



- **Endometriosis: diagnosis and management – NICE guidance (NG73)**

This guideline <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng73> aims to raise awareness of the symptoms of endometriosis and to provide clear advice on what action to take when women with signs and symptoms first present in healthcare settings. It also provides advice on the range of treatments available as well as a patient decision aid for hormonal contraceptives <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng73/resources/patient-decision-aid-hormone-treatment-for-endometriosis-symptoms-what-are-my-options-pdf-4595573197>

- **Public Health England Guidance on Managing Common Infections in Primary Care**

The PHE guidance on Managing Common Infections has been updated [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/643047/Managing\\_common\\_infections\\_summary\\_tables.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643047/Managing_common_infections_summary_tables.pdf) Major updates include the sections on scarlet fever, sinusitis, UTI, cold sores, acne, mastitis, conjunctivitis and blepharitis. Advice is now included on when self-care may be appropriate and guidance on the use of antibiotics in pregnancy has also been updated.

- **National consultation on drugs which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care**

NHS England has partnered with NHS Clinical Commissioners to support Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in ensuring that they can use their prescribing resources effectively and deliver best patient outcomes from the medicines that their local population uses. This has resulted in a national consultation for drugs considered to fall into the following categories:

- Items of low clinical effectiveness, where there is a lack of robust evidence of clinical effectiveness or there are significant safety concerns;
- Items which are clinically effective but where more cost-effective products are available, including products that have been subject to excessive price inflation; or
- Items which are clinically effective but, due to the nature of the product, are deemed a low priority for NHS funding

The items included are:

- Co-proxamol
- Dosulepin
- Prolonged-release Doxazosin (also known as Doxazosin Modified Release)
- Immediate Release Fentanyl
- Glucosamine and Chondroitin
- Herbal Treatments
- Homeopathy
- Lidocaine Plasters
- Liothyronine
- Lutein and Antioxidants
- Omega-3 Fatty Acid Compounds
- Oxycodone and Naloxone Combination Product
- Paracetamol and Tramadol Combination Product
- Perindopril Arginine
- Rubefacients (excluding topical NSAIDs)
- Once Daily Tadalafil
- Travel Vaccines
- Trimipramine
- Items that are prescribed in primary care and are available over the counter.

Note - This includes products that can be purchased at a lower cost than would be incurred by the NHS, treat a condition that is considered to be self-limiting, a condition which lends itself to self-care.

Corby and Nene CCGs' prescribing levels of the vast majority of these items is very low when compared to other CCGs. This can be attributed to most of these items already being classified as **double red - prior approval** (usually only approved if criteria met) or **double red – Individual Funding Request** (only approved if exceptionality is proven).

**All clinicians are encouraged to respond to the consultation <https://www.engage.england.nhs.uk/consultation/items-routinely-prescribed/> which closes on 21st October 2017.**

This edition is also available on PathfinderRF via the following link

<http://nww.pathfinder-rf.northants.nhs.uk/nene>

#### Disclaimer

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