

KMCCG Joint Prescribing Committee (JPC) Position Statement

Prescribing Lidocaine Plasters 5% (700mg)

- Lidocaine Plasters are NOT recommended for routine prescribing due to low clinical effectiveness and lack of robust evidence as per NHS England and NICE Guidelines
- Lidocaine Plasters should only be initiated on the advice or recommendation of a pain specialist for the licensed indication of post-herpetic neuralgia for those patients who have been treated in line with NICE [CG173] but are still experiencing neuropathic pain associated with previous herpes zoster infection.
- An individual management plan should be put in place for each patient specifying the duration of treatment, clear directions for reviews to take place and criteria outlining when prescribing should be continued or stopped.

This position statement aims to:

- Reduce prescribing of lidocaine plasters that is not in line with national guidance and is poorly evidenced in both primary and secondary care.
- Improve outcomes through effective prescribing for neuropathic pain.

It is in line with NHS England and NICE Guidance:

1. [Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs Version 2, June 2019](#) NHS England and NHS Improvement
2. [Neuropathic pain in adults: pharmacological management in non-specialist settings Clinical guideline](#) [CG173] Published date: 20 November 2013, last updated: 22 September 2020

Please note:

1. Lidocaine 5% plaster is not licensed and not recommended for the treatment of non-neuropathic pain e.g. acute or chronic musculoskeletal pain i.e. back pain and fractures.
2. Anecdotal data suggests there may be a significant proportion of lidocaine 5% plasters prescribed for indications that are not licensed or supported by the evidence base. Patients currently prescribed lidocaine 5% plasters should have their prescription reviewed. If the initiating service is in the local NHS they should support the formulation of an individual management plan if not in place at initiation.
3. Prescribers should not accept new requests for lidocaine 5% plasters for indications outside of post-herpetic neuralgia.

Please contact your local medicines optimisation team with any further queries

Approved by: JPC, KMMOC and Clinical Cabinet

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