

TAYSIDE PRESCRIBER

Tayside DTC Supplement No 81

July 2008

Produced by NHS Tayside Drug and Therapeutics Committee Medicines Advisory Group (MAG)

SMC Advice issued in July 2008

Medicine	Indication	Local recommendation category	Comments and useful links
Docetaxel (Taxotere [®])	Induction treatment of patients with resectable locally advanced squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck in combination with cisplatin and 5-fluorouracil	Pending OHMMG decision	SMC advice
Ferric carboxymaltose (Ferinject [®])	Treatment of iron deficiency	Not recommended	SMC advice
Fesoterodine fumarate (Toviaz [®])	Treatment of the symptoms that may occur in patients with overactive bladder syndrome	Non-formulary	SMC advice SPC link
Paricalcitol IV (Zemplar [®]) - Resubmission	Prevention and treatment of secondary hyperparathyroidism in patients with chronic renal failure undergoing haemodialysis	Not recommended	SMC advice
Paricalcitol capsules (Zemplar [®])	Prevention and treatment of secondary hyperparathyroidism associated with chronic renal insufficiency patients and chronic renal failure patients on haemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis	Not recommended	SMC advice
Sorafenib (Nexavar [®])	Treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma	Pending OHMMG decision	SMC advice
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (Viread [®])	Treatment of chronic hepatitis B in adults with compensated liver disease	Pending AMG decision	SMC advice
Vildagliptin/metformin (Eucreas [®]) – Abbreviated submission	Type 2 diabetes mellitus patients	Non-formulary Local protocols for sitagliptin and vildagliptin being updated	SMC advice SPC link

[Click here](#) for July 08 SMC briefing note

Updates from previous SMC advice

Medicine	Indication	Local recommendation category	Comments and useful links
Bevacizumab (Avastin®)	In combination with interferon alfa-2a for first line treatment of advanced and/or metastatic renal cell cancer	Not recommended	SMC advice
Bevacizumab (Avastin®)	In combination with fluoropyrimidine- based chemotherapy for metastatic colorectal cancer	Not recommended	SMC Advice
Clostridium botulinum neurotoxin Type A (Xeomin®)	Blepharospasm and cervical dystonia	HOSPITAL ONLY Use under the direction of a Neurologist	SMC advice <i>Unit doses recommended for Xeomin® are not interchangeable with those for other preparations of botulinum toxin type A.</i>
Panitumumab 20mg/ml concentrate for solution for infusion (Vectibix®) - <i>Non submission</i>	Monotherapy for the treatment of patients with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) expressing metastatic colorectal carcinoma.	Not recommended	SMC Advice

TAPG Update

	TAPG section	Drug(s)/topic	Changes
2.6	Nitrates, calcium-channel blockers and potassium-channel activators	Nicorandil	Information on risk of GI ulceration added and link to MHRA June 2008 Drug Safety Update.
3.1	Bronchodilators	Combivent® inhaler	Combivent® inhaler removed from section as discontinued. Note: Combivent® UDV's, for use in nebulisers, will continue to be available.
3	Respiratory system Guidelines	Guidance on Inhaler Devices	Combivent® inhaler removed from spacer device table.
4.5	Anti-obesity drugs	Orlistat and Sibutramine	Link to Tayside Prescriber Issue 98, July 2008 , which supersedes Tayside Prescriber Issue 90, Jan 2006 added. Link to SMC advice on Rimonabant (Acomplia®▼) added – not recommended by SMC . Adverse effects and monitoring information updated. Drug interactions updated. Minor changes to wording throughout.
13.8	Sunscreens	RoC Total Sunblock® cream SPF 25 and Vichy® sunblock cream SPF 60	RoC Total Sunblock® cream SPF 25 removed as discontinued. Uvistat® sun cream SPF 50 added. Fragrance-free annotated for E45 Sun Block® lotion SPF 30+ and Uvistat® sun cream SPF 50. Vichy® sunblock cream SPF 60 removed as Uvistat® added.

*SMC accepted

Changes to local protocols

Exenatide (Byetta®) protocol

Sections 5, 8 and 9 of this protocol have recently been modified to take account of:

- New safety advice about the symptoms of acute pancreatitis
- A slight modification to the patient selection criteria
- A small number of hypersensitivity reactions that have now been reported
- The need for the INR to be closely monitored during initiation and dose changes of exenatide in patients taking warfarin

For further information, [please click here](#)

Dyloject ® protocol

A protocol for the use of Dyloject® injection (diclofenac 75mg/2ml) has been developed by the anaesthetists and acute pain team with support from pharmacy.

This is a HOSPITAL ONLY product, restricted mainly to theatres for prevention of post-operative pain. Injectable diclofenac does not undergo first pass metabolism and **plasma levels following intravenous administration may be double that of the same dose given orally**. This preparation must not be confused with Voltarol® injection (diclofenac 75mg/3ml) that **MUST NOT** be given by IV bolus.

Tayside recommendation

HOSPITAL ONLY

Restricted use in theatres and surgical wards

Local protocol must be followed

Infliximab for ankylosing spondylitis – change in local recommendation

NHS Tayside advice for the use of infliximab (Oct 2005) has now changed following the publication of NICE technology appraisal guidance [143](#). Infliximab is no longer recommended locally for the treatment of ankylosing spondylitis. Etanercept or adalimumab are the recommended treatment options.

Rotigotine (Neupro®) patches - new storage conditions

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has recommended that Rotigotine (Neupro®) patches must be stored in a refrigerator (between 2°C and 8°C) with immediate effect. The new storage conditions are intended to reduce the possible occurrence of crystallisation of the active substance, which has been reported in patches of Neupro®. It is important that patients do not stop taking their existing medication, even if they notice the crystals on their patches without first speaking to their doctor or pharmacist. For more information, [please click here](#).

Forthcoming SMC Advice

Local implementation of SMC recommendations is taken forward by the Tayside Medicines Governance Unit. This bulletin is based on evidence available to the Tayside Medicines Governance 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).