



## BSW Formulary Updates and Recent Decisions – February 2025

### New additions to BSWformulary and Change in Traffic Light Status (TLS)

- **Ropeginterferon alfa-2b** – added to formulary with RED TL following NHSE Clinical Commissioning Policy.
- **Vortioxetine** traffic light changed from amber to GREEN – as it has fewer side effects than other options and it is included in NICE guidance as a third line option. Vortioxetine is a more expensive 3<sup>rd</sup> line option, so it would be expected that other more commonly used options such as venlafaxine or mirtazapine are considered first of all.
- **Opicapone** change in position in pathway – to be joint first line option alongside entacapone. **Opicapone is more expensive than entacapone** but once daily dosing and generally better tolerated.

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

- **UPDATED Buccolam and Epistatus SCA** – updated to include new license for use in adults and additional information section.
- **UPDATED Erectile Dysfunction Guidelines** – this document has been converted from a prescribing statement to prescribing guidance with updated position for daily tadalafil (5mg) and quantity of sildenafil that can be supplied per month.
- **UPDATED Melatonin in Children (liquids)** – updated to include information on the differing excipients and their appropriate use for children.
- **NEW PERT Guidance** – compiled to provide information to prescribers on prescribing alternative products during PERT shortages.

### Minor amendments to Netformulary

- BSW Glaucoma Guidelines removed and replaced with links to NICE guidelines
- MSN OOS links added to entries
- Green Book update has prompted some wording updates
- Somatropin TL changed to amber (from amber shared care) as monitoring stays within trusts
- Metformin sachets added to formulary as provides cost savings if patients on liquid are switched

### What the BSW ICB formulary team are currently working on

- Updating HRT guidance and reviewing the use of testosterone in women shared care agreement.
- Review the dronedarone SCA
- Somatotropin SCA being converted to prescribing guidelines
- Review Evra patch guidance & Quetenza patch guidance
- SMBG guidance update
- Review adult ADHD SCA as the service moves from AWP to HCRG 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

*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 and Optimise Profiles are in line with the joint formulary. If you discover information you believe to be inaccurate or misleading, or for further information, email [bswicb.formulary@nhs.net](mailto:bswicb.formulary@nhs.net)*