



Tablet Press

The prescribing newsletter for GPs, nurses and pharmacists
NHS Nene CCG and NHS Corby CCG



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- **NICE guidance on Type 2 Diabetes in Adults**

NICE has issued revised guidance on Type 2 Diabetes in Adults <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng28>
The blood glucose lowering therapy algorithm and a Patient Decision Aid to support decisions around the first escalation of therapy are available at <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng28/resources>.
The Medicines Management Team is able to deliver training on the therapeutics within the new guidance to any practices / groups of practices that would like it and this will be a priority for the non-medical prescribing training during 2016.

- **New decision support tool for anticoagulant choices in atrial fibrillation (AF)**

NICE has endorsed a new decision support tool that aims to help healthcare professionals and people with AF make informed decisions about the most appropriate treatments. The online tool is in two parts and encourages partnership between patients and healthcare professionals when reaching a decision about the use of anticoagulants to reduce the risk of stroke.
<http://www.nice.org.uk/news/article/helping-people-with-af-make-informed-choices-about-their-treatment>

- **Antiplatelets in combination with NOACs**

UKMI has produced a useful Q&A document which looks at co-prescribing of antiplatelet agents and NOACs.
[What are the risks of using antiplatelet agents in combination with the Novel Oral Anticoagulants \(NOACs\) in patients with atrial fibrillation, and how should the potential risks be managed?](#)

- **Over-ordering by Dispensing Appliance Contractors (DACs),**

Following some audits of the prescribing of continence products there is a concern that a significant number of requests from DACs, on behalf of patients, are for items that are not needed. In response the CCG has drafted a letter which GP practices can send to DACs detailing which items are required and for which a prescription has been provided. It is hoped that this will prevent the DAC recurrently requesting the items that have not been prescribed by the GP and will help prevent requests for retrospective prescribing. The letter can be found on Pathfinder at <http://www.pathfinder-rf.northants.nhs.uk/nene/therapeutics/guidelines-miscellaneous/>

- **First E-cigarette licensed by the MHRA**

The MHRA has licensed an e-cigarette called e-Voke. However, GPs and nurse prescribers are asked not to prescribe this currently as the Local Authority are the responsible commissioners for smoking cessation; therefore the CCGs await their decision regarding funding of e-cigarettes at NHS expense in Northamptonshire.

- **Non-medical prescribers (NMPs)**

The Medicines Management Team is regularly contacted by the NHS Prescription Service regarding a number of NMPs who are using FP10 forms but they are not registered on the NHS Prescription Services database. All practices are reminded that they should complete the relevant form for each NMP working in the practice. The forms and details of the process to follow can be found at the following link:
<http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/PrescriptionServices/3974.aspx>

- **The Green Book multiple choice questions**

Public Health England have produced some multiple choice so that practitioners can test their general knowledge and understanding of immunology and vaccination principles, as well as the specific chapters of the 'Green Book – Immunisation against infectious disease' for vaccines that they administer.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisation-knowledge-test-for-professionals>

- **NICE Bites – Menopause**

NICE Bites number 82 covers the recent NICE NG23 on the diagnosis and management of menopause. This can be found on Pathfinder at <http://www.pathfinder-rf.northants.nhs.uk/nene/therapeutics/nice-bites/>

- **BNF 70 and Children's BNF**

The Editor of the BNF has issued advice with regards to the ongoing management of the corrections and changes to the BNF Publications, which is circulated with this issue of Tablet Press.

This edition is also available on PathfinderRF via the following link <http://www.pathfinder-rf.northants.nhs.uk/nene>
and on the Nene CCG and Corby CCG websites

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