** update any existing toolbar icons, F12 favourites and other shortcuts to use the **Ardens Anticholinergic Cognitive Burden Scale** template instead:



Please continue to record and review anticholinergic burden as part of medication reviews.