

MEMORANDUM

To: Acute Care Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy Staff, Non-medical Prescribers, & all Wards and Clinical Areas

From: Peter Mulholland, chair of Pharmacy Medicines Cost Effectiveness Group (MCEG)

Date: February 2018

Subject: ADHD medication Xaggitin XL[®] (methylphenidate) prolonged release tablets are now the preferred brand across NHSGGC.

NHS GGC is switching to **Xaggitin XL[®]** as the preferred brand of methylphenidate prolonged-release tablets and will no longer routinely supply Concerta XL[®].

- **Xaggitin XL[®]** prolonged-release tablets will be supplied against all orders for Concerta XL[®] prolonged-release tablets in acute care as soon as existing stocks of Concerta XL[®] are depleted. This is likely to happen in February 2018.
- Modified-release preparations of controlled drugs should be prescribed by brand name.
- From the point of switchover, **Xaggitin XL[®]** prolonged-release tablets will be supplied to all patients on discharge unless an alternative formulation is specifically required and requested. (see below).
- **Xaggitin XL[®]** prolonged-release tablets are available in the same range of strengths as Concerta XL[®]. Please refer to BNF for more details.
- Separate pages in Controlled Drug registers will be required for different strengths and formulations of methylphenidate. This is likely to mean creating new pages in controlled drug registers for **Xaggitin XL[®]** preparations.

PLEASE NOTE

- Patients admitted to hospital on Concerta XL[®] can be safely switched to **Xaggitin XL[®]** as there is no clinical difference between the two brands and they are considered therapeutically equivalent.
- Specialists have been consulted and are aware of this change.
- If an alternative brand is required due to individual patient circumstances and/or specialist request, a separate order or prescription will be required indicating the specific brand name and reason alternative brand is required.
- **NHS GGC recommend that, unless there are clinical reasons suggesting otherwise, Xaggitin XL[®] prolonged-release tablets should be specified by all clinicians to avoid confusion and ensure consistency of supply across primary and secondary care.**

ACTIONS

- Please bring this to the attention of all staff within your teams.
- Please continue to report all incidents.
- If you have any questions or problems please contact your local pharmacy department or clinical pharmacist for further information and advice.