

Ein cyf/Our ref: AWMSG to March 2013
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BY EMAIL

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**TO: All prescribers
County lead pharmacists
Assistant Director of Nursing (Practice)
Hywel Dda Health Board global email**

Dear Colleague

The appraisals listed below have been published by the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG). They have been assessed for local implementation and their place in therapy established as described.

Please ensure that your teams are fully aware of this information.

In accordance with the provisions of Welsh Ministerial Letter ML/009 /09 (see [EH/ML/009/09](#), 19.3.09), these drugs are being added to the Health Board's formulary, <http://hywelddahb.inform.wales.nhs.uk/>, and will be available for prescribing in accordance with the guidance.

Please ensure that the appropriate audit forms are completed for all initiations on these therapies in the next 12 months. You will find the audit forms on the [Clinical Systems \(NICE / TA AWMSG appraisal audits\)](#) pages of the Health Board's Intranet: <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/862/page/43199>

Pharmacy has been notified of the guidance and you should be aware that prescriptions that fall outside the recommendations of AWMSG guidance will be discussed with prescribers before dispensing. Please note that failure to complete the appropriate audit form may result in a delay in dispensing.

AWMSG 0213 [Vildagliptin \(Galvus\)](#)

DPP-4 inhibitors (Gliptins) as a group have been reviewed and advice will be issued after MMG on 26th June 2013

AWMSG 0313 [C1-esterase inhibitor \(Cinryze\)](#)

C1-esterase inhibitors are prescribed by tertiary care consultants. Currently they will not be routinely using cinryze.

AWMSG 0413 [Insulin glargine \(Lantus\)](#)

This guidance relates to children aged 2 to less than 6 years. Initiation and monitoring will be by consultant paediatricians and their diabetic teams.

AWMSG 3712 [Fidoxamicin \(Dificlir\)](#)

Fidoxamicin will only be prescribed on the advice of a consultant microbiologist and supplied via the hospital pharmacies. The Clostridium difficile Pathway will not be altered as fidoxamicin will only be recommended by consultant microbiologists.

AWMSG 3812 [Bortezomib \(Velcade\)](#)

Bortezomib is already being used subcutaneously in secondary care by the consultant haematologists in Hywel Dda Health Board.

AWMSG 3912 [Insulin detemir \(Levemir\)](#)

This guidance relates to children aged 2-5years. Initiation and monitoring will be by consultant paediatricians and their diabetic teams.

AWMSG 4012 [Sildenafil \(Revatio\)](#)

This guidance relates to the paediatric powder for oral suspension. It may replace unlicensed 'specials' in some cases on the direction of the child's consultant and/or specialist centre.

AWMSG 4312 [Argatroban \(Exembol\)](#)

Guidance on use will be issued after MMG on 26th June 2013.

AWMSG 4112 [Degarelix \(Firmagon\)](#)

The place in therapy for degarelix has been agreed as::

Newly presenting patients with advanced prostate cancer and any of the following:

- at risk of impending spinal cord-compression
- at risk of impending ureteric obstruction and hydronephrosis
- high baseline PSA (> 20 nanograms/ml)
- increased LFTs.
- Severe pain from bone metastases

Hospital pharmacies will stock the loading dose. Following monthly doses will be continued by the consultant team until the patient is stable, at which point ongoing injections may be given in primary care with the agreement of the patient's GP.

If you have any questions relating to the guidance or this process, please contact Sue Beach, Lead Clinical Development Pharmacist, on 01554 783084; email sue.beach@wales.nhs.uk.



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