


Medicines Optimisation Newsletter Articles – For publication 23.6.22	
Article	
1	<p>Opportunity to Input into Review of UTI Diagnostic Flowchart</p> <p>Dear colleague,</p> <p>The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA, formerly Public Health England) is leading a review of the UTI diagnostic flowchart. A key aspect of the update is the consultation with those for whom the guidance is currently targeted in primary care, such as pharmacists, GPs, nurses, and doctors who work in out-of-hours settings. They would like to set up an exploratory needs assessment focus group in the first instance including representation from these groups. Some key considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the current diagnostic flowchart and design • Consideration of application to the COVID and post-COVID environment, including relevance to remote consultation or other changes etc. <p>If you and your GP practice/ pharmacy would be interested in participating, please contact Eirwen.Sides@phe.gov.uk.</p>
2.	<p>Information for all General Practitioner and Independent Prescriber colleagues from Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust</p> <p>There have been important changes to the interpretation of antimicrobial susceptibility reports. The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) have changed the definitions of the susceptibility categories S, I and R. This change will be introduced into the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust laboratory from June 2022.</p> <p>The Trust have sent the attached letter to practice managers via email, which includes further information.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MTW important changes to suscepti</p>
3.	<p style="text-align: center;">Kent & Medway CCG Medicines Optimisation Team NICE News Bimonthly - June 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOR INFORMATION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NICE Publications</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NICE clinical guidelines</p> <p style="background-color: #e1eef6;"><u>Medicines associated with dependence or withdrawal symptoms: safe prescribing and withdrawal management for adults published April 2022</u></p> <p>This guideline covers general principles for prescribing and managing withdrawal from opioids, benzodiazepines, gabapentinoids, Z-drugs and antidepressants in primary and secondary care.</p>

	<p><u>Stroke and transient ischaemic attack in over 16s: diagnosis and initial management updated April 2022</u></p> <p>This guideline covers interventions in the acute stage of a stroke or transient ischaemic attack (TIA). It offers the best clinical advice on the diagnosis and acute management of stroke and TIA in the 48 hours after onset of symptoms. In April 2022, NICE reviewed the evidence and made new recommendations on blood pressure control for people with acute intracerebral haemorrhage.</p> <p><u>Epilepsies in children, young people and adults updated April 2022</u></p> <p>This guideline covers diagnosing and managing epilepsy in children, young people and adults in primary and secondary care, and referral to tertiary services. It aims to improve diagnosis and treatment for different seizure types and epilepsy syndromes, and reduce the risks for people with epilepsy.</p>
4.	<p>FAO Community Pharmacy and GP Dispensing Practices</p> <p>MHRA - Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Orifarm UK Ltd, Loprazolam 1mg Tablets, EL (22)A/25 (here)</p>
5.	<p>Kent and Medway Medicines Optimisation Scheme for 2022-2024</p> <p>We are pleased to introduce the Kent and Medway Medicines Optimisation Scheme for 2022-2024 which officially goes live on Monday the 4th of July 2022.</p> <p>The scheme will run over 2 financial years to incentivise change and prescribing improvements over a longer period. It is structured to deliver on the strategic aims of the CCG, focusing on improving quality, safety and cost-effective prescribing in line with the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines and recommendations; the Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) agenda and in line with local Medicines Optimisation recommendations to support financial stability without compromising patient care.</p> <p>Funding for the scheme will be a maximum of £1.50 per patient per year.</p> <p>Further details on the scheme will be circulated by your local HCP Medicines Optimisation team.</p>

Local updates	
East Kent	
West Kent	
DGS	
Medway & Swale	

