

Pharmfax Lights

Welcome to the September 2021 edition of Pharmfax Lights which highlights recent medicine traffic light classifications in Leeds. For definitions of the different classifications please see the foot of this page. The following Traffic Light classification were ratified by the Leeds Area Prescribing Committee on 01 September 2021

USEFUL LINKS

For full details of traffic light classifications and the traffic light list:

<http://nwww.lhp.leedsth.nhs.uk/common/guidelines>

Leeds Formulary: <http://www.leedsformulary.nhs.uk>

Secondary Care Requests for Primary Care Prescribing

Occasionally, a secondary care clinician may ask a GP to prescribe a medicine which not on the Leeds Formulary, or is not on it for that particular indication. The Leeds Area Prescribing Committee has produced some guidance for GPs to manage these situations. The process to follow in these circumstances can be found [here](#)

COVID-19 MEDICINES INFORMATION

[Link to Medicines information /Leeds CCG Website](#)

TRAFFIC LIGHT CLASSIFICATIONS

Black Light (Not Yet Reviewed)

- Misoprostol tablets -25 micrograms (Angusta) Indicated for induction of labour.

Black Light classification

- Ozanimod hydrochloride 0.23 mg, 0.46 mg, 0.92 mg hard capsules (Zeposia) for the treatment of adult patients with relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS) with active disease as defined by clinical or imaging features

Grey classification

- Shingrix® powder and suspension for suspension for injection - For vaccination against varicella zoster - for patients eligible for shingles vaccination but are immunocompromised so cannot receive Zostavax Link to:
<https://generalpracticebulletin.cmail20.com/t/d-l-alidhkl-juggiilt-p/>

Red classification

- Glyceryl trinitrate 0.4% ointment (Rectogesic only) For extravasation (noradrenaline protocol)
- Daratumumab solution for injection 1800mg and concentrate solution for infusion 20mg/mL (Darzalex) - For use in line with DTG approval/NICE TAs and funded/ NHSE commissioned decisions - See Leeds formulary/seek specialist advice.
- Enzalutamide tablets (Xtandi) For use in line with DTG approval/NICE TAs and funded/ NHSE commissioned decisions - See Leeds formulary / seek specialist advice
- Lenalidomide 10mg capsule (Revlimid) For use in line with DTG approval/NICE TAs and funded/ NHSE commissioned decisions - See Leeds formulary / seek specialist advice
- Ofatumumab 20 mg solution for injection in pre-filled pen (Kesimpta) - For use in line with DTG approval/NICE TAs and funded/ NHSE commissioned decisions - See Leeds formulary / seek specialist advice
- Osimertinib tablets (Tagrisso) For use in line with DTG approval/NICE TAs and funded/ NHSE commissioned decisions - See Leeds formulary / seek specialist advice
- Pembrolizumab 25 mg/mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Keytruda) For use in line with DTG approval/NICE TAs and funded/ NHSE commissioned decisions - See Leeds formulary / seek specialist advice

Dual Classification

- Solifenacin 5 mg/5 mL oral suspension (Vesicare®) For neurogenic detrusor overactivity in paediatric patients aged 2 to 18 years
 - Grey for Adults - only to be used if alternative dosage forms are not suitable.
 - Amber level 1 standard guidance for Paediatric use

AMBER GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

- Updated amber guidance documents:

Amber Level 2:

- Tresiba® (insulin degludec 100units/ml FlexTouch pen / cartridge and 200units/ml FlexTouch pen): Amber level 2 Drug Guidance for the treatment of paediatric patients with Type 1 Diabetes ([LINK](#))

Amber Level 3:

- Sacubitril valsartan: Amber level 3 Drug Guidance for the treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction ([LINK](#))

- Delays to Review of Local Amber Guidance:

The Regional Medicines Optimisation Committees (RMOC) are currently consulting on a national amber guidance for the following medications, local review of these guidelines will be delayed until after the publication of the national guidance”

- Leflunomide: Amber level 3 Drug Guidance for the Treatment of Adult Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) or Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA) ([LINK](#))
- Lithium: Amber level 3 Drug Guidance for the treatment of mania, recurrent or resistant depression, prophylaxis against bipolar affective disorders and to control aggressive behaviour and intentional self harm ([LINK](#))
- Valproate (Depakote, Epilim): Amber level 3 Drug Guidance for Mood Stabilisation ([LINK](#))

Amber Drugs Monitoring During National Blood Bottle Shortages

During the current national blood bottle shortages for any amber drug monitoring that require blood tests the attached guidance should be followed ([Link to guidance](#)). Amber drug monitoring that do not require a blood test continue to monitor in line with the relevant amber guidance on Leeds Health Pathways.

Leeds Traffic Light Classifications - Definitions

GREEN DRUGS: Medicines which are appropriate for initiation and ongoing prescribing in both primary and secondary care. Due to the extensive number of Green Drugs, there is currently not a list of these medicines.

AMBER DRUGS: These are medicines which are recommended or initiated by a specialist, but can then be prescribed by primary care physicians. Amber Drugs will be classified under three different headings:-

- Amber Drugs recommended by a specialist (Amber Level 1)
- Amber Drugs initiated by a specialist (Amber Level 2)
- Amber Drugs with specialist initiation and ongoing monitoring requirements (Amber Level 3)

RED DRUGS: Medicines for hospital use only. Primary care prescriber initiation or continuation of treatment is not recommended.

RED DRUGS – commissioned by NHSE: Medicines for hospital use only commissioned by NHSE. Primary care prescriber initiation or continuation of treatment is not recommended.

GREY DRUGS: are locally agreed medicines which are recommended for specific indications but not others. The Grey List outlines circumstances in which specific prescribing is appropriate. The Grey List is intended to support good prescribing and help prescribers make balanced decisions. .

BLACK LIGHT DRUGS: These drugs are not recommended for prescribing within the Leeds health economy. All new drugs will be assumed Black Light until they have been through the appropriate approval process.

BLACK LIGHT - (NOT YET REVIEWED) These drugs are newly licensed and will not receive a review unless requested by a clinician in Leeds

DEVICES: The Leeds Area Prescribing Committee will usually only consider traffic light classifications for devices that facilitate medicines use or are used in a “medicines like way”. For devices that are listed in the drug tariff but do not meet this definition prescribing is at the discretion of the prescriber. Please note that devices do not go through the same process as medicines before inclusion in the drug tariff, therefore listing in the drug tariff does not necessarily mean the device is evidence-based and cost effective.

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