

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
Abatacept infusion, injection Orencia® 1287/17	Alone or in combination with methotrexate for the treatment of active psoriatic arthritis in adult patients when the response to previous disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) therapy including methotrexate has been inadequate, and for whom additional systemic therapy for psoriatic skin lesions is not required.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017
Aviptadil with Phentolamine intracavernous injection Invicorp® 1284/17	For the symptomatic treatment of erectile dysfunction in adult males due to neurogenic, vasculogenic, psychogenic, or mixed aetiology.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	11/12/2017
Bezlotoxumab infusion Zinplava® 1293/17	Prevention of recurrence of Clostridium difficile infection (CDI) in adults at high risk for recurrence of CDI.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017
Brodalumab pre-filled syringe Kyntheum® 1283/17	for the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in adult patients who are candidates for systemic therapy.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Buprenorphine with Naloxone sublingual tablets Suboxone®	Substitution treatment for opioid drug dependence	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	11/12/2017
Cyanocobalamin oral tablets	Vitamin B12 deficiency (Short-term diagnostic use - refer to Formulary for full details)	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	11/12/2017
Eliglustat capsules Cerdelga® 1277/17	Long-term treatment of adult patients with Gaucher disease type 1 (GD1) who are CYP2D6 poor metabolisers, intermediate metabolisers or extensive metabolisers	Routinely available in line with national guidance	11/12/2017
Everolimus tablets Certican® 1288/17	Prophylaxis of organ rejection in adult patients at low to moderate immunological risk receiving an allogenic renal transplant.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Fulvestrant injection Faslodex® 1294/17	Treatment of oestrogen receptor positive, locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer in postmenopausal women not previously treated with endocrine therapy.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017
Glecaprevir with Pibrentasvir tablets Maviret® 1278/17	Treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in adults	Routinely available in line with national guidance	11/12/2017
Ibrutinib capsules Imbruvica® 1289/17	As a single agent for the treatment of adult patients with previously untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (who do not have 17p deletion or TP53 mutation).	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017
Mercaptamine bitartrate MR capsules Procysbi® 1272/17	For the treatment of proven nephropathic cystinosis.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Olaratumab infusion Lartruvo® 1273/17	In combination with doxorubicin for the treatment of adult patients with advanced soft-tissue sarcoma who are not amenable to curative treatment with surgery or radiotherapy and who have not been previously treated with doxorubicin.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	11/12/2017
Palbociclib capsules Ibrance® 1276/17	Treatment of hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer (refer to SMC advice for full details of indication).	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	11/12/2017
Pegvisomant injection Somavert® 158/05	Treatment of adult patients with acromegaly who have had an inadequate response to surgery and / or radiation therapy and in whom an appropriate medical treatment with somatostatin analogues did not normalise IGF-1 [insulin-like growth factor 1] concentrations or was not tolerated.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	11/12/2017
Raltegravir tablets Isentress® 1280/17	In combination with other anti-retroviral medicinal products for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection in adults and paediatric patients weighing at least 40kg.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	11/12/2017

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Reslizumab infusion Cinqaero® 1233/17	As add-on therapy in adult patients with severe eosinophilic asthma inadequately controlled despite high-dose inhaled corticosteroids plus another medicinal product for maintenance treatment.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	11/12/2017
Tiotropium Solution for inhalation Spiriva Respimat® 411/07	As a maintenance bronchodilator treatment to relieve symptoms of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).	Routinely available in line with national guidance	11/12/2017