

NHS Tayside Formulary Review

Tayside Area Formulary (TAF) is an online collection of clinical information which has been designed here in Tayside. Its purpose is to help care providers in hospital and community settings across Tayside to make good decisions about how best to treat patients. This includes advice such as:

- Whether to prescribe or not
- What medicines represent evidence-based cost-effective choices
- Guidelines along with local treatment pathways

The TAF is regularly reviewed and updated by NHS Tayside's Medicines Advisory Group (MAG). The Group recently undertook an in-depth review of all chapters in the TAF. As a result, a number of changes have been made.

The main British National Formulary (BNF) chapters (1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 10) have been reviewed with clinical leads for each chapter. The main changes to note in each section are:

Chapter 1: Gastrointestinal

- Prednisolone preparations rationalised
- Waiting West of Scotland mesalazine review before confirming first line choice
- Steroid enemas reviewed
- High cost preparations highlighted in TAF and Scriptswitch®

Chapter 2: Cardiovascular

- Waiting for national consensus of first choice Direct acting Oral Anti Coagulant for Atrial Fibrillation

Chapter 3: Respiratory

- First line inhaler choices for asthma defined
- Three first line Long Acting Muscarinic Antagonist and Long Acting Beta Agonist/ Long Acting Muscarinic Antagonist combinations agreed to meet clinical needs of patients in handling devices
- Inhaled medicines charts for asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease updated with agreed changes

Chapter 4: CNS

- Neuropathic pain-place of lidocaine and pregabalin redefined
- Emphasis on first line choices in pain pathway
- Mental Health formulary emphasis on immediate release formulations first line
- Emphasis on generic prescribing where clinically appropriate
- Confirmation of first line antipsychotic medications

Chapter 6: Endocrine

- Detailed review undertaken in past year
- First line choices for each drug group links to Tayside Diabetes MCN handbook for treatment pathway in Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes

Chapter 10

- Main focus on Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs, 1st line choices clearly defined

Work to develop a suite of formulary compliance measures is at an advanced stage, this includes:

- Overall Formulary Compliance for above BNF Chapters combined total and by chapter), showing first line and total compliance at Tayside, Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and practice level
- Individual drug group level indicators for each chapter, for example, for mesalazine measure is % first line choice as % of all mesalazine prescriptions. Also available at Tayside, HCSP and practice level

A review has also been carried out in Tayside on **Chapter 7, Section 4.2 (antimuscarinics)**:

- First and second line formulary choices agreed
- Emphasis on use of immediate release preparations over more costly Modified Release preparations
- Review prescribing status of solifenacin from green to amber traffic light (specialist recommendation only)

April 2017