

Prescribing Briefing for all Lincolnshire practices on Covid-19 Response

30th March 2020

- Daily briefing will be issued at 5pm
- Will include latest national guidance, local plans, updates on actions and answers to key questions
- General queries from practices should be emailed to leccg.c19.lincsprescribing@nhs.net
Responses will be provided in the daily briefing
- Clinical forum will be established from 19 March to provide guidance regarding clinical issues, please send these to the generic email. Feedback will be provided in the daily brief.
- Local escalation/issues to be raised directly with your regular primary care team
- Additional names for the daily briefing email should be sent to the generic email address above

In today's briefing:

- | |
|---|
| 1. Unmapped Items |
| 2. Red Drugs |
| 3. Inhalers |
| 4. Optimise RX |
| 5. COVID PROTECT |
| 6. Managing Pneumonia in Elderly |

DM + D Unmapped Items

Many practices who are now live with *EPS Release 2* may be noticing that it is still not possible to send a number of items electronically. This results in extra work load for the practice chasing up paper prescriptions that pharmacies request and confusion for patients having a mixture of paper and electronic prescriptions.

Embedded below is a link to guidance which will support practices to ensure the products in the system are mapped correctly. By completing the DM+D exercise items will be correctly mapped and able to be ordered through EPS. This will save a great deal of time, confusion and inconvenience for patients, practice and pharmacy staff.

Please check the following link for full details:

http://www.southstaffordshirejointformulary.nhs.uk/docs/CDD/Practice%20Resources/DMD_mapping_guidance_Pan_Staffs%20SystemOne%20Final%20Feb2018.pdf

Red Drugs

Guidance from the Regional Team, Trust and local CCG leads is that primary care prescribing clinicians continue to adhere to the Lincolnshire Formulary traffic light classification during the COVID19 period.

Hospital Trusts have been requested to use their system resources to enable these drugs to be prescribed by secondary care as usual.

Prescribing of Inhalers

Currently there is a local shortage of some inhalers due to the excessive demand rather than a national supply shortage. Some wholesalers are expecting further supplies to be delivered in mid-April.

The Optum MMO Team are in the process of drafting a short guide to alternative inhalers which can be prescribed where there is a shortage and the list of shortages will be shared each day as part of this update.

This issue has been escalated at a Regional and then National level last week by a number of health systems. The Department of Health & Social and Care and the Commercial Medicines Unit has recognised this and will be considering actions that can be taken to address the issue.

OptimiseRX FDB update

Optum MMO are regularly reviewing messages in order to support prescribers. We have disabled several groups of messages including OTC and respiratory to reduce the burden on clinical staff and ensure that this essential messaging platform remains relevant and useful.

Messaging about any changes to prescribing practice which relates to the COVID-19 response will be shared on OptimiseRX is appropriate so we urge clinicians to keep the application switched on.

We are also in communication with FDB regarding performance issues that have been raised to our team, please see the embedded email from colleagues at FDB.



FDB OptimiseRX
Comms to practices.

MIMS Shortage Tracker

Please find the latest MIMS stock shortage tracker below, last updated 27.03.20:



MIMS shortage
tracker 27.03.2020.x

CPPE Guide to Returning to Pharmacy Practice e-course

The Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) have launched a *Guide to Returning to Pharmacy Practice* e-course. This programme has been developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to support pharmacy professionals in their return to practice.



200326 - CPPE
launches Guide to r

NHS Pathways COVID PROTECT

COVID PROTECT is fully integrated into Eclipse which is used widely by our prescribers across Lincolnshire.

The PROTECT interface can support prescribers by:

- Identifying patients at risk of hospitalisation
- Ensure priority patients are self-isolating
- Remote population health management

The Eclipse team have said "COVID PROTECT will provide a detailed live analysis of the population, educate to minimise the risk of spread and allow escalation of those with healthcare needs and then allow Healthcare Teams to accurately assess the individual without compromising the safety of emergency practitioners and A&E / clinical resources"

Documents and videos supporting use of the COVID-19 interface are on the log in page www.nhspathways.org



NHS Pathways -
COVID 19 (Mar 20) V

Guidance for the Safe Switching of Warfarin to Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) for Patients with Non-Valvular AF and Venous Thromboembolism (DVT/PE)

Prescribers may want to consider switching appropriate patients from Warfarin to a DOAC in order to avoid regular blood tests for monitoring INR during the coronavirus pandemic.

Guidance endorsed by the Royal Collage of General Practitioners, British Haematology Society is attached to support. Careful consideration must be taken as not all patients are suitable for a switch to a DOAC. For those patients who are suitable, they suggest taking a phased approach over the 12 week cycle of INR monitoring in order to protect the supply chain. The guidance covers selecting appropriate patients, dosing regimens, a counselling check list for patients and monitoring requirements.



FINAL Guidance on
safe switching of w:

Rapidly Managing Pneumonia in Older People -COVID-19

The CEBM Review (attached) "*Rapidly managing pneumonia in older people during a pandemic*" has been forwarded via NHSEI to the NICE rapid review process for guidance to inform NHS action on the use of early antibiotics to treat CAP in older people.

It would therefore be helpful if systems could wait for this to publish and in the interim align treatment guidelines to current and as usual NICE antimicrobial prescribing guidance, without implementing just-in-case supply strategies which may destabilise the antibiotic supply chain.



Pneumonia-treatme
nt-in-the-elderly-2.p



Rapid-diagnosis-str
ategy-of-pneumoni:

Contact

For all general pharmacy and perscribing enquiries please contact :
leccg.c19.lincsprescribing@nhs.net