

Edoxaban formulary update

Best value DOAC schemes are now active in Dorset to align our prescribing with national DOAC procurement policies. A thousand people taking edoxaban have transitioned to a best value DOAC since the 1st April 2025. To support prescribers in their discussions with patients and after discussion with local clinicians, the formulary has been updated to restrict edoxaban for AF according the following parameters:

- Patients who cannot take 1st line agents apixaban or rivaroxaban, namely those:
 - on interacting medications which preclude the use of apixaban/rivaroxaban
 - with clinically significant lactose intolerance (other DOACs have lactose in their coating)
 - who require a once daily DOAC and but do not have sufficient dietary intake to take rivaroxaban
 - who require a once daily DOAC and do not tolerate/have failed therapy with rivaroxaban

This will be discussed at the next IMOC meeting, and follows consultation with secondary care specialists.

Iron deficiency anaemia in children

The paediatric team at University Hospitals Dorset NHS Trust have written to confirm that they will be adopting new BNFC [recommendations for management of iron deficiency anaemia in children](#), namely once-daily or alternate day dosing.

The BNFC states: 'An initial once-daily or alternate-day dose regimen of oral iron salts (depending on preparation used) is recommended, as these may be just as effective as multiple daily dose regimens (such as two or three times a day dosing), with a lower incidence of side-effects and better compliance.

When prescribing, please consider total quantity needed, express the dose in terms of elemental iron & iron salt, and select the most appropriate formulation.

New Freestyle Libre 2 Plus sensors

FreeStyle Libre 2 (14-day) sensors are being discontinued in August 2025. Patients should be switched to the new 15-day FreeStyle Libre 2 Plus sensor. The new sensors are identical except the extra day of usage. There are no changes to the app, reader, or Libreview. We therefore encourage you to start switching patients over to the new sensors now. Abbott Diabetes Care has short training sessions on offer for healthcare professionals to update you on the change, use the QR code on the right to register for this training. The PIP code for the new sensors is 428-0194.



Prescribers – check your registration with the NHS BSA!

If you are a prescriber, check your registration with the NHS BSA. Have a look at the NHS BSA online [database of prescribers](#). If the list does not reflect your current role(s) / work location(s), please ensure it is updated at your earliest convenience. This helps to ensure accuracy of local and national prescribing data.

For doctors:

Changes to the NHS BSA database are based upon your PCSE account. Please ensure your PCSE account is kept up to date with your work locations. Please note that if you are working across several locations (e.g. practices in a PCN), that prescriber codes are **not transferrable**, you should use a unique prescriber code in each practice. Refer to the [database of prescribers](#) for which code to use in which location, and if not all the locations are listed, then as above, update your PCSE account, and PCSE will issue you with additional codes.

For non-medical prescribers:

For NMPs, if you need to correct the information shown on the NHS BSA database of prescribers, please either use our [online form for changes](#) or email Hayley.braid@nhsdorset.nhs.uk.

Learning

- The Health Innovation Polypharmacy Network has released further dates for their Action Learning Sets. These sessions are designed to enhance the confidence and understanding prescribing healthcare professionals regarding the complex issues involved in safely discontinuing inappropriate medications.

Clinicians are required to attend this course under the Prescribing Quality Scheme for the CCLIP 25/26 Incentive Scheme. The next sessions will be held on 4th June, 18th June, and 2nd July. Please note at present this is the last confirmed national polypharmacy ALS that will be running so please sign up ASAP to avoid missing out. Register online at: [Polypharmacy Action Learning Set Cohort 24](#).

Quick bites

- The Dorset Formulary is available at: www.dorsetformulary.nhs.uk.
- Paxlovid® (Nirmatrelvir 150mg tablets and Ritonavir 100mg tablets) will be deleted from Part VIIC of the May 2025 Drug Tariff after confirmation from NHS England that all remaining supplies of this antiviral medicine will expire on 31 May 2025. The last day pharmacies should dispense Government stock of Paxlovid® is 24 May 2025, to ensure that the patient completes the 5-day course before it expires. After this date, any expired stock must be disposed of in the usual manner. Read more about this on the [Community Pharmacy England website](#).
- A [BJGP study](#) shows that PPI prescribing in England is not in alignment with existing clinical guidelines and highlights the need for appropriate measures to increase awareness of overuse and support deprescribing where appropriate. Please refer to the [PPI Medicine Safety Checklist](#) and [deprescribing algorithm for PPIs](#) on the Dorset formulary to assist with safe prescribing and deprescribing of PPIs.

REGIONAL MEDICINES INFORMATION SERVICE

If you work in primary care (including community pharmacy), specialist medicines advice can be obtained from SPS via **0300 7708564** or email asksps.nhs@sps.direct. (Staff in Dorset NHS Trusts should seek advice from their pharmacy teams).

This newsletter is for healthcare professionals. It represents what is known at the time of writing so information may be subsequently superseded.