

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Janice Watt, chair of Acute Pharmacy Medicines Cost Effectiveness Group (MCEG)

Date: 20/11/2019

Subject: Oxycodone MR: Change to Oxypro[®] as Formulary Preferred List Brand.

Several branded generic oxycodone MR preparations are now available. **Oxypro[®]** tablets have a lower acquisition cost than **Longtec[®]** and have been assessed to be a safe alternative. **Oxypro[®]** is now the NHSGGC brand of choice for modified release oxycodone (replacing **Longtec[®]**) and will be supplied in the acute sector.

Shortec[®] remains the preferred brand of oxycodone immediate release capsule and oxycodone solution. Please note availability in two strengths of oxycodone solution - [Shortec[®] liquid 5 mg/5 ml oral solution](#) and [Shortec[®] concentrate 10 mg/ml oral solution](#).

- Morphine remains the preferred choice of strong opioid within GGC
- Oxycodone use remains second line restricted to patients in whom morphine is ineffective or not tolerated

Oxypro[®] Modified Release tablets will start to be supplied in the acute sector when supplies of Longtec[®] are exhausted (phased in from December 2019 onwards). **Oxypro[®]** brand will be supplied to patients on discharge from hospital unless a specific need for an alternative brand is stipulated.

Prescribers are reminded that it is a legal requirement to specify the formulation of the product in any prescription (Kardex and discharge prescription) for a controlled drug.

KEY POINTS

- Separate pages in Controlled Drug registers will be required for different brands.
- GP practices and community pharmacies have been made aware of this change.
- Palliative care teams and the pain MCN are aware of this change.

If there are any questions or problems please contact your local pharmacy department or clinical pharmacist for further information and advice.