

Drugs	Cost (April 2018)	Drug legal class'n	Reference for clinical use	Comment	Non-medical Independent Prescribers	Medical Independent Prescribers
Paracetamol 500mg tablets	£1.59 [Pack size 100]	GSL	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014)	Signpost to pharmacy	signpost to pharmacy	signpost to pharmacy
Ibuprofen 200mg tablets	£2.80 [Pack size 84]	GSL	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); NICE LBP guidelines (2016); NICE Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease and dyspepsia in adults: investigation and management (2014); BSR Axial spondyloarthritis ankylosing spondylitis (2016); BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)	Signpost to pharmacy if short term use. GP prescribing for regular chronic use. Review regularly. Up to max dose of 1.2g/day (CV risk). Co-prescribe with formulary PPI.	signpost to pharmacy	signpost to pharmacy
Ibuprofen 400mg tablets	£2.24 [Pack size 84]	GSL	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); NICE LBP guidelines (2016); BSR Axial spondyloarthritis ankylosing spondylitis (2016); BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)		signpost to pharmacy	signpost to pharmacy
Co-codamol 500/30 (Zapain tablets)	£3.11 (pack size 100)	POM	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); NICE LBP guidelines (2016)		YES	YES
Naproxen 250mg tablets	£0.78 [Pack of 28]	POM	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); BSR Axial spondyloarthritis ankylosing spondylitis (2016); BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)	Prescribe as standard tablets not EC. Co-prescribe with formulary PPI. Up 1g/day (CV risk).	YES	YES
Naproxen 500mg tablets	£1.19 [Pack of 28]	POM	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); NICE LBP guidelines (2016); BSR Axial spondyloarthritis ankylosing spondylitis (2016); BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)	Prescribe as standard tablets not EC. Co-prescribe with formulary PPI. Up 1g/day (CV risk).	YES	YES
Celecoxib 100mg	£1.54 (pack of 60)	POM	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); NICE LBP guidelines (2016); BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)	Consider oral non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for managing low back pain, taking into account potential differences in gastrointestinal, liver and cardio-renal toxicity, and the person's risk factors, including age. (NICE LBP)	YES	YES
Celecoxib 200mg	£1.68 (pack of 60)	POM			YES	YES
Etoricoxib 30mg	£13.99 pack size 28,	POM	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); NICE LBP guidelines (2016); BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)	Only for patients who don't respond to celecoxib. Consider oral non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for managing low back pain, inflammatory spinal disease taking into account potential differences in gastrointestinal, liver and cardio-renal toxicity, and the person's risk factors, including age. (NICE LBP)	YES	YES
Etoricoxib 60 mg	£20.11 pack size 28, 60mg				YES	YES
Etoricoxib 90mg	£22.96 pack size 28, 90mg				YES	YES
Omeprazole 20mg	£0.75 [Pack of 28]	POM	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014)	Long term prescription via GP	YES	YES
Lansoprazole 15mg	£0.69 pack size 28	POM			YES	YES

Approved by: East Kent Prescribing Group (Representing Ashford CCG, Canterbury and Coastal CCG, South Kent Coast CCG and Thanet CCG)

Date: April 2018

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Drugs	Cost	Drug legal class'n	Reference for clinical use	Comment	Non-medical Independent Prescribers	Medical Independent Prescribers	
Methylprednisolone injection 40mg	£1.58 per vial	POM		For severe rheumatoid flare – im administration	YES	YES	
Prednisolone 1mg tablets	£0.57 (pack size 28)	POM	BSR Guidelines for the management of Gout (2017); National UK guidelines for CRPS (2012); BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); BSR Sjogrens Syndrome guidelines (2013); NICE RA guidelines (2014); BSR scleroderma guidelines (2010)	Off label for CRPS Standard tablets not EC	YES	YES	
Prednisolone 5mg tablets	£0.66 [pack size 28]	POM			YES	YES	
Prednisolone 20mg tablets	£3.80 [pack size 30]	POM			YES	YES	
Prednisolone 1mg gastro-resistant tablets/EC	£1.92 (pack size 30)	POM			Is there any evidence to support the use of enteric coated (EC) over uncoated prednisolone tablets? (MHRA- June 2013) www.ukmi.nhs.uk/activities/medicinesQAs/default.asp	YES	YES
Prednisolone 2.5mg gastro-resistant tablets/EC	£0.92 (pack size 30)	POM			EC PPIs should not be required with EC prednisolone.	YES	YES
Prednisolone 5mg gastro-resistant tablets/EC	£0.95 (pack size 30)	POM				YES	YES
Triamcinolone acetonide 40mg/1ml (Kenalog ^(R))	£1.88 per pre filled syringe	POM				Detailed literature review regarding evidence of clinical efficacy and patient safety and dose variation in Steroid injection paper attached. References available.	
Triamcinolone acetonide 10mg/1ml (Adcortyl ^(R))	£3.63 per vial	POM	NICE Osteoarthritis guidelines (2014); BSR Guidelines for the management of Gout (2017); The 2012 BSR and BHPR guideline for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis with biologics (BSR 2012)	Off label use for periarticular injections and CTS – see literature review attached for evidence * Some profession specific differences (nurses, physio, podiatry) requiring injection therapy diploma. See Connect Non-Medical Prescriber Policy and Injection Therapy Policy	YES*	YES	
Amitriptyline 10mg tablets	£1.05 pack size 28	POM	NICE neuropathic pain guidelines (2013)	Off label use for neuropathic pain and fibromyalgia/centralised pain	YES	YES	
Leflunomide 10 mg	£6.99 pack size 30	POM	NICE RA guidelines (2014); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)	Moderate to severe active rheumatoid and psoriatic arthritis See Shared prescribing pathway	YES	YES	
Leflunomide 20 mg	£7.52 pack size 30	POM	NICE RA guidelines (2014); BSR guidelines for PsA (2012)		YES	YES	
Ciclosporin (prescribe by brand) – Deximune most cost effective only 25, 50 & 100mg	10mg £18.25 [Pack size 60] 25mg £13.06 [Pack size 30] 50mg £25.60 [Pack size 30] 100mg £48.90 [Pack size 30]	POM	BSR guidelines for SLE (2013); NICE RA guidelines (2014)	Off label for SLE . Ensure prescribed by brand.	YES	YES	
Hydroxychloroquine 200mg	£4.17 [pack size 60, 200mg tablets]	POM	BSR guidelines for SLE (2013) Sjogrens Syndrome guidelines (2013); NICE RA guidelines (2014)	See Shared prescribing pathway	YES	YES	
Methotrexate 2.5mg-25mg tablets and sub cut injection	See drug tariff	POM	BSR guidelines for SLE (2013) BSR Sjogrens Syndrome guidelines (2013); NICE RA guidelines (2014)	Off label for SLE and Sjogrens See Shared prescribing pathway Can be used subcut route of administration	YES	YES	

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Folic acid 5mg	£0.66 [Pack size 28]	POM	Prevention of Methotrexate induced side effects in rheumatic disease https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23728635 What is the Dose of Folic Acid to use with Methotrexate therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis? (NICE 2012)	See Shared prescribing pathway 5mg folic daily except MTX day	YES	YES
Sulfasalazine 500mg-3g	£6.78 112 500mg tablets	POM	NICE RA guidelines (2014); BSR Sjogrens Syndrome guidelines (2013)	Off label for RA and Sjogrens See Shared prescribing pathway	YES	YES

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