

# The T@blet

## News from the Medicines Management Team

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### PRIORITY INFORMATION

#### **YELLOW FEVER VACCINE (STAMARIL) AND FATAL ADVERSE REACTIONS: EXTREME CAUTION NEEDED IN PEOPLE WHO MAY BE IMMUNOSUPPRESSED AND THOSE 60 YEARS AND OLDER**

##### **Advice for healthcare professionals:**

- As with any live attenuated vaccine, yellow fever vaccine must not be given to people who may be immunosuppressed
- Yellow fever vaccine is contraindicated in people with a history of thymus dysfunction (including myasthenia gravis and thymoma)
- Yellow fever vaccine is contraindicated in people who have had their thymus gland removed (thymectomy)
- In people aged 60 years and older, the vaccine should only be given when it is considered that there is a significant and unavoidable risk of acquiring yellow fever infection
- Professionals who administer yellow fever vaccine must be familiar with any contraindications and special precautions before proceeding with immunisation.
- If there is any doubt as to whether a person who is due to receive yellow fever vaccine may be immunosuppressed, immunisation should be deferred until specialist advice has been sought
- Protocols and checklists should be strengthened to avoid inappropriate administration that can lead to severe and possibly fatal adverse effects; those administering the vaccine should also be familiar with the YF Vaccine Centre code of practice
- Any suspected adverse reactions during immunisations should be reported on a Yellow Card

For general enquiries please email: [donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net](mailto:donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net)

For practice pharmacist queries please email: [donccg.rxline@nhs.net](mailto:donccg.rxline@nhs.net)

### Report suspected adverse reactions to vaccines or medicines

Please continue to report suspected adverse reactions to vaccines and other medicines to the Yellow Card Scheme. When reporting a suspected reaction to a vaccine, please provide the brand name (or product licence number and manufacturer) and the specific batch number.

For full information on Drug safety update April 2019 [click here](#)

## INFORMATION

### BLOOD GLUCOSE MONITORING REVIEW REMINDER TO PRACTICES

The CCG would like to remind practices that Spirit Healthcare wishes to engage with practices to carry out a review of their blood glucose test strip. The aim is to switch patients to a CCG first choice formulary test strip. This is where practices have not already signed up to Roche who are providing a similar program using their own team. The CCG supports using the team provided by Spirit to undertake switching to this first line cost-effective product. It is a very similar process to that undertaken by Medicines Management Solutions Ltd. who have been operating in practices for the last year and will allow the MMT to focus on other large scale work.

### COPD REVIEW REMINDER TO PRACTICES

The CCG would like to remind practices of the availability of a COPD patient review service by an independent team of pharmacists employed by Interface Clinical Services. The CCG is supportive of and enthusiastic about the opportunity to offer a quality respiratory intervention that aims to assist practices in achieving their 2019-20 QOF and improve morbidity and condition management for what can be a large patient group to review. If your practice is keen to take advantage of the Interface service, please contact Interface Clinical Services on 0113 202 9799 and Interface will arrange to visit your practice and provide you with further information. You can also contact the MMT.

*The service is funded by Chiesi Ltd (a pharmaceutical company).*

### SAFETY NEEDLES FOR USE WITH INSULIN PENS - FORMULARY CHOICE

The following safety needles will be added to the Guidance for Blood Glucose Self-monitoring in type 2 diabetes to assist prescribers when they have been asked to prescribe a safety needle. Safety needles are recommended only in cases where insulin is administered by a third party or the patient has needle phobia.

<b>Microdot Verifine safety</b>	For use where a safety needle is required – first line	5mm/30 gauge	Pack of 100
<b>Neon Verifine Safety</b>	For use where a safety needle is required – second line	5mm/31 gauge, 8mm/30 gauge	Pack of 100

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