

Dear Prescribing Colleague

Empagliflozin and Dapagliflozin are licensed for use in patients with symptomatic heart failure **with or without a reduced ejection fraction** (HFpEF and HFrEF)

NICE states that a SGLT2i can be initiated for use in chronic heart failure following advice from a heart failure specialist as an add-on to standard optimised care (TA 679). Standard optimised care includes titration to the maximum tolerated dose of an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor (ACEi), beta blocker, and mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist (MRA). For this reason, Dapagliflozin and Empagliflozin are Amber-G in the local formulary.

In Doncaster, we would like to facilitate early access to these drugs for patients with symptomatic chronic heart failure and to minimise the barriers to rapid and efficient optimisation of treatment.

As such, we are writing to ask primary care colleagues to consider prescribing either Empagliflozin or Dapagliflozin to eligible patients with chronic heart failure **without** requesting permission from or referring for a specialist opinion first.

We expect that this will reduce the time taken to reach the medical optimisation of chronic heart failure and result in improved patient outcomes.

Prescribing advice can be found here <https://cks.nice.org.uk/topics/heart-failure-chronic/prescribing-information/sglt2-inhibitors/>

Kindest regards,

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