

## Medicines Management Information For NHS Doncaster Health Care Professionals

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## Who will find this information useful?

- Trainee GP's, locum and newly appointed GP's
- Nurse prescribers/Non-Medical Prescribers
- Prescription clerks
- Newly appointed Medicines Management Pharmacists and Technicians
- Anyone who works for Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) or in Primary Care and would like to know more about Medicines Management in Doncaster

## What knowledge will be gained?

- Outline of the Medicines Management Team role within the CCG and in supporting general practice
- Overview of Doncaster and Bassetlaw Area Prescribing Committee (APC)
- Understanding of the Doncaster Traffic Light System (TLS)
- Awareness of the functions of various committees
- How to access the Medicines Management Website
- Which local drug formularies are available and how to find them



## The DCCG Medicines Management website

Information available on the Medicines Management Website includes:-

- Shared care prescribing protocols and proformas
- National and Local guidance
- Local formularies
- APC meeting minutes
- Traffic light system for medicines
- Controlled drugs
- Newsletters

This information can be accessed at:- <http://medicinesmanagement.doncasterccg.nhs.uk/>

## What does the Medicines Management Team do?

- Provide pharmaceutical advice and support to GP practices both in practice and centrally from the CCG office
- Work closely with colleagues across secondary and primary care, and other health care professionals to ensure safe and cost effective prescribing, by attending various committees across Doncaster and the Yorkshire area. e.g. Area Prescribing Committee (APC), Medicines Management Group (MMG), Formulary Liaison Group (FLG) , Drugs & Therapeutics Committee (D&TC)
- Provide written documentation/ web based information / face to face dialogue with Localities and practices in Doncaster to assist the prescribing of medication in line with National and Local guidance.
- Carry out work in practice in line with current cost efficiency programmes.
- Facilitate work in practice in response to National safety alerts.
- Produce monthly newsletters cascading important medicines management related issues to practices and community pharmacies.
- Controlled Drug monitoring and associated committees / meetings.

## The Doncaster and Bassetlaw Area Prescribing Committee (APC)

The Area Prescribing Committee (APC) co-ordinates the development of the Traffic Light System (see below) across the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Health Communities by providing consistent, evidenced based advice to the Clinical Commissioning Group, hospital trusts, Primary Care contractors and non-medical prescribers. This advice can be found on the Medicines Management Website and can be used as reference when prescribing medicines. The APC has representation from primary and secondary care as well as members of the Local Medical Committee (LMC) and Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC)



The Traffic Light System (TLS) provides guidance to Doncaster and Bassetlaw prescribers on prescribing responsibilities for selected medications. It aims to provide clear understanding of where clinical and prescribing responsibility rests between specialists and GPs. (Please note the guidance on the Traffic Light System has been agreed with Doncaster & Bassetlaw clinicians, and therefore may not always mirror guidance produced outside of this local area.)

Criteria for the inclusion of medicines on these lists, or the moving of medicines between the TLS classifications, will be primarily based on:

- Evidence base
- Clinical responsibility
- Patient safety
- Ensuring appropriate usage
- Willingness to provide agreed shared care information and the presence of a shared care protocol

Each drug is classified under one of the following categories: Red, Amber, Amber with Guidance, Green, Green with Guidance or Grey. The category it is placed in determines the circumstances in which it is recommended to be prescribed and any guidance/rationale which needs to be taken into consideration. When new guidance/information is released on the drug, it is reviewed and the category it is placed in can be changed dependent on its place in therapy. New drugs and changes in classification will be communicated via the T@blet newsletter

<b>No Colour</b>	<b>Definition:</b> Please be aware if an item does not appear on the TLS it does not automatically mean that it would be coded as GREEN. Reference to the local formulary guidance should always be adhered to.
<b>Red Drugs</b>	<b>Definition:</b> Initiation and ongoing prescribing should not be undertaken in primary care (unless as part of a specialist GPwSI service)
<b>Amber Drugs</b>	<b>Definition:</b> Initiation and continued prescribing should only be undertaken under auspices of an agreed shared care protocol
<b>Amber with Guidance (Amber-G)</b>	<b>Definition:</b> Drug must be initiated and where relevant titrated to stable dosage by specialist before GPs take over prescribing responsibility. There may be a requirement for monitoring to be undertaken by the GP as defined in relevant Amber G Guidance. Click on the underlined drug in the Drug Name column to display comments
<b>Green with Guidance (Green-G)</b>	<b>Definition:</b> Drugs for which GPs may take full responsibility for initiating and ongoing prescribing however, prescribing guidelines apply. Click on the underlined drug in the Drug Name column to display comments
<b>Green</b>	<b>Definition:</b> Drugs for which GPs may take full responsibility for initiating and ongoing prescribing however, they are subject to local formulary guidelines. Drugs in this category will appear in the TLS for 6 months from consideration only.
<b>Grey</b>	<b>Definition:</b> These medicines are not recommended for initiation or prescribing on an NHS prescription in the Doncaster & Bassetlaw Health Care Communities 1.Evidence available supports that use in this area is inappropriate 2.Insufficient evidence available to support its use in therapy 3.Item withdrawn from market/discontinued 4.Drug to be discussed at Doncaster Formulary Liaison Group/Medicines Management Committee or other groups before category agreed. 5.A product for which the APC's view of evidence of benefit over existing therapy does not justify routine availability.

## **Other Committees that have representation from Medicines Management in Primary and Secondary care**

### **Doncaster Medicines Management Group (MMG)**

This is a DCCG internal group which has the following remit:-

- Input into Commissioning decisions
- Assurance
- Development

The Group discusses and approves documents and pieces of work that affect primary care prescribing and ensures all information is cascaded to the appropriate target audience. The Chair can invite guests along to a meeting when specialist knowledge is required to develop a piece of work. This could be a hospital consultant, a CCG Commissioning Lead, or a colleague from another organisation with expertise in a particular clinical area.

### **Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber Foundation Trust Medicines Management Committee (RDASH FT MMC)**

This committee is mainly attended by RDASH FT representatives but the Doncaster CCG Medicines Management Team attends in the role of Commissioner. The main functions are ensuring there is active dialogue between DCCG and RDASH FT, and that DCCG receives assurance in respect of medicines management issues. This committee is clinically orientated due to RDASH FT being a provider organisation. The committee covers a broad range of medicines management issues due to RDASH FT providing a number of services including mental health, community nursing, specialist nursing and the Hospice.

### **Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital Foundation Trust Drug & Therapeutics Committee (DBTHFT D&TC)**

The Drug & Therapeutics Committee is made up of a selection of members from DBTHFT pharmacy, medical and nursing staff and representative from the Doncaster CCG Medicines Management team.

The Doncaster Medicines Management team attends in the role of Commissioner. Their main function is ensuring there is active dialogue between DCCG and DBTHFT, and that DCCG receives assurance in respect of medicines management issues.

It has the responsibility for the hosting of the local formulary, the assessment of any new drug requests within DBTHFT, the approval of any policies and procedures which involve any drugs or medication related issue, and the monitoring of the Risk Register with respect to pharmaceutical issues.

## The South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System (ICS)

This is an overarching collaboration of NHS organisations from Bassetlaw, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield, in partnership with local councils and others, which take collective responsibility for managing resources, delivering NHS standards, and improving the health of the population they serve. The medicines optimization steering group lead by Heads of Medicines Management from the 5 constituent CCGs, along with GP, Trust and finance representation, makes recommendations to the Joint Committee of Clinical Commissioning Groups (JCCCG) in the area of medicines optimisation commission. The JCCCG approves its recommendations to become policy across the whole ICS area.

## Doncaster and Bassetlaw Formulary Liaison Group (FLG)

This committee has representatives from primary and secondary care. The committee reviews the joint formularies used in the Doncaster Health community and updates each section on a rotational basis to include new drugs and establishing their place in therapy. The Doncaster Combined Formulary lists all first line medication that can be prescribed by Doncaster clinicians to ensure safe and economic prescribing. The formulary format has recently been amended through collaborative work with DBTHFT and RDASH FT to cover both secondary and primary prescribing and is reviewed on a regular basis at the FLG meetings.

The formulary is Doncaster-wide, and can be accessed on the medicines management website at <http://medicinesmanagement.doncasterccg.nhs.uk/formulary/>

## Quality and Safety

The Medicines Management team act on drug safety updates and new prescribing guidelines from the National Institute for Health and care Excellence (NICE), UK Medicines Information (UKMI) and Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), by providing practices with the relevant information to ensure patients are receiving safe and effective treatment. The Medicines Management team regularly assist practices to identify patients who may require a timely medication review as a result of a safety alert.

## Cost Efficiency Programmes

The MMT develops various cost efficiency programmes in line with National directives. The overall aim is to improve the quality of care the NHS delivers while making efficiency savings to try to enable providers to spend public money efficiently and which will be reinvested in front line care.

Each year the Medicines Management team develop a programme of initiatives in line with local formulary guidance, which are carried out with the consent of each practice. Each piece of work is covered by a Standard Operating Procedure or a guidance document to ensure consistency of working.

Doncaster Practices attend the QIPP Board where work programmes are developed and agreed.

## Controlled Drugs (CD's)

The Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer (CDAO), who is employed by NHS England Area Team has lead responsibility for controlled drugs and responsibility for establishing Local Intelligence Network (LIN) arrangements. To enable the CDAO to successfully implement the Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) Regulations 2013, NHS England Area Team has an agreed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with DCCG to support the CDAO to deliver their required duties.

On behalf of the CDAO the Medicines Management team:

- Host the CD LIN which shares information about controlled drugs and incidents across organisations and geographical areas and receive quarterly occurrence reports.
- Host the Schedule Drug Monitoring Group (SDMG) which undertake the monitoring and assurance of all Schedule 2 & 3 drugs prescribed in Doncaster
- Undertake the review and investigations of all CD incidents reported to the CDAO that have occurred in Doncaster
- Witness CD Destructions in practices and community pharmacies

## Information cascaded to GP Practices

### The T@blet

Medicines Management Newsletter 'The T@blet' – This is produced monthly after approval at the MMG meeting to inform clinicians of any safety updates, cost efficiency work being carried out by the MMT, or any other information that is considered useful in practice. This is also distributed to Community Pharmacy for information.

If you wish to be added to the distribution list for any of these bulletins/ newsletters, ask your practice manager or email [donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net](mailto:donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net)

### Point of Prescribing Software

OptimiseRx is a fully integrated system which uses the medication prescribed along with the relevant read codes to make suggestions to the prescriber via a pop up message at the point of prescribing. The types of message that could be presented are formulary, best practice guidance and cost saving. The prescriber can choose to accept the message and continue with the alternative suggested or to reject the message if appropriate to do so.

The Medicines Management Team monitor the live messages to ensure they remain in line with current local and national guidelines, request new messages when required and disable old messages that are no longer relevant. Quarterly reports are run to see the acceptance and rejection rates for each message. This information is then used to either consider promotion of acceptance of the message to disable.

Any feedback on messages that are delivered and any ideas for new messages would be welcome via [donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net](mailto:donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net)

### RxLine

For clinical queries that are urgent and cannot wait for your Medicines Management team visit, you can use the RxLine which is a dedicated email address for urgent clinical queries. This is monitored by the Pharmacists and your query will be answered by one of them.

You can email us at [donccg.rxline@nhs.net](mailto:donccg.rxline@nhs.net)

### Mmadmin

For general enquires you can contact the Medicines Management Admin email at [donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net](mailto:donccg.medicinesmanagementadmin@nhs.net)

We hope this information has been useful to you – if you have any questions please contact us at:-

<http://medicinesmanagement.doncasterccg.nhs.uk/contact-us/>