

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		
Alimemazine	RED		
Alprostadil (Caverject/Muse)	AMBER		or can be initiated by GP Specialist
Ambrisentan	RED		
Amiodarone	AMBER		With monitoring guidance
Amisulpride	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.
Apomorphine	AMBER	SCP	

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Aripiprazole	RED / AMBER		Oral agents are Amber. Injections are Red.
Atomoxetine	RED		
Atovaquone	RED		
Azathioprine	AMBER	SCP	Gastroenterology and Rheumatology
Bempedoic Acid	AMBER		
Benperidol	AMBER		
Betamethasone Valerate medicated plaster	RED		Betesil
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 / AMBER		Amber for Endocrine. Red for Parkinsons disease or any other indication.
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.
Ciclosporin eye drops	AMBER		
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		
Deferasirox	RED		
Deflazacort	AMBER		
Degarelix (Firmagon)	AMBER	SCP	To be initiated in secondary care prescribing continued in primary care in accordance to the SCP

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Denosumab	AMBER	SCP	Metabolic bone centre
Depot neuroleptics	AMBER		
Dexamfetamine (Dexedrine)	AMBER		Amber for narcolepsy via neurology only (red for other indications)
Diethylstilboestrol	AMBER		
Disulfiram	AMBER		
Donepezil (GP to initiate under dementia LES)	AMBER	SCP	Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors
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		
Fidaxomicin	AMBER		
Flecainide	AMBER		
Fluorouracil cream	AMBER		
Fludrocortisone	AMBER		
Flurbiprofen eyedrops	AMBER		
Flutamide	AMBER		
Fluticasone Furoate (Avamys®)	Not recommended		
Fosavance	Not recommended		
Fosfomycin	AMBER		
Fulvestrant (Faslodex)	RED		
Galantamine	AMBER	SCP	Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors
Ganciclovir	RED		

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Gliclazide SR	Not recommended		
Goserelin (Zoladex)	AMBER		
Grazax	Not recommended		
Growth hormone	AMBER	SCP	listed as separate monographs - awaiting SCP update from Sheffield (02/16)
Heparin - low molecular weight (LMWH)	AMBER		Trust guidance
Hydroxycarbamide (Hydroxyurea)	RED		
Hydroxychloroquine	AMBER		No Shared Care Protocol.
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		
Ketamine nasal spray	RED		
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 Patches	RED / AMBER		Amber for Licenced post Herpetic Neuralgia. Red for any other indication.
Liothyronine	RED		
Linezolid	AMBER		
Liraglutide (Saxenda)	AMBER		Only to be prescribed if initiated by Rotherham Weightloss Clinic
Lisdexamfetamine	RED		
Lithium	AMBER	SCP	Prescribe by brand Monitoring performed by Lithium Clinic

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Lofexidine	RED		or GP specialist - Opioid dependence - according to protocol
Lokelma	RED		
Lubiprostone	AMBER		
Melatonin	RED/AMBER	SCP	SCP under 18 as melatonin m/r 2mgs tabs – Circadin (Adults = RED)
Memantine	AMBER	SCP	Only if precrisbed in accordnace 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	RED / AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology - Prescribe 2.5mg tablets Injections are Red and cannot be prescribed but monitoring can be done under the LES.
Methylnaltrexone	RED		
Methylphenidate	AMBER	SCP	SCP if initiated by RDaSH. 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.
Metyrapone	RED		
Mexiletine	RED		
Mianserin	AMBER		
Micardis Plus®	Not recommended		
Miconazole Buccal	AMBER		
Midodrine	AMBER		
Mifepristone	RED		
Minoxidil	AMBER		
Moclobemide	AMBER		
Modafinil	AMBER		
Mycophenolate	RED / AMBER	SCP	SCP for Rheumatology. Red for Transplant Rejection, Neurology or any other indication.
Nabilone	RED		
Nafarelin	RED		Infertility treatment
Nalmefene	AMBER		To only be prescribed as per Public Health Nalmefene Pathway available on RCGG Drug and Alcohol Guidelines.

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Naltrexone	RED		or GP specialist - Public Health
Natalizumab	RED		
Nateglinide	AMBER		
Neostigmine	AMBER		
Nepafenac eye drops	RED		
Naloxegol	AMBER		
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	Rheumatology
Pentamidine	RED		
Pergolide	AMBER		
Phenelzine	RED		
Phenindione	AMBER		
Phenoxybenzamine	AMBER		
Phenylbutazone	RED		
Phytomenadione injection	RED		
Pimecrolimus	AMBER		
Pimozide	AMBER		
Piracetam	AMBER		
Posconazole	RED		
Pramipexole	AMBER		For Parkinsons
Prasugrel 5mgs & 10mgs	AMBER		Cardiologists only
Pregabalin	Not recommended		Not to be prescribed for patients with a history of substance misuse
Primidone	AMBER		
Probiotics (ALL)	RED		
Propafenone	AMBER		
Propiverine	AMBER		

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Prucalopride	AMBER		
Pyrazinamide	AMBER		
Qlaira	Not recommended		
Quetiapine	AMBER		
Quinagolide	RED		
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		
Rifaximin	AMBER		
Rifinah	AMBER		
Riluzole	AMBER		SCP for Riluzole for Rotherham patients under Sheffield Neurologists
Risperidone	RED / AMBER		Oral agents are Amber. Injections are Red.
Rivastigmine	AMBER	SCP	Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors
Roflumilast	RED		
Ropinorole	AMBER		For Parkinsons
Rotigotine	AMBER		
Salcatonin (Forcaltonin, Miacalcic)	AMBER		
Sacubitril	AMBER		
Sapropterin	RED		
Sativex	RED		
Sevelamer	RED		
Sirolimus	RED		
Slentyto	RED		
Sodium aurothiomalate	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology
Sodium clodronate	AMBER		
Sodium hyaluronate (Hyalgan)	RED		
Solifenacin	Not recommended		
Somatropin (growth hormone)	RED / AMBER		Amber for Children. Red for Adults over 18 years.
Stalevo	AMBER		
Streptomycin	RED		

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Drug	Classified		Comments
Sulfasalazine	AMBER	SCP	Rheumatology and Gastroenterology
Tacrolimus	RED / AMBER		Amber for Ointment only. All Oral preparations are Red.
Tamoxifen	AMBER		
Tapentadol	Not recommended		
Tedizolid	AMBER		
Tenofovir	RED		
Testosterone	AMBER	SCP	SCP for Urology and Transgender. LES available for payment.
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		Pre-operative treatment of moderate to severe symptoms of uterine fibroids.
Ustekinumab	RED		
Urofollitropin	RED		
Valganciclovir	RED		
Valproate semisodium (Depakote)	AMBER		
Vancomycin capsules	AMBER		
Vasopressin	RED		
Venlafaxine	Not recommended		
Vigabatrin	AMBER		
Vortioxetine	AMBER		
Zonisamide	AMBER		