

FROM	TO	Recommendation: see SystmOne/TPP searches under Medicines Management Reporting	Link to website statement
Technician switches			
Aerochamber	Easychamber	All models of Easychamber. (Dishwasher safe, antistatic, removeable mask)	
Alphagan	Brimonidine	Prescribe as generic – all glaucoma eye drops, single and combination preparations	
Any bath preparation, bath oil, shower gel or wash	STOP (Can offer Epimax or Isomol as soap substitute)	Stop use - use moisturising emollient as soap substitute (for all patients including young children)	BSW Emollient Prescribing Guidance for Adults and Children
Arimidex or Femara	Anastrozole or Letrozole		
Asacol	Octasa		
Aveeno	Epimax Oatmeal Cream	Switch to cost-effective creams, including Cetraben. Do not switch in leg ulcer patients. Stop moisturising creams used occasionally for dry skin patients	BSW Emollient Prescribing Guidance for Adults and Children
Azopt	Brinzolamide	Prescribe as generic – all glaucoma eye drops, single and combination preparations	
Blephasol, Blephagel, Blephaclean	Stop or purchase OTC	Stop eyelid hygiene products	
BuTrans or buprenorphine patch	Bunov (Second line: Sevodyne if Bunov not tolerated or is unavailable)		
Buprenorphine, Butec, Butrans & Reletrans patches	Sevodyne 15microgram patch		

2023/24 Savings Recommendations

Prescribe Well – Spend Less



- 15microgram strength ONLY			
Calcichew 1000/800, Calcichew D3 chewable	Accrete D3 One a day/theiCal- D3 chewable tablets (OD dosing) OR Accrete D3 film coated tablets (BD dosing). Adcal caplets can be used for Dosettes.	Most cost-effective brands; switch if discharged on Adcal D3 chewable formulation.	
Calcipotriol 0.005%/Betamethasone Dipropionate 0.05% cream or gel	Calcipotriol 0.005%/Betamethasone Dipropionate 0.05% ointment	Gel/cream/foam are included on BSWformulary as second line options to support compliance with treatment when ointment is not suitable	Formulary (bswformulary.nhs.uk)
Carmellose 0.5% PF (Carmize 0.5% eye drops/Cellusan light 0.5% eye drops PF/Evolve carmellose 0.5% eye drops PF/Ocu-lube carmellose 0.5% eye drops PF/Ophtholique 0.5% eye drops/Celluvisc 0.5% eye drops 0.4ml unit dose/Xailin fresh 0.5% eye drops 0.4ml unit dose PF/Tearvis 0.5% eye drops)	Aaqeye carmellose 0.5% eye drops	Avoid switching if a very severe case of dry eyes	Dry Eye Guidance July 2023
Cerazette	Desogestrel	If not on repeat, leave note for next prescriber to switch	
Cialis (20mg or 10mg)	Tadalafil		ED guidance
Co-careldopa (10mg/100mg and 25mg/250mg)	Sinemet		
Co-codamol 30/500mg tablets, Zapain tablets, Solpadol caplets	Emcozin		
Creams and emollients; Diprobace, Cetraben, E45, Aqueous cream	Epimax (or ExCetra for leg ulcer care)	Switch to cost-effective creams, including Cetraben. Do not switch in leg ulcer patients. Stop moisturising	BSW Emollient Prescribing Guidance for Adults and Children

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		creams used occasionally for dry skin patients	
Cosopt	Dorzolamide/Timolol	Prescribe as generic – all glaucoma eye drops, single and combination preparations	
Crestor	Rosuvastatin		
Doublebase gel	Epimax Isomol gel		BSW Emollient Prescribing Guidance for Adults and Children
Dovobet ointment /Dalonev ointment	Generic Calcipotriol 0.005%/Betamethasone Dipropionate 0.05% ointment	Dalonev discontinued January 2023	
Durogesic or fentanyl patch	Mezolar Matrix (or Matrifen)		
Vagifem	Estradiol 10microgram vaginal tablets		
Ethosuximide	Emeside		
Exelon or rivastigmine patch	Alzest		
Flexitol Heel Balm (this is twice daily application)	Dermatonics Once Heel Balm	Diabetic foot	
Felodipine	Delofine	Non formulary; existing patients only.	
Femodene or Katya or Akizza (Ethinylestradiol 30mcg / gestodene 75 mcg)	Millinette 30microgram/75microgram tablets		
Femodette or Sunya or Akizza (Ethinylestradiol 20mcg / gestodene 75 mcg)	Millinette 20microgram/75microgram tablets		
Forceval	Valupak Multivitamin and Mineral One a Day (Dialysis and Bariatric and Gastric surgery patients are exempted from this switch)	Ensure you pick the correct Valupak product	
Fortisip bottle	Altraplen Energy		https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/07/BSW-ONS-Supplements-minor-update-July-2023-v2.pdf
Ensure Plus Milkshake Style	Altraplen Energy		https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/07/BSW-ONS-Supplements-minor-update-July-2023-v2.pdf

Fresubin Energy	Altraplen Energy		https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/07/BSW-ONS-Supplements-minor-update-July-2023-v2.pdf
Fortijuice	Aymes Actagain Juice	*Juice style supplements are not suitable for people with diabetes – can flag to original prescriber or alternatively prescribing support dietitians bswicb.prescribingsupportdietitians@nhs.net	https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/07/BSW-ONS-Supplements-minor-update-July-2023-v2.pdf
Ensure Plus Juice	Aymes Actagain Juice	*Juice style supplements are not suitable for people with diabetes – can flag to original prescriber or alternatively prescribing support dietitians bswicb.prescribingsupportdietitians@nhs.net	https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/07/BSW-ONS-Supplements-minor-update-July-2023-v2.pdf
fresubin Jucy	Aymes Actagain Juice	*Juice style supplements are not suitable for people with diabetes – can flag to original prescriber or alternatively prescribing support dietitians bswicb.prescribingsupportdietitians@nhs.net	https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/07/BSW-ONS-Supplements-minor-update-July-2023-v2.pdf
Galantamine	Galzemic (or Gazylan brand if Galzemic brand not available)		
Hypromellose Eye drops 0.3% (Artelac 0.32% eye drops/Hypromellose 0.32% eye drops/Ocufresh 0.3% eye drops/Lumicare hypromellose 0.3% eye drops)	Aapromel (non PF) eye drops 0.3%	Avoid switching if a very severe case of dry eyes	Dry Eye Guidance July 2023
Ibugel 10% or ibuprofen gel, Voltarol gel, Feldene gel	Fenbid 5% gel	10% Ibuprofen gel is non formulary and should not be prescribed. Suggest purchased OTC (or prescribe 5% gel if patient declines and prescriber feels there is clinical need)	

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ISMN 60mg MR tab	Monomil		
Lipitor	Atorvastatin		
Losec or Nexium	Omeprazole or Esomeprazole		
Marvelon or Gedarel (Ethinylestradiol 30mcg / desogestrel 150mcg)	Cimizt		
Mercilon or Gedarel (Ethinylestradiol 20mcg / desogestrel 150mcg)	Bimizza		
Microgynon or E Levin or Ambelina or Ovranette (Ethinylestradiol 30mcg / levonorgestrel 150mcg)	Rigevidon		
Mirapexin or Pramipexole MR	Pipexus		
Movelat	Purchase OTC (or swap to Fenbid (ibuprofen) if appropriate)	Advise purchase topical rubefaciants OTC	
Macrogol 3350 (Transisoft) or Movicol Adult	Laxido Orange (Cosmocol if Plain or Lemon and Lime),	Transisoft is non-formulary - This preparation contains no electrolytes and is significantly more expensive at £129.81 for 28 sachets than formulary choice generic macrogol compound products in Primary Care.	
Movicol Paediatric	Cosmocol (if orange, lemon, lime flavours), Laxido (if plain),		
Nasonex	Mometasone		
Omeprazole tablets	Omeprazole capsules		
Oxycodone IR	Shortec		
Oxycodone MR	Longtec		
Pramipexole MR - all strengths	Pipexus MR		
Premium price generics (These appear on system as	Plain generic		Use Open Prescribing for PPGs not on search

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drug, strength (Manufacturer)			
Reminyl or galantamine XL	Galzemic (or Gazylan brand if Galzemic brand not available)		
Requip or ropinirole MR (2mg, 4mg and 8mg only)	Ipinnia XL		
Seroquel XL or any brand of quetiapine MR	Brancico XL (line: Zaluron XL If Brancico not tolerated)		
Sertraline 50mg or 100mg tablets	Contulen		
Simple eye ointment	Hyo-Night		
Sodium Chloride 5% eye drops	Sodieye PF 5% eye drops		
Sodium Chloride 9% nasal drops	Purchase OTC. If prescribed, please prescribe as Orbis brand	Should be OTC in first instance. Otherwise prescribe as Orbis brand	
Sodium cromoglicate eye drops	Stop or purchase OTC	Advise purchase sodium cromoglicate eye drops for rhinitis/allergies	
Sodium hyaluronate 0.1% PF (Hyo Tear 0.1% PF/Ocu-lube HA 0.1% PF/Xailin tears HA 0.1% PF/Viscotears HA 0.1% PF/Eyeaze 0.1% PF/Hy-Opti 0.1% PF/Clinoptic HA 0.1% PF)	Aactive HA 0.1%	Avoid switching if a very severe case of dry eyes	Dry Eye Guidance July 2023
Sodium hyaluronate 0.2% PF (Clinitas 0.2% eye drops 0.5ml unit dose PF/Clinitas multi 0.2% PF/Evolve HA 0.2% PF/Hyo-Forte 0.2% PF/Ocu-lube HA 0.2% PF/Xailin HA 0.2%/ Xailin plus HA 0.2% PF/Hydramed 0.2% PF)	Aaqeye HA 0.2% eye drops	Avoid switching if a very severe case of dry eyes	Dry Eye Guidance July 2023

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Sodium hyaluronate 0.4% PF (Clinitas 0.4% eye drops 0.5ml unit dose PF/Clinitas multi 0.4% PF/Hydramed forte 0.4% PF/Hydramed forte 0.4% eye drops 0.5ml unit dose/EyezXL 0.4% PF/Sodium Hyaluronate 0.4% eye drops PF)	Eyeeze 0.4% eye drops PF	Avoid switching if a very severe case of dry eyes	Dry Eye Guidance July 2023
Stalevo	Sastravi		
Sukkarto SR 500mg, 1000mg	Metformin MR 500mg, 1g	Sukkarto (500mg, 1000mg strengths) is now more expensive than generic metformin MR. (NB Sukkarto SR 750mg remains more cost effective than metformin MR 750mg)	
Sulfasalazine 500mg tablets - plain and enteric coated	Salazopyrin 500mg plain tablets and Salazopyrin 500mg EN tablets	Salazopyrin is more cost effective than the generic sulfasalazine in both the plain and enteric coated forms	
Tolterodine XL 2mg, 4mg	Tolthen XL 2mg, 4mg		
Unifine, Clickfine	GlucorX fine point or BD Viva	Use insulin pen needles <£6/box	
Venlafaxine MR caps & tabs (37.5mg, 225mg only)	Vencarm XL		
Vesicare	Solifenacin		
Viagra	Sildenafil		
Xalacom	Latanoprost & Timolol	Prescribe as generic – all glaucoma eye drops, single and combination preparations	
Xalatan	Latanoprost	Prescribe as generic – all glaucoma eye drops, single and combination preparations	
Yasmin or Lucette or Ellanite (Ethinylestradiol 30 mcg / drospirenone 3 mg)	Yacella		

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Zyprexa velotab or Olanzapine oral lyophilisates	Olanzapine tablets (or use orodispersible s/f)		
Pharmacist switches/ input then technician to switch			
Alendronic acid 70mg effervescent tablets	Alendronic acid 70mg tablets	Effervescent tablets should be reserved for patients with swallowing difficulties	
Alendronic acid 70mg/100ml oral solution SF	Alendronic acid 70mg effervescent tablets	Effervescent tablets are more cost effective than the oral solution	
Aviva, FreeStyle Optium, OneTouch, Compact, Active	T2: True Metrix, T1: As per specialist, but Glucomen Areo 2k meter is recommended. (Aviva and Freestyle Optium may be required by very complex T1 patients)	Use glucose test strips <£7.50/pack of 50	Blood Glucose Monitoring in Diabetes
Fesoterodine / Darifenacin	Deprescribe or Solifenacin	Non-formulary Antimuscarinic's	
Fostair (Budesonide/Formoterol) 100mcg/6mcg and 200mcg/6mcg dose inhaler	Luforbec (Budesonide/Formoterol) 100mcg/6mcg and 200mcg/6mcg dose inhaler	Luforbec is pMDI ICS/LABA brand of choice in BSW; more cost effective vs Fostair. NB 200mcg strength only licensed for asthma not COPD	https://bswtogether.org.uk/medicines/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/01/BSW-Asthma-Inhaler-Prescribing-Guidance-in-Adults-Jan-2023-1.pdf
Gabapentin 1 x 800mg tablet	Replace with 2 x Gabapentin 400mg capsules		OAB guidance
Glucose test strips: Stop if unnecessary (not on insulin, or sulphonylureas)	STOP		Blood Glucose Monitoring in Diabetes
Imigran	Sumatriptan	Review, and if no specific reason why Imigran is being prescribed, switch to generic	
Keppra	Levetiracetam		Category 3 Antiepileptic
Lamictal tablets	Lamotrigine		
Lidocaine patches	If can't be stopped, prescribe Ralvo brand	Stop prescribing Low Value Medicine	

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Liothyronine tablets 5 microgram, 10microgram,	Liothyronine Capsules 5 microgram, 10microgram,		
Melatonin (immediate release) 3mg capsules	Adaflex (immediate release) 3mg tablets		
Naproxen GR, effervescent, suspension	Naproxen standard	Avoid GR and liquid versions unless necessary	
Qvar 50 &100 (Note: NOT the Autohaler or Easi-breathe)	Kelhale 50 & 100 (Same device. Dose counter to help patient use the full inhaler and order timely)		
Relvar 92 & Incruse	Trelegy	Switch to single inhaler. Higher strength Relvar not on searches as indicated for asthma not COPD. Consider carefully whether patient truly needs triple therapy or LABA/LAMA	BSW COPD Guidance (Aug 2019)
Seretide 500/50 accuhaler	Relvar 92	COPD guidance only recommends low dose ICS. Seretide Accuhaler not on asthma guidance. For Asthmatic patients, consider this switch patient carefully and assess	
Seretide Evohaler, Fluticasone/salmeterol 250/25 or 125/25 MDI	AirFlusal (all fluticasone/salmeterol are non-formulary in asthma – do NOT start new patients). Fostair: For COPD patients who need a pMDI	Prescribe by BRAND – avoid generic combination inhalers. Switch Seretide 250/25 or 125/25 to equivalent BRAND. Involve respiratory nurses in decision making/copy them in	Diagnosed Adult Asthma: Guidance on adjusting treatment
Sertraline 28 x 25mg tablets	Replace with Sertraline 14 x 50mg tablets	Replace sertraline 25mg tablets with 25mg dose achieved by taking half a 50mg tablet or a 50mg tablet taken on alternate days. Sertraline 25mg are not in the Drug tariff and not included on BSW Formulary. The only indications for this strength is	

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		the initial 7 days dose titration in adults for panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder and social anxiety disorder and in children for obsessive compulsive disorder.	
Symbicort, DuoResp, Budesonide/formoterol 100/6, 200/6 or 400/12	Fobumix 80/4.5, 160/4.5 and 320/9 (Symbicort or DuoResp non-formulary)	Switch and prescribe by brand	
Tiotropium 18mcg or Spiriva DPI (not Respimat)	Braltus	Switch as per COPD guidance	
Unexpectedly expensive items	Run search to see if any of these items are being prescribed. For example: amitriptyline 10mg/5ml, but 25mg/ 5ml and 50mg / 5ml are a lot more cost-effective		
Vitamin B compound (standard & strong)	Deprescribe	Change in guidance, Vit B compound no longer recommended for alcoholism. N.B. Please ensure there is an adequate thiamine daily dose of 200mg to 300mg	
Prescriber switches only			
Cialis OD (2.5mg or 5mg)	Sildenafil or Tadalafil (once a week or on demand PRN)		
Ciprofibrate	After review switch to a more cost effective fibrate or another alternative treatment	Ciprofibrate is non formulary	
Co-Proxamol	Paracetamol +/- weak opioid	STOP prescribing	
Dicycloverine (any dose and formulation)	Mebeverine, Hyoscine, Alverine, Mintec	Avoid prescribing - poor NHS value	
Dosulepin	Alternative antidepressant (SAFETY ISSUE)	Low Value Medicine	

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Targinact (oxycodone & naloxone)	Opioid & separate laxative	Avoid prescribing combination - Low Value Medicine	
Trimipramine	Alternative antidepressant	Low Value Medicine	

A set of BSW cost saving clinical searches can be located in SystemOne here: [Reporting> Clinical Reporting> BSW General Practice> Medicine Optimisation Team>Cost Savings](#)