NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Group
Kettering General Hospital NHS Trust
NHS Nene Clinical Commissioning Group
Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust
Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP
Summary of Recommendations from meeting on Weds 19th August 2015

- **Abasaglar®▼ (insulin glargine [rDNA origin] 100 units/ml)**

Abasaglar insulin is an EMA approved biosimilar to Lantus and has demonstrated there are no clinically meaningful or statistically significant differences from Lantus in the safety, efficacy, pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic profiles. Abasaglar and Lantus have the same summary of product characteristics and identical indications. Abasaglar can be administered using the prefilled KwikPen or the reusable Savvio pen. It is 15% less expensive than Lantus.
It must be prescribed by brand, as Abasaglar and Lantus are not interchangeable; prescriptions should no longer be issued for generic 'glargine'. Any long-standing prescriptions for generic 'glargine' should be changed to Lantus but for new initiations Abasaglar is recommended. (NB human insulin remains the first-line choice for most patients)
NPAG categorised Abasaglar as green.

- **Toujeo ®▼(insulin glargine 300 units/ml)**

Toujeo Solostar is a prefilled pen containing insulin glargine 300 units/ml. Toujeo and insulin glargine 100 units/ml are not bioequivalent and not interchangeable without dose adjustment. However Toujeo is not simply 3 times the potency of glargine 100 units/ml; the dose conversion is quite complex. NPAG had previously consulted with the local diabetes specialists and felt that the dose conversion had the potential for confusion and consequent safety concerns.
NPAG categorised Toujeo as double red (prior approval – on advice of a diabetes specialist only)

- **Edoxaban▼ for Deep Vein Thromobosis (DVT) and Pulmonary Embolism (PE)**

Edoxaban is the 4th Direct Oral Anti-Coagulant (DOAC – previously called NOACs) to be launched.
NICE is shortly to issue a TA for the DVT and PE indications.
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/indevelopment/gid-tag476
NPAG categorised edoxaban for DVT and PE as amber 2

- **Spiolto Respimat®▼ (olodaterol and tiotropium combination inhaler)**

NPAG categorised Spiolto Respimat as grey, awaiting further input from the local respiratory consultants

- **Tapitqom® (Tafluprost 15mcg/ml + timolol maleate 5mg/ml preservative free eye drops)**

NPAG categorised Tapitqom drops as grey, awaiting the completion of a countywide glaucoma formulary

- **Bramox® tablets (midodrine)**

Bramox is the first licensed midodrine hydrochloride available in the UK. This will now be used in the acute trusts and primary care, in preference to unlicensed midodrine "specials".
NPAG categorised Bramox as green. Once it becomes available on the GP clinical systems, existing midodrine "specials" should be switched to Bramox.

- **Naloxegol (Moventig®▼)**

Naloxegol selectively antagonises peripheral opioid receptors to relieve constipation. NICE TAG 345 states, "Naloxegol is recommended, within its marketing authorisation, as an option for treating opioid induced constipation in adults whose constipation has not adequately responded to laxatives". An inadequate response is defined as opioid-induced constipation symptoms of at least moderate severity in at least 1 of the 4 stool symptom domains (that is, incomplete bowel movement, hard stools, straining or false alarms) while taking at least 1 laxative class for at least 4 days during the prior 2 weeks.
NPAG categorised naloxegol and amber 2

- **Pre-constituted liquid baby milks**

The contents of the powder and ready-to-use liquid versions are almost identical; there is no clinical evidence to use liquid over powder, for example for constipation, as is sometimes suggested.
NPAG categorised the liquid versions of Nutriprem 2 and SMA Gold Prem 2 as double red.

- **Iron injections**

The MHRA advises that iron injections should only be administered where there is access to full resuscitation facilities. **NPAG categorised all iron injections as red**

- **Anal irrigation products**

NPAG categorised all anal irrigation products as amber 2

- **Shared Care Protocols**

The existing SCPs for memantine and anticholinesterase inhibitors were extended, pending revised NICE guidance.

Further information or clinical trial data may be obtained from the CCG Prescribing Advisers or Hospital Medicines Information Service.