

Out of Area Prescribing Requests

Supporting Information for Prescribers and ICB Medicine Optimisation Pharmacists

The Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee (APC) Out of Area Prescribing Requests guidance can be found on the APC website: <https://www.nottsapc.nhs.uk/media/1487/out-of-area-prescribing-requests.pdf>

This information sheet provides additional advice to help with decision making when asked to take over prescribing of a medicine by a clinician from outside of Nottinghamshire. This includes patients who have moved to a Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB GP practice from elsewhere, and those that have been referred to a specialist centre based outside of Nottinghamshire.

For information on medicines recommended following a private consultation see [NHS and Private Interface Prescribing Guidance](#).

How to use the APC guidance:

1. Check the Nottinghamshire APC traffic light status of the medicine by checking on the [Notts Joint Formulary](#).
2. Check the traffic light status of the medicine, and specific indication, on the out of area formulary. Links to neighbouring areas' formularies:
 - [Derbyshire](#)
 - [Leicestershire](#)
 - [Lincolnshire](#)
 - [Sheffield](#)
3. Use the [APC guidance table](#) to find the advice for that combination of traffic lights.
4. Make a decision (asking the ICB medicine optimisation team for advice if necessary) and contact the requesting clinician to make arrangements for future prescribing.
5. Inform the patient of the outcome.

Examples:

Request	Notts traffic light	Out of Area traffic light	Advice from guidance	Notes
Derbyshire Lidocaine 5% Plasters for localised neuropathic pain (not post herpetic neuralgia - PHN)	RED for non PHN	Do Not Prescribe (DNP) for non PHN	Challenge request – OOA clinician should recommend an alternative.	Although prescribing is allowed in Nottinghamshire, it must be prescribed by a specialist. It would not be possible for the out of area specialist to retain prescribing as they can't prescribe it in Derbyshire.
Leicester Cinacalcet for secondary hyperparathyroidism in patients on maintenance dialysis	RED	Amber (shared care) (Equivalent to Notts AMBER 1)	Challenge request - OOA clinician should be asked to retain prescribing. Prescribing may be acceptable if there are mitigating circumstances and OOA SCP is available. Consult Notts ICB medicine optimisation team for advice if needed.	This is a specialist drug and the OOA SCP would need to provide enough detail for the GP to feel confident in prescribing. The monitoring must be reasonable, and the responsibilities of the GP and the specialist must be clearly stated. In this case, if the patient is regularly attending a Leicester hospital for dialysis it would probably be easier for the specialist to retain prescribing. A discussion with the ICB medicine optimisation team may help with this decision.
Sheffield Dronedarone for maintenance of sinus rhythm after successful cardioversion in adult clinically stable adult patients with paroxysmal AF.	AMBER 1 (shared care)	RED (cardiologist prescribing only)	Challenge request – OOA clinician should retain prescribing of red drug. However, if OOA clinician willing to initiate and stabilise as per Notts SCP, GP could consider accepting on-going prescribing as per Notts SCP.	It would be reasonable to expect prescribing to be retained by the OOA clinician. However, if the GP feels that the best option is to prescribe, the OOA clinician must agree to follow the Notts APC shared care protocol.