

RED (R) – For continued specialist prescribing

Prescribing lies normally with a hospital consultant or specialist. Unlicensed drugs and drugs unfamiliar to primary care prescribed 'off label' and anything not in current BNF. Low volume, high cost highly specialised treatments (e.g. majority of cytotoxics, HIV treatment). Drugs commonly used in infertility management

Criteria for Classification

1. Requiring specialist assessment to enable patient selection, initiation and ongoing treatment
2. Requiring long term on-going monitoring of efficacy by specialist
3. Requiring long term on-going monitoring of toxicity by a specialist either because of difficulty in recognising side effects or high cost of investigations to identify toxicity)
4. Specifically designated as 'hospital/specialist use only' by product licence or by DoH/NICE
5. New chemical entities (and still marked with black triangle) or a new indication for an existing drug that needs evaluation by Rotherham Area Prescribing Committee to be undertaken to establish place in therapy
6. Drugs not in the current British National Formulary (BNF) or current BNF for Children
7. Drugs, dressings or appliances not available or prescribable on FP10 prescription.
8. Hospital initiated clinical trial material
9. Unlicensed drugs
10. Drugs unfamiliar to primary care being prescribed outside licensed indications.
11. Suitable for shared care but awaiting a shared care guideline, approved by all relevant Trust D&TSCs and the Rotherham APC.
12. Drugs provided within Tariff

AMBER (A)

Initiated in secondary care but suitable for shared care with GP (No shared care protocol necessary). SCP - Initiated in secondary care but suitable for shared care with GP under a shared care agreement. To be agreed between primary/secondary care clinicians involved. Drugs familiar to Primary Care prescribed 'off label' (outside license). DMARD (Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatoid Drugs) have shared care protocols (excludes Methotrexate Injection -RED)

Criteria for Classification

1. Requiring specialist assessment to enable patient selection and initiation of treatment.
2. A shared care guideline has been approved.
3. Requiring short or medium term (e.g. 3-6 months) specialist monitoring of efficacy
4. Requiring short or medium term specialist monitoring of toxicity.
5. A drug that is rarely used such that GPs are unlikely to see sufficient patients to acquire a working knowledge of the initiation of the drug.
6. Specific long term monitoring for toxicity.
7. Medicines subject to specific NICE guidance.

Not recommended

The use of these drugs is Not recommended by the APC. Although suitable for prescribing in Primary Care, none of these drugs have any significant advantages over existing drugs within their therapeutic group.

Criteria for Classification

1. Lack of data on effectiveness compared with standard therapy.
2. Lack of data on safety compared with standard therapy.
3. Known increase in risk of adverse events compared with standard therapy.
4. Lack of data on cost-effectiveness compared with standard therapy.
5. Less cost-effective than current standard therapy.
6. 'Me too' products marked with a black triangle, where there is experience in the use of the group of drugs to which it belongs
7. Medicines subject to specific NICE guidance

Individual Funding Applications (IFAs)

Drugs in this category require individual funding applications to be made via the CSU

Drug	Classified	Comments
Abatacept	RED	
Acamprosate	AMBER	Alcohol dependence - Advice from specialist centre, Public Health
Acetazolamide	AMBER	Glaucoma
Acitretin	RED	
Agomelatine	RED	
Albendazole	RED	
Aliskiren	AMBER	
Alitretinoin	RED	
Alprostadil (Caverject/Muse)	AMBER	or can be initiated by GP Specialist
Ambrisentan	RED	
Amifostine	RED	
Amiodarone	AMBER	
Amisulpiride	AMBER	
Anagrelide	RED	
Anakinra	RED	
Anastrozole	AMBER	
Antimalarials	RED	N.B. Private Prescriptions for travel prophylaxis
Anti-retrovirals	RED	All drugs for HIV are classified red.

Rotherham Healthcare
Traffic Light System

Drug	Classified	Comments
Apomorphine	AMBER	Awaiting SCP
Aripiprazole injection	RED	
Arpiprazole	AMBER	
Atomoxetine	RED	
Atovaquone	RED	
Azathioprine	AMBER	SCP Gastroenterology & Rheumatology
Benperidol	AMBER	
Bevacizumab	RED	
Bicalutamide	AMBER	
Budesonide	AMBER	Ulcerative colitis / Crohns - no restriction for respiratory uses
Buprenorphine (Subutex)	AMBER	SCP GP drug misuse LES Public Health
Buserelin	AMBER	SCP Prostate cancer
Cabergoline	RED	Parkinsons disease
Cabergoline	AMBER	Endocrine
Capreomycin	RED	
Carnitine	AMBER	
Cetrorelix	RED	
Ciclosporin	RED	Occasionally practice may be required to prescribe this if the patient is not managed by a local hospital.
Cidofovir	RED	
Cincacalcet	AMBER	
Clobazam	AMBER	
Clomifene	AMBER	
Clonazepam	AMBER	
Clozapine	RED	
Colomycin nebulised	AMBER	
Coproxamol	Not recommended	
Co-trimoxazole	AMBER	
Cyclophosphamide	RED	
Cycloserine	RED	
Cyproterone	AMBER	
Cytokine Modulators	RED	
Cytotoxics (for cancer)	RED	
Dalteparin	AMBER	
Dapoxetine	AMBER	
Darbopoetin Alfa	RED	
Defarasirox	RED	

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Deflazacort	AMBER		
Degarelix (Firmagon)	AMBER	SCP	To be initiated in secondary care prescribing continued in primary care in accordance to the SCP
Denosumab	RED		
Depot neuroleptics	AMBER		
Dexamfetamine (Dexedrine)	AMBER		
Diethylstilboestrol	AMBER		
Disulfiram	AMBER		
Donepezil	AMBER	SCP	
Dornase alfa (Pulmozyme)	RED		
Dronedarone	AMBER		
Dosulepin	RED		
Eflornithine Cream (Vaniqa)	AMBER		Consultant dermatologists
Enoxaparin	AMBER		Trust guidance
Entacapone	AMBER		
Entecavir	RED		
Enteral Nutrition	RED		Dieticians
Eplerenone	AMBER		
Epoetin Alfa & Beta	RED		
Eribulin	RED		
Erdosteine	RED		
Escitalopram	AMBER		Consultant psychiatry
Etanercept	RED		
Ethambutol	AMBER		
Ethinylestradiol	AMBER		Breast cancer
Exemestane	AMBER		
Febuxostat	AMBER		
Fentanyl transmucosal	AMBER		
Flecainide	AMBER		
Fluorouracil cream	AMBER		
Fludrocortisone	AMBER		
Flurbiprofen eyedrops	AMBER		
Flutamide	AMBER		
Fluticasone Furoate (Avamys®)	Not recommended		
Fosavance	Not recommended		
Filgrastim	RED		
Fulvestrant (Faslodex)	RED		

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Galantamine	AMBER	SCP	
Ganciclovir	RED		
Gliclazide SR	Not recommended		
Goserelin (Zoladex)	AMBER		
Grazax	Not recommended		
Growth hormone	AMBER	SCP	listed as separate monographs
Heparin - low molecular weight (LMWH)	AMBER		Trust guidance
Hydroxycarbamide (Hydroxyurea)	RED		
Hydroxychloroquine	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology
Imiquimod	AMBER		
Infertility drugs (IVF)	RED		
Inosine	RED		
Interferon alpha (Roferon-A, Viaferon, Wellferon)	RED		
Interferon beta	RED		
Isocarboxazid	RED		
Isoniazid	AMBER		
Isotretinoin (Oral)	RED		
Ivabradine	AMBER		
Lacosamide	AMBER		
Lamivudine	RED		
Lamotrigine	AMBER		
Lanreotide	AMBER		
Lanthanum	RED		
Leflunomide	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology
Lenalidomide	RED		
Lenograstim	RED		
Letrozole	AMBER		
Leuprorelin	AMBER		
Levetiracetam	AMBER		
Levocetirizine	Not recommended		
Lidocaine 5% Plaster	AMBER		
Linezolid	RED		
Lithium	AMBER	SCP	Prescribe by brand
Lofexidine	RED		or GP specialist - Opioid dependence - according to protocol
Lumiracoxib	Not recommended		
Melatonin	AMBER	SCP	Only licensed preparation Circadin® (MR) to be prescribed as shared care. Non-licensed preparations are RED

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Memantine	AMBER	SCP	Only if prescribed in accordance with its licensed can it be considered for shared care
Menotrophin	RED		
Mercaptamine	RED		
Mercaptopurine	AMBER		
Mesna	RED		
Mesterolone	AMBER		
Metformin SR	AMBER		
Methadone	RED		or GP specialist - Opioid dependence - according to protocol
Methocarbamol	AMBER		
Methotrexate Injection	RED		
Methotrexate tablets	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology - Prescribe 2.5mg tablets
Methylnaltrexone	RED		
Methylphenidate	AMBER	SCP	If initiated by RDaSH, to be continued in accordance with the SCP. If this drug has been initiated by a non Rotherham service, practices may choose to continue in accordance with the SCP of the service provider or request the initiator to continue prescribing.
Metirosine	RED		
Metyrapone	RED		
Mexiletine	RED		
Mianserin	AMBER		
Micardis Plus®	Not recommended		
Miconazole Buccal	AMBER		
Mifepristone	RED		
Minoxidil	AMBER		
Moclobemide	AMBER		
Modafinil	AMBER		
Mycophenolate	RED		Prophylaxis of transplant rejection
Mycophenolate	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology
Nabilone	RED		
Nafarelin	RED		Infertility treatment
Nalmefene	AMBER		To only be prescribed as per Public Health Nalmefene Pathway available on RCCG Drug and Alcohol Guidelines.
Naloxone/Oxycodone	Not recommended		
Naltrexone	RED		or GP specialist - Public Health
Natalizumab	RED		
Nateglinide	AMBER		

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Neostigmine	AMBER		
Nepafenac eye drops	RED		
Niacin	AMBER		
Nimodipine	RED		
Octreotide	AMBER		or GP Specialist
Olanzapine	AMBER		
Ondansetron	AMBER		
OTC Vitamins	Not recommended		
Oxcarbazepine	AMBER		
Oxerutins	RED		
Palivizumab	RED		
Paliperidone	RED		
Peginterferon	RED		
Penicillamine	AMBER	SCP	
Pentamidine	RED		
Pergolide	AMBER		
Phenelzine	RED		
Phenindione	AMBER		
Phenoxybenzamine	AMBER		
Phenylbutazone	RED		
Phytomenadione injection	RED		
Pimecrolimus	AMBER		
Pimozide	AMBER		
Piracetam	AMBER		
Pramipexole	AMBER		
Prasugrel 5mgs & 10mgs	AMBER		Cardiologists only
Pregabalin			Not to be prescribed for patients with a history of substance misuse
Primidone	AMBER		
Procainamide	RED		
Propafenone	AMBER		
Propiverine	AMBER		
Prucalopride	AMBER		
Pyrazinamide	AMBER		
Qlaira	Not recommended		
Quetiapine	AMBER		
Quinagolide	RED		

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Ranolazine	AMBER		Stable angina
Raloxifene	Not recommended		
Rasagiline	AMBER		
Reboxetine	Not recommended		
Retigabine	AMBER		
Ribavirin	RED		
Rifabutin	AMBER		
Rifampicin	AMBER		TB (OK for prophylaxis of meningococcal meningitis)
Rifater	AMBER		
Rifinah	AMBER		
Riluzole	RED		
Risperidone (oral)	AMBER		
Risperidone depot	RED		
Rivastigmine	AMBER	SCP	
Ropinirole	AMBER		
Rotigotine	AMBER		
Salcatonin (Forcaltonin, Miacalcic)	AMBER		
Sapropterin	Red		
Sativex	RED		
Sevelamer	RED		
Sirolimus	RED		
Sodium aurothiomalate	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology
Sodium clodronate	AMBER		
Sodium hyaluronate (Hyalgan)	RED		
Solifenacin	Not recommended		
Somatropin for adults	RED		
Somatropin for Children (growth hormone)	AMBER	SCP	see notes
Stalevo	AMBER		
Streptomycin	RED		
Sulfasalazine	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology and Gastroenterology
Tacrolimus (systemic)	RED		
Tacrolimus ointment	AMBER		
Tamoxifen	AMBER		
Tapentadol	RED		
Tenofovir	RED		
Testosterone injection	AMBER		

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Drug	Classified	Comments
Tetracosactrin	RED	
Tiagabine	AMBER	
Ticagrelor	AMBER	
Tinzaparin	AMBER	trust guidance
Tizanidine	AMBER	
Tobramycin (nebulised)	RED	New Patients from April 2006
Tolcapone	RED	
Topiramate	AMBER	
Toremifene	AMBER	
Total Parenteral Nutrition	RED	
Trientine	RED	
Ulipristal Acetate	RED	
Unlicensed Indications – familiar drugs	AMBER	To be agreed between Primary/Secondary Care Clinicians involved
Unlicensed Indications - unfamiliar drugs	RED	
Ustekinumab	RED	
Urofollitropin	RED	
Valganciclovir	RED	
Valproate semisodium (Depakote)	AMBER	
Vancomycin capsules	AMBER	
Vasopressin	RED	
Venlafaxine	Not recommended	
Vigabatrin	AMBER	
Zonisamide	AMBER	