

**ISSUE 2 2017**

# the T@blet

News from Medicines Management at Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group

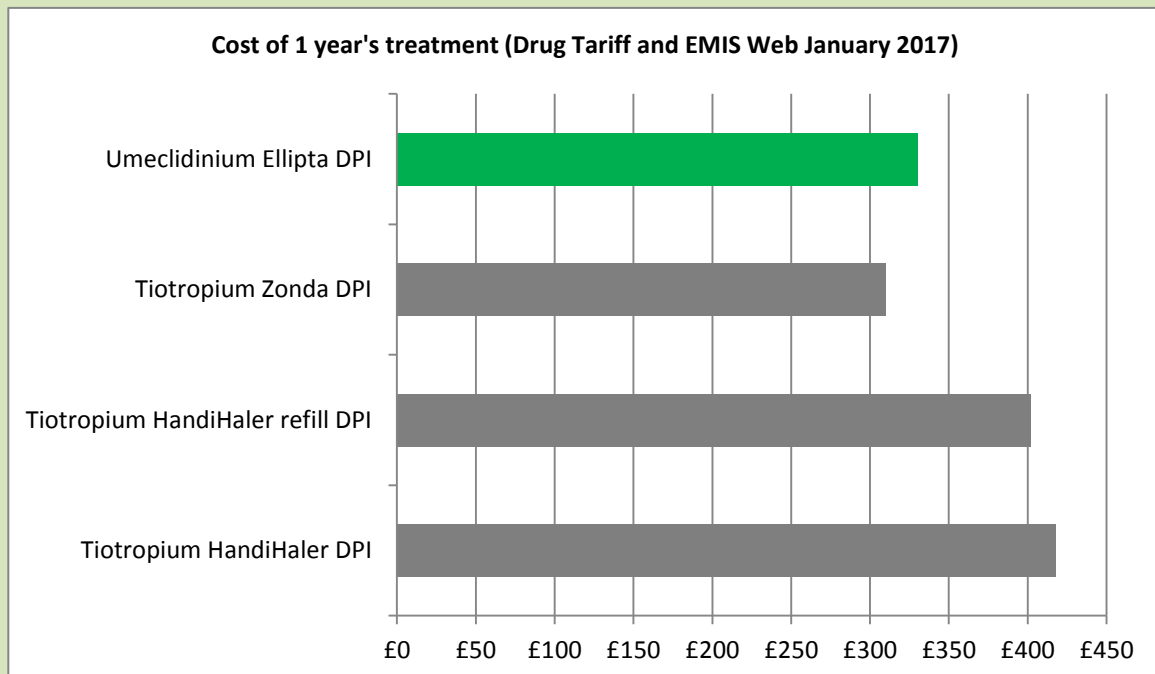
## Tiotropium dry powder inhalers (DPIs)

Two DPIs with a delivered dose of tiotropium 10micrograms are now available: [Braltus 10microgram inhalation powder capsules with Zonda inhaler](#) and [Spiriva 18 microgram inhalation powder capsules with HandiHaler](#).

The [DBHFT formulary](#) long-acting muscarinic antagonist (LAMA) choice is umeclidinium ([Incruse Ellipta](#)).

**Actions:**

- Prescribe tiotropium DPIs by brand.
- Consider switching tiotropium DPI to umeclidinium ([Incruse Ellipta](#)) at face-to-face review.
- Only change devices with full review of inhaler technique.

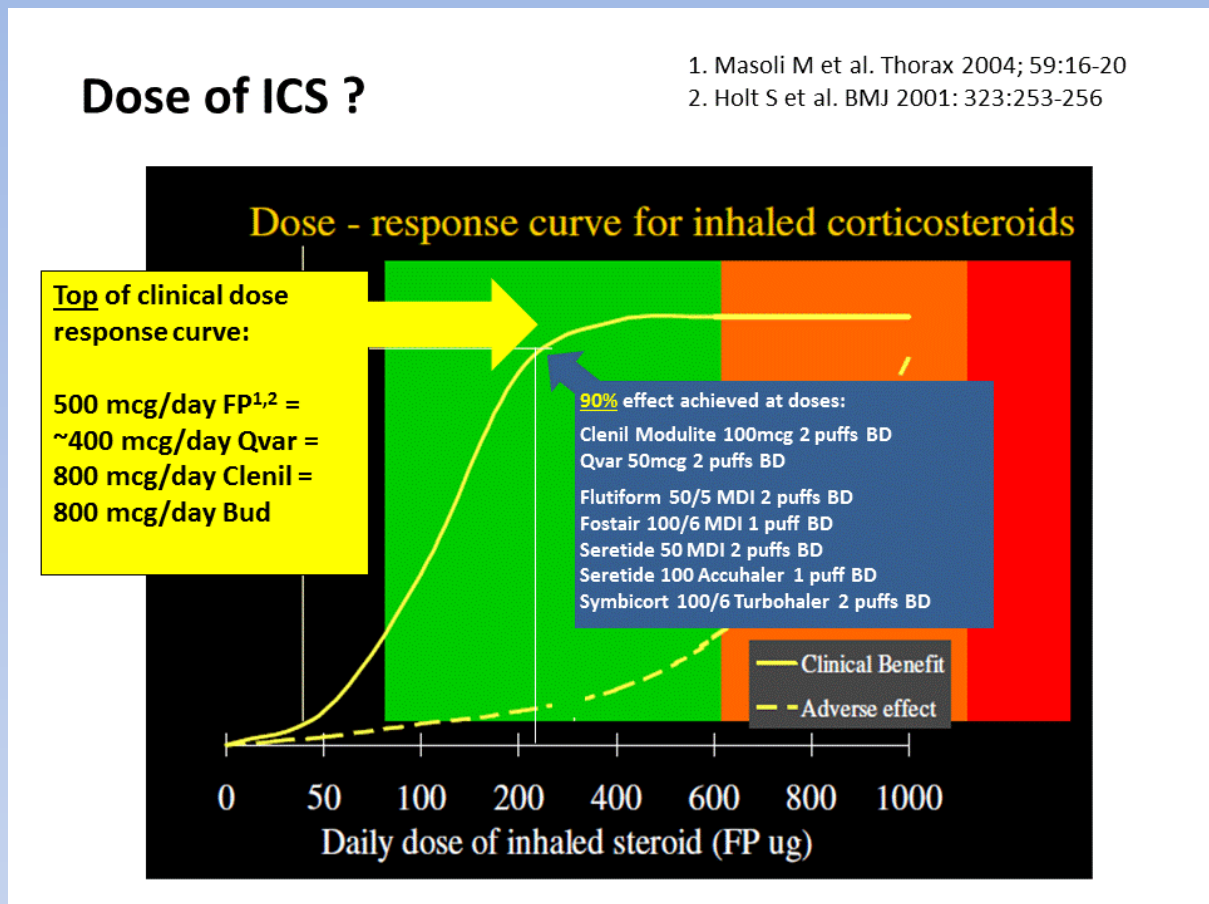


[Formulary inhalers for asthma and COPD \(adults\)](#)

## Asthma – inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) dose response: getting ahead of the curve

In adolescent and adult patients with asthma, 90% benefit achieved with fluticasone propionate (FP) 100-200 micrograms/day.

The top of the clinical response curve is reached at FP 500 micrograms/day; however, adverse effects continue to increase.



### Actions:

- Usually start low dose ICS in adults e.g. [Clenil Modulite 100 micrograms](#) two puffs twice a day: higher doses may be needed in smokers/ex-smokers.
- When adding long-acting inhaled  $\beta_2$  agonists to low dose ICS in adults, consider [Fostair \(pMDI\) 100/6](#) one puff twice daily: beclometasone dipropionate extrafine provides the equivalent of Clenil Modulite 250 micrograms twice daily.
- Refer adults to secondary care before starting high dose ICS e.g. [Seretide Evohaler 250/25](#) two puffs twice daily, [Symbicort Turbohaler 400/12](#) two puffs twice daily (Note: Seretide Evohaler and Symbicort Turbohaler are non-formulary)
- Consider switching [Seretide Evohaler 125/25](#) two puffs twice daily to [Fostair \(pMDI\) 100/6](#) two puffs twice daily in adults, in line with the [DBHFT formulary](#).
- Consider reducing ICS every three months, decreasing the dose by approximately 25-50% each time: review patient regularly.

Encourage patients to complete the Asthma Control Test to enable early recognition of deterioration/timely action and inform the decision to decrease therapy when asthma is well controlled [British guideline on the management of asthma Formulary inhalers for asthma and COPD \(adults\)](#)