

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
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Abemaciclib tablets Verzenios® SMC2135	Treatment of women with hormone receptor (HR) positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer in combination with an aromatase inhibitor* as initial endocrine-based therapy, or in women who have received prior endocrine therapy.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	10/06/2019
Abemaciclib tablets Verzenios® SMC2179	Treatment of women with hormone receptor (HR) positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer in combination with fulvestrant* as initial endocrine-based therapy or in women who have received prior endocrine therapy.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	10/06/2019
Alirocumab injection Praluent® SMC2201	In adults with established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease to reduce cardiovascular risk by lowering LDL-C levels, as an adjunct to correction of other risk factors: - in combination with the maximum tolerated dose of a statin with or without other lipid-lowering therapies or, alone - or in combination with other lipid-lowering therapies in patients who are statin-intolerant, or for whom a statin is contraindicated.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019
Benralizumab injection Fasenra® SMC2155	As an add-on maintenance treatment in adult patients with severe eosinophilic asthma inadequately controlled despite high-dose inhaled corticosteroids plus long-acting β -agonists.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	10/06/2019

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Brentuximab vedotin infusion Adcetris® SMC2202	Treatment of adult patients with previously untreated CD30+ Stage IV Hodgkin lymphoma in combination with doxorubicin, vinblastine and dacarbazine.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019
Brigatinib tablets Alunbrig® SMC2147	as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) positive advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) previously treated with crizotinib	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	10/06/2019
Cariprazine capsules Reagila® SMC2137	Treatment of schizophrenia in adult patients.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	10/06/2019
Chenodeoxycholic acid capsules Chenodeoxycholic acid Leadiant® SMC2190	Treatment of inborn errors of primary bile acid synthesis due to sterol 27 hydroxylase deficiency (presenting as cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis) in infants, children and adolescents aged 1 month to 18 years and adults.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Daratumumab infusion Darzalex® SMC2191	In combination with bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone for the treatment of adult patients with newly diagnosed multiple myeloma who are ineligible for autologous stem cell transplant.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019
Dasatinib tablets Sprycel® SMC2192	Treatment of paediatric patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome positive acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in combination with chemotherapy.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019
Doxylamine & Pyridoxine tablets Xonvea® SMC2140	Treatment of nausea and vomiting of pregnancy in women who do not respond to conservative management.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019
Durvalumab infusion Imfinzi® SMC2156	As monotherapy for the treatment of locally advanced, unresectable non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 [programmed cell death ligand 1] on ≥1% of tumour cells and whose disease has not progressed following platinum-based chemoradiation therapy.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	10/06/2019

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Golimumab injection Simponi® SMC2203	In combination with methotrexate for the treatment of polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis in children 2 years of age and older who have responded inadequately to previous therapy with methotrexate	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019
Latanoprost & Timolol preservative free eye drops Fixapost® SMC2159	Reduction of intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with open angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension who are insufficiently responsive to topical beta-blockers or prostaglandin analogues.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	10/06/2019
Nivolumab infusion Opdivo® SMC2153	In combination with ipilimumab for the first-line treatment of adult patients with intermediate/poor-risk advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC).	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	10/06/2019
Patisiran infusion Onpattro® SMC2157	Treatment of hereditary transthyretin-mediated amyloidosis (hATTR amyloidosis) in adult patients with stage 1 or stage 2 polyneuropathy.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	10/06/2019

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Pembrolizumab infusion Keytruda® SMC2144	Monotherapy for the adjuvant treatment of adults with Stage III melanoma and lymph node involvement who have undergone complete resection.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	10/06/2019
Rituximab infusion MabThera® SMC2193	Treatment of patients with moderate to severe pemphigus vulgaris.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	10/06/2019