

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde: New Medicines Decisions

In Scotland, a newly licensed medicine is routinely available in a health board only after it has been:

- accepted for use in NHSScotland by the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC), and
- accepted for use by the health board's Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC).

All medicines accepted by SMC are available in Scotland, but may not be considered 'routinely available' within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGG&C) because of available services and preferences for alternative medicines.

'Routinely available' means that a medicine can be prescribed by the appropriately qualified person within a health board.

Each health board has an ADTC. The Greater Glasgow and Clyde ADTC is responsible for advising the NHSGG&C health board on all aspects of the use of medicines.

Medicines routinely available within NHSGG&C are usually included in the GGC Formulary. The Formulary is a list of medicines for use in the health board that has been agreed by ADTC in consultation with local clinical experts. It offers a choice of medicines for healthcare professionals to prescribe for common medical conditions. The GGC Formulary can help improve safety as prescribers are likely to become more familiar with the medicines in it and also helps make sure that standards of care are consistent across the health board.

How does NHSGG&C decide which new medicines to make routinely available for patients?

The ADTC in NHSGG&C will consider national and local guidance before deciding whether to make a new medicine routinely available.

What national guidance does the ADTC consider?

- SMC advice: The SMC considers newly licensed medicines and advises health boards in Scotland whether they should be available. When SMC considers a new medicine for the NHS in Scotland, it looks at:
 - how well the medicine works,
 - which patients might benefit from it,
 - whether it is as good or better than medicines the NHS already uses to treat the medical condition, and
 - whether it is good value for money.
- In the table below, national guidance usually refers to SMC advice. Links to SMC advice for individual medicines are also included in the table.
- In some cases, other agencies may also provide guidance on how medicines should be used. For example, Healthcare Improvement Scotland issues alerts to advise if National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Multiple Technology Appraisals (NICE MTAs) are applicable in Scotland.

What local guidance does the ADTC consider?

- Advice from local clinical experts who would be expected to prescribe a particular medicine, where that service is available in NHSGG&C.

Why is a particular medicine not routinely available in NHSGG&C?

- This is usually because the medicine is not recommended for use in NHSScotland by the SMC.
- The medicine may not be routinely available in a health board, particularly in smaller health boards, because there is not a suitable specialist who may use the medicine.
- There may also be differences in which medicines are preferred in health boards. Sometimes SMC accepts more than one medicine for treating a specific medical condition. Clinical experts in each health board consider whether to add new medicines to their formulary and advise the ADTC. Sometimes it is agreed that established medicines are a better choice than new medicines.

What happens if a particular medicine is not routinely available in NHSGG&C?

- If a medicine is not routinely available and included in the GGC Formulary and there are no suitable alternatives on the formulary, a healthcare professional can request to prescribe a medicine that is not on the formulary if they think you will benefit from using it. NHSGG&C and all health boards have procedures in place to consider requests when a healthcare professional feels a medicine that is not on the formulary would be right for a particular patient.

The table below lists NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's decisions on new medicines.

If you need more information on medicines decisions in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, please email ggc.medicines@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Alectinib hydrochloride capsules Alecensa® 1257/17 http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/SMC_Advice/Advice/1257_17_alectinib_hydrochloride_Alecensa/alectinib_hydrochloride_Alecensa_Non_Sub	As monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with anaplastic lymphoma kinase positive advanced non-small cell lung cancer previously treated with crizotinib.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	19/06/2017
Belimumab infusion Benlysta® 775/12 http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/belimumab_Benlysta_Resub_FINAL_April_2017_for_website.pdf	Add-on therapy in adult patients with active, autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) with a high degree of disease activity (e.g. positive anti-dsDNA and low complement) despite standard therapy.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	19/06/2017
Buprenorphine oral lyophilisate Espranor® 1245/17 http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/buprenorphine_oral_lyophilisate_Espranor_Abb_FINAL_May_2017_amended_050617_for_websi	Substitution treatment for opioid drug dependence, within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment. Treatment with buprenorphine oral lyophilisate is intended for use in adults and adolescents aged 15 years or over who have agreed to be treated for addiction.	Not routinely available as local clinical experts do not wish to add the medicine to the Formulary at this time or there is a local preference for alternative	19/06/2017
Cabozantinib tablets Cabometyx® 1234/17 http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/cabozantinib_Cabometyx_FINAL_May_2017_for_website.pdf	For the treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC) in adults following prior vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)-targeted therapy.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	19/06/2017

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Deferasirox tablets Exjade® 1246/17	Treatment of chronic iron overload due to frequent blood transfusions in patients with beta thalassaemia major aged 6 years and older and treatment of chronic iron overload due to blood transfusions when deferoxamine therapy is contraindicated or inadequate in specific patient groups as outlined in full in the SMC advice. http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/deferiasirox_Exjade_Abbreviated_FINAL_May_2017_Amended_050617_for_website.pdf	Routinely available in line with national guidance	19/06/2017
Ibrutinib capsules Imbruvica® 1258/17	In combination with bendamustine and rituximab for the treatment of adult patients with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia who have received at least one prior therapy http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/SMC_Advice/Advice/1258_17_ibrutinib_Imbruvica/ibrutinib_Imbruvica_Non-submission	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	19/06/2017
Idebenone tablets Raxone® 1226/17	Treatment of visual impairment in adolescent and adult patients with Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON). http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/idebenone_Raxone_FINAL_April_2017_for_website.pdf	Routinely available in line with national guidance	19/06/2017
Liraglutide injection Saxenda® 1247/17	As an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for weight management in adult patients with an initial Body Mass Index of $\geq 30\text{kg/m}^2$ (obese), or $\geq 27\text{kg/m}^2$ to $< 30\text{kg/m}^2$ (overweight) in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity such as dysglycaemia (pre-diabetes or type 2 diabetes mellitus), hypertension, dyslipidaemia or obstructive sleep apnoea. http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/SMC_Advice/Advice/1247_17_liraglutide_Saxenda/liraglutide_Saxenda_Non_Sub	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	19/06/2017

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Micronised progesterone vaginal capsules Utrogestan® 935/13	In women for supplementation of the luteal phase during Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) cycles. http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/micronised_progesterone_Utrogestan_Vaginal_FINAL_April_2017_Amended_12.04.17_for_webs	Routinely available in line with national guidance	19/06/2017
Nivolumab infusion Opdivo® 1188/16	As monotherapy for the treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma after prior therapy in adults. http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/nivolumab_Opdivo_RESUBMISSION_FINAL_May_2017_for_website.pdf	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	19/06/2017
Obeticholic acid tablets Ocaliva® 1232/17	Primary biliary cholangitis (alsoknown as primary biliary cirrhosis) in combination with ursodeoxycholic acid in adults with an inadequate response to ursodeoxycholic acid or as monotherapy in adults unable to tolerate ursodeoxycholic acid http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/obeticholic_acid_Ocaliva_FINAL_May_2017_Amended_170517_for_website.pdf	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	19/06/2017
Panitumumab infusion Vectibix® 439	1st line metastatic colorectal cancer in combination with either FOLFOX or FOLFIRI: - cetuximab for EGFR-expressing, RAS wild-type - panitumumab for RAS wild-type in https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta439	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	19/06/2017

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Pertuzumab infusion Perjeta® 897/13	for use in combination with trastuzumab and docetaxel in adult patients with HER2-positive metastatic or locally recurrent unresectable breast cancer, who have not received previous anti-HER2 therapy or chemotherapy for their metastatic disease. http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/files/advice/pertuzumab_Perjeta_2nd_Resub_FINAL_May_2017_for_website.pdf	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	19/06/2017
Safinamide tablets Xadago® 1259/17	Treatment of adult patients with idiopathic Parkinson's disease (PD) as add-on therapy to a stable dose of Levodopa alone or in combination with other PD medicinal products in mid-to late-stage fluctuating patients. http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/SMC_Advice/Advice/1259_17_safinamide_Xadago/safinamide_Xadago_Non-submission	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	19/06/2017
Talimogene laherparepvec injection Imlygic® 1248/17	Treatment of adults with unresectable melanoma that is regionally or distantly metastatic (Stage IIIB, IIIC and IVM1a) with no bone, brain, lung or other visceral disease. http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/SMC_Advice/Advice/1248_17_talimogene_laherparepvec_Imlygic/talimogene_laherparepvec_Imlygic_Non_S	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	19/06/2017