NHS
Nottingham and Nottinghamshire
Integrated Care Board

Prescribing Hints & Tips

October 2025

ELVANSE ADULT® DISCONTINUED – IMPORTANT UPDATE

Elvanse Adult® (lisdexamfetamine dimesylate) has been discontinued in the UK. Takeda has consolidated Elvanse Adult® and Elvanse® into a single brand, Elvanse®, which is now licensed for use in patients aged 6 years and above (children, adolescents, and adults).

Key Points:

- Elvanse Adult® is no longer available in the UK.
- Prescribers should now prescribe Elvanse® for all eligible patients aged 6 years and above.
- There is no longer a need to prescribe lisdexamfetamine by brand.
- Pharmacies will only stock Elvanse®, simplifying supply for both patients and healthcare professionals.
- No changes have been made to the formulation of Elvanse®.
- The formulary and ADHD shared care protocols have been updated to reflect this change.

Further Information:

For the official communication and further details from Takeda, please see:
Elvanse Combined Packs Communication – September 2025 (PDF)

TIRZEPATIDE PRESCRIBING ADVICE FOR TYPE 2 DIABETES

Here is a brief overview of advice shared with GP practices recently in response to queries. Please refer APC T2D guidelines for further information:

- **Dosing**: For most patients, a weekly maintenance dose of 5mg of tirzepatide is sufficient. Dose escalation beyond 5mg should only be done on specialist advice after a review.
- **Monitoring**: NICE advise that GLP-1s should only be continued if there is a HbA1c reduction of at least 11 mmol/mol **and** weight loss of at least 3% of initial body weight in 6 months.
- **Prescribing**: Please only prescribe one pen which lasts for four weeks.

Evidence: Please note that there is currently no evidence of cardiovascular benefit for tirzepatide, unlike other GLP1 therapies.

RECENT CHANGES TO THE SELECTED LIST SCHEME (SLS) IN RELATION TO ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION MEDICATIONS

The Department for Health and Social Care has removed generic tadalafil and vardenafil from the Selected List Scheme (SLS) but their branded originators, Cialis® and Levitra®, have been added in their place. This change came into effect on 1st October 2025.

Please be reminded that generic sildenafil remains the first line option for erectile dysfunction, and tadalafil the second line option. Vardenafil is classified as grey locally.

BUPRENORPHINE 7-DAY PATCHES – PREFERRED BRAND CHANGE TO SEVODYNE®

Sevodyne® is now the preferred best value brand of weekly buprenorphine transdermal patches in primary care.
It is equivalent to Butec® and is available in the same range of strengths: 5, 10, 15 and 20 micrograms/hr.

Prescribing recommendations :

- Buprenorphine weekly patches should be prescribed by brand name, and any new patients should be initiated on Sevodyne®. However, buprenorphine patches are generally considered to have a low place in therapy, with other options considered first.
- Review existing patients on Butec® and switch to Sevodyne® during routine medication reviews, where appropriate. Ensure changes are clearly communicated to the patient and/or carer to minimise the risk of confusion or error.

Further information for patients and prescribers can be found on the Medicines Optimisation Website: Pain - Nottinghamshire Medicines Optimisation Team

APC AND INTERFACE UPDATE

The latest updates from APC can be found on their website here.

MAILING LIST

If you wish to be added or removed from the Prescribing Hints and Tips mailing list, please email e.moncrieff@nhs.net