

# Prescribing Briefing for all Lincolnshire practices on Covid-19 Response

2<sup>nd</sup> April 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](mailto: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. Inhalers
2. Health and Justice System – Continuity of Care on Release and Transfer
3. Medication Supplies
4. Fresenius Kabi Covid 19 Update

## Inhalers

Please find embedded a Quick Reference Inhaler Guide detailing device information to consider when switching between different brands of the same inhaler. 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.

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.

Please refer to MIMS drug shortage tracker for up-to-date information-sign up is free for GP Practices <https://www.mims.co.uk/drug-shortages-live-tracker/article/1581516>



Inhaler Quick Reference Guide V4.

## Health and Justice System – Continuity of Care on Release and Transfer

- Advice provided to health and justice healthcare teams states that HJ providers should supply at least 7 days (and a maximum of 28 days) supply of medication when people are released or transferred – including CDs.
- Medicines or FP10/FP10MDA prescriptions need to be provided to ensure continuity of medicines as GP practices and community pharmacies will be unfamiliar with providing emergency supplies of medicines for released prisoners or other detainees
- Collaboration with community substance misuse services (who will have local COVID-19 plans for their services) and use of published COVID-19 guidance by PHE should be used to ensure that:
  - Release planning for people who will need continued opioid substitution therapy (OST) will be able to access community services. This includes ongoing prescribing and supervised consumption services by community pharmacies
  - Usual HJ release plans can be adjusted in the light of the impact on COVID-19 on local services. This includes the provision of up to 14 days of OST on a HJ issued FP10MDA.

The full Advice for health and justice healthcare teams on medicines and pharmacy services continuity document is embedded below.



C0090 - COVID-19  
guidance for medici

## Medication Supplies

**Tillotts Pharma** have issued a letter of stock assurance stating with expected growth they are confident they have sufficient stocks of Octasa MR (all strengths) to meet the demand for at least six months.

**TrueYou** blood glucose testing strips are being withdrawn from the drug tariff in July. We are aware that some patients across County are using these test strips, please continue to supply as usual and we will provide further updates on managing these patients in due course.

**Morningside** have informed us that Ixylone PR (tablets) will be discontinued from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020. Patients currently prescribed Ixylone PR should be reviewed and switched if appropriate to an alternative oxycodone hydrochloride prolonged release tablet, such as Oxypro.

## Fresenius Kabi Covid 19 Update

Due to an increased demand from the NHS, Fresenius are asking all customers to return any enteral feeding pumps (Amika and Applix) that are not in use. To arrange the return of any enteral feeding pumps, please contact either your Fresenius Kabi representative, or Patient Services (if the pump is currently with a Homecare patient), as soon as possible.

The full update from Fresenius Kabi is embedded below.



Fresenius Kabi  
COVID update 0104:

## Contact

**For all general pharmacy and prescribing enquiries please contact :**  
[leccg.c19.lincsprescribing@nhs.net](mailto:leccg.c19.lincsprescribing@nhs.net)