

Dear Colleague

Changing prescribing to Luforbec® Inhaler from Fostair® Inhaler

You may be aware of [Nottinghamshire APC guidance](#) to prescribe Luforbec® inhaler (Metered Dose Inhaler – MDI) where you have previously prescribed Fostair® inhaler (MDI).

In line with guidance, you may already be prescribing Luforbec® inhaler (MDI) for new patients and changing patients to Luforbec® inhaler (MDI) from Fostair® inhaler (MDI) at review.

Given the current financial constraints across our system, implementation of a planned approach to changing patients to Luforbec® inhaler (MDI) from Fostair® inhaler (MDI) is now necessary as the price of Luforbec® inhaler (MDI) is significantly less than the price of Fostair® inhaler (MDI).

Luforbec® inhaler (MDI) is priced at £13.98 which is 52% less expensive than Fostair® inhaler (MDI) at £29.32.

A full switch of Fostair® inhaler (MDI) (100/6 and 200/6) to Luforbec® inhaler (MDI) (100/6 and 200/6) in Nottingham & Nottinghamshire has the potential of saving the NHS £3.4 million per annum (NNICB Medicines Optimisation prescribing analysis from ePACT NHSBSA data, accessed September 2023).

This switch is endorsed by Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board and supported by Nottingham University Hospitals and Sherwood Forest Hospitals, who have already made the change to Luforbec® inhaler (MDI) from Fostair® inhaler (MDI).

In order to support this change the Medicines Optimisation Team has provided the attached “Prescriber Pack”.

It includes the following:

- Practice “How-To” Guide
- Community Pharmacy Template Letter
- Patient Template Letter
- Patient Information Letter

These documents have been produced in consultation with the ICS Respiratory Group which includes Respiratory Specialists from NUH and SFH, and Community, Primary Care and patient representation.

Particular thanks to Dr Daniel Smith, Respiratory Consultant, SFH for his detailed input to the documents. Dr Smith will be providing further support to this process by contributing to a Notts APC PILS Podcast, and by providing a Nurse Webinar

We appreciate your co-operation with this process and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your Medicines Optimisation Team.

Kind Regards



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