

TAYSIDE PRESCRIBER

Tayside DTC Supplement No 66

February 2007

Produced by NHS Tayside Drug and Therapeutics Committee

SMC Advice issued in February 2007

Medicine	Indication	Local recommendation category	Comments and useful links
Deferasirox (Exjade®)	Chronic iron overload	HOSPITAL ONLY (Consultants within adult and paediatric haematology clinics)	Alternative to desferrioxamine infusion in rare acquired or inherited anaemias SMC advice SPC link
Donepezil orodispersible (Aricept Evess®)	Mild to moderately severe Alzheimer's dementia	Restricted to Old Age Psychiatry Service and GP prescription within the Cholinesterase inhibitor shared care protocol (under revision)	Alternative to rivastigmine liquid in patients with swallowing difficulties SMC advice SPC link NICE MTA 111
Interferon beta-1b (Betaferon®)	Clinically isolated syndrome	Not recommended	SMC advice
Pemetrexed (Alimta®)	Locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer	Not recommended	SMC advice
Propiverine MR (Detrunorm XL®) – <i>abbreviated submission</i>	Urinary incontinence	Non-formulary	SMC advice SPC link
Rimonabant (Acomplia®)	Obesity in patients with risk factors	Not recommended	SMC advice
Sunitinib (Sutent®)	Advanced and/or metastatic renal cell carcinoma	Not recommended	SMC advice
Tachosil®	Haemostasis in surgery	HOSPITAL ONLY (Liver and renal surgery)	SMC advice SPC link
Tacrolimus (Prograf®)	Immunosuppression in heart transplant	Capsules - GPs may prescribe under the direction of a tertiary heart transplant centre Infusion – HOSPITAL ONLY	SMC advice SPC link

Urokinase (Syner-KINASE®)

Urokinase was previously available in the UK but withdrawn in the late 1990's for commercial reasons. Further to the launch of Syner-KINASE®, local advice has been agreed as follows:

Tayside recommendation

Recommended within specialist treatment pathway – HOSPITAL ONLY

- Syner-KINASE® is an alternative to unlicensed urokinase and is recommended locally to restore patency and adequate flow through blocked tunnelled haemodialysis lines and central lines.
- See local [Tunnelled line reduced flow protocol](#) on the Renal Service Intranet site.

Cinacalcet Update

Further to the issue of NICE MTA 117 [Cinacalcet for the treatment of secondary hyperparathyroidism in patients with end-stage renal disease on maintenance dialysis therapy](#), local advice for the use of cinacalcet has been revised as follows:

Tayside recommendation

Recommended within specialist treatment pathway – HOSPITAL ONLY (Renal Clinic)

- Cinacalcet is recommended for the treatment of patients with severe refractory secondary hyperparathyroidism (as defined within NICE MTA 117) and in whom parathyroidectomy is contraindicated (eg those in whom surgery and/or general anaesthetic would be high risk or patients who are temporarily unfit for surgery). Treatment should be supplied and monitored by the Renal Clinic.
- See local [Guidelines for the management of bone metabolism and disease in chronic kidney disease](#) on the renal service intranet site.

TAPG Update

	TAPG section	Drug(s)/topic	Changes
1	Upper GI Guidelines	Hp testing	Testing for the diagnosis of <i>H. pylori</i> changed from serology to stool antigen testing in-line with SIGN and NICE guidelines (stool antigen testing is more accurate). Click here for more info

Forthcoming SMC Advice

Contact details: Local implementation of SMC recommendations is being taken forward by the Tayside Medicines Unit - contact Jan Jones, Principal Pharmacist - Pharmacoeconomics (janjones@nhs.net) if you have any queries in relation to the introduction of new drugs within NHS Tayside.

This bulletin is based on evidence available to the Tayside Medicines Unit at time of publication and is covered by the Disclaimer and Terms & Conditions of use and access to the NHS Tayside Drug and Therapeutics Committee website (www.nhstaysideadtc.scot.nhs.uk).