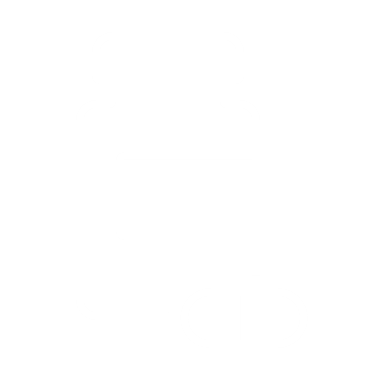
Graphical user interface, logo

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**Medicines Optimisation Newsletter**

**[July 2024] (Issue No. 60)**

* [**Clozapine prescribing**](#Clozapine)
* **[Assessment of a pharmacist’s ability to interpret, review, and action CYP2C19 pharmacogenetic reports and obtain pharmacist’s views on the reporting structure – Deadline 26th July 2024.](#CYP2C19)**
* [**Best Practice Guidance (BPG) for Care Homes**](#BestPracticeGuide)
* [**National Patient Safety – Improvement Programmes**](#ImprovementProgramme)
* [**TARGET Antibiotics – Prescribing in Primary Care**](#TaergetElearning)
* [**Webinar: Paediatric antimicrobial prescribing in primary care**](#PaediactricMicrobials)
* **[Kent and Medway List of New Approved Guidelines](#NewApprovdGuidelines)**
* **[MHRA Drug Safety Update](#MHRADRUGSAFETY)**
* **[Shortages summary](#Shortages)**

**Kent and Medway ICB Updates**

**Safety and Improvement**

**Clozapine prescribing**

Due to a recent incident, we would like to remind practices that Clozapine should only be prescribed by specialists in secondary care and not by primary care on FP10 prescriptions. Clozapine is a specialist hospital drug that requires careful dosing and monitoring, and therefore **should not be prescribed in primary care.**

If a patient requests a Clozapine prescription, please refer them to the KMPT Mental Health Pharmacy teams (contact details below). Additionally, GPs can contact 111, option 2, for any Clozapine-related queries outside of regular hours.

**Contact details of clinics that run in Kent**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ashford**  Ashford Clozapine Clinic is open on: Monday 9 - 4pm  The clinic is located at Eureka Park, Eureka Business Park , TN25 4 BY  Phone: 01233 658100 | **Gillingham**  Britton House Clozapine Clinic is open on:  Monday 9.30-4.00pm  Tuesday 9.30am – 4.00pm  Wednesday 9.30am – 4.00pm  The clinic is located at  Britton House, Britton Farm, High St, Gillingham ME7 1AL, Phone: 0300 3033189 |
| **Canterbury**  Laurel House Clozapine Clinic is open on Wednesday:  1.00 pm – 4.00pm The clinic is located at Laurel House, Old Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3HH  Phone: 01227 597111 | **Herne Bay**  Kings Road Clozapine Clinic is open on Monday 9.00 – 4pm  The clinic is located at 11 Kings Road, Herne Bay CT6 5DD, Phone: 01227 2065540 |
| **Dartford**  Arndale house clozapine clinic is open on Wednesday 9.00 – 4.00pm:  The clinic is located at Arndale House, 18-20 Spital St, Dartford DA1 2DL  Phone: 01322 622230 | **Maidstone**  Albion Place Clozapine Clinic is open on: Monday from 9.00 - 4.00pm  The clinic is located at Albion Place Medical Centre, Kingswood CMHC, 23-29 Albion Place, Maidstone  Kent ME14 5TS,  Phone: 01622 766900 |
| **Dover**  Coleman House Clozapine Clinic is open on: Tuesday 9.00 – 4.00pm  The Clinic is located at Brookfield Avenue Dover, CT16 2AH  Phone: 01304 216666 | **Thanet**  The Beacon Clozapine Clinic is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 9.00 – 4.00pm  The clinic is located at The Beacon, Manston Road, Ramsgate CT12 6NT  Phone: 01843 855200 |
| **Folkestone**  Ash Eton Clozapine Clinic is open on Tuesday 9.00 – 4.00pm  The clinic is located at Ash Eton Radnor Park West, Folkestone CT19 5HL  Phone: 01303 2227510 | **Tunbridge Wells**  Highlands House Clozapine Clinic is open on: Tuesday from 9.30 – 400pm  The clinic is located at Highlands House, 10–12 Calverley Park Gardens, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2JN  Phone: 01892 709211 |

**Assessment of a pharmacist’s ability to interpret, review, and action CYP2C19 pharmacogenetic reports and obtain pharmacist’s views on the reporting structure.**

In the near future, *CYP2C19* pharmacogenetic testing will be available within routine NHS clinical care and we would like to understand a pharmacist’s ability to navigate and interpret a pharmacogenetic report.

We would like pharmacists to complete the survey to help identify education and training needs and obtain your views when navigating through a pharmacogenetic report. **Your insights are essential to the project.**

Before making your decision, please read the attached participant information sheet, which includes a detailed description of this research and what your participation will involve.

If you do decide to participate, please follow this **link to the Survey:**

[**https://qualtrics.ucl.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV\_3L4Jm5kg5pBpk1M**](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fqualtrics.ucl.ac.uk%2Fjfe%2Fform%2FSV_3L4Jm5kg5pBpk1M&data=05%7C02%7Cswapna.thummala%40nhs.net%7C741ed0518bca41d53df208dca49c8069%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638566239279572115%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=rLgZPW7DhCUZ4joWywd9zd%2FbbhrdaYRXBRgne%2BgYs%2Bs%3D&reserved=0)

|  |
| --- |
| [Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fqualtrics.ucl.ac.uk%2Fjfe%2Fform%2FSV_3L4Jm5kg5pBpk1M&data=05%7C02%7Cswapna.thummala%40nhs.net%7C741ed0518bca41d53df208dca49c8069%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638566239279583594%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9jmvCUWAkEQDPgcK2W97xTfSocBI1PF37laXzs3EVoI%3D&reserved=0)  The most powerful, simple, and trusted way to gather experience data. Start your journey to experience management and try a free account today.  qualtrics.ucl.ac.uk |

The survey will close on **26th July 2024.**

It would be extremely grateful if you could find the time to complete the survey by this time. Please feel free to contact [eleftheria.tavla.23@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:eleftheria.tavla.23@ucl.ac.uk), if you have any questions or concerns.

**Please could you share this email with your colleagues, teams, and network.**



**[Best](#Antibiotic) Practice Guidance (BPG) for Care Homes**

Integrated Care Team has developed several Medicines Management Best Practice Guidance (BPG) for use within care homes across Kent and Medway. The Best practice guidance aims to support care home staff to deliver safe and effective medicines management to residents within care homes.

The BPGs are available on the EK, MS, DGS, WK formularies, Medway Council Portal, and WK DORIS websites.

If you require any help or support or have any questions, please email the following address: [KMCCG.ICMOPharmacyteam@nhs.net](mailto:KMCCG.ICMOPharmacyteam@nhs.net)

**Links for Best Practice Guidance (BPG)**

East Kent: [Care home resources (eastkentformulary.nhs.UK)](https://www.eastkentformulary.nhs.uk/therapeutic-sections/general-recommendations-and-information/care-home-resources/)

DGS: <https://www.dgsdvhformulary.nhs.uk/kent-and-medway-guidance/miscellaneous/care-homes-best-practice-guidance/>

DGS: available on DORIS too

MS: [Care Home Best Practice Guidance (medwayswaleformulary.co.uk)](https://www.medwayswaleformulary.co.uk/guidancepathways/care-home-best-practice-guidance/)

Medway council: [https://www.careportal.medway.gov.uk/Article/111170](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.careportal.medway.gov.uk%2FArticle%2F111170&data=05%7C01%7Cswapna.thummala%40nhs.net%7C396d4c8b9be34031edc008dac31bba00%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638036821119036895%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jfIXIuM8uMCojJ%2Fk30DXE2D%2BmX78X%2B8uFP1WPuCmty4%3D&reserved=0)

West Kent: [Care Home Best Practice Guidance (formularywkccgmtw.co.uk)](https://www.formularywkccgmtw.co.uk/prescribing-guidelines/miscellaneous/care-home-best-practice-guidance/)

**National Patient Safety –** Improvement Programmes

Are you interested in helping the Health Innovation Network to shape the 2025 National Medication Safety Programmes?

Health Innovation Kent Surrey Sussex want to hear from you if you have undertaken any work to address medication safety or optimisation in:

* Psychotropic prescribing in learning disabilities and/or autism patients
* Medication safety and optimisation to reduce falls and / or fractures in frail patients

Contact Kate Toms (kate.toms3@nhs.net) if you have an example of good practice to share or want to make us aware of any challenges we need to be mindful of along the way.



**eLearning: TARGET Antibiotics – prescribing in primary care**

This course is aimed at primary care healthcare professionals who are involved in the treatment of common infections.

|  |
| --- |
| This 5-week eLearning course, accredited by the Royal College of Pathologists, looks at many aspects of antibiotic prescribing in Primary Care, from prescribing for urinary tract infections through to managing patient expectations. By the end of the course you will have an understanding of how to apply practical antimicrobial stewardship strategies in your practice. Now open for registration. |

[TARGET - Online Course (futurelearn.com)](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.futurelearn.com%2Fcourses%2Ftarget-antibiotics%2F9%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26_hsenc%3Dp2ANqtz-8ZrdyjhyzFgLMqVttfoNmYOErp4VAU1-9I0Y_loqyveAHGf3fuhMNNM5wKDMJPax8ZPXo32k-8WhSiJjgdodj2BWj0kw%26_hsmi%3D313095035%26utm_content%3D313095035%26utm_source%3Dhs_email&data=05%7C02%7Ccaroline.mensah1%40nhs.net%7Cdd14523a195140b3df7008dc9a93d020%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638555206850192219%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=c9iWpiEHPUxmckvYAjnSEZWjLgXQBgimLDSAVFIAPhs%3D&reserved=0)

**Paediatric antimicrobial prescribing in primary care – Thursday 12th September 1-2pm via Teams**

**An online webinar to promote the appropriate prescribing of antimicrobials in children**

Are you a GP, nurse, pharmacy professional, or other healthcare professional looking to improve your knowledge on paediatric antimicrobial prescribing?

If yes, then join this webinar which will seek to explain the rational use of antibiotics to improve the overall quality of paediatric care.

If you would like to attend the webinar, then please complete registration via this link: [Register here](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/f9418005-95d9-4ac9-aefa-664d5bf2a205@37c354b2-85b0-47f5-b222-07b48d774ee3)



**Formulary and guidance**

**Kent and Medway List of New Approved Guidelines**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Guidelines, Protocols Updates** | |
| **Title** | **Papers** |
| Homely Remedies Guidance and Best Practice Guidance Updates |  |
| Sharps Bin Replacement Guidance - Care Home Appendix |  |
| Updated Primary Care SGlt21 and Finerenone CKD guide |  |
| Primary Care Prescribing Guideline for Rimegepant |  |

**National Updates**

**MHRA Drug Safety Update**

The latest MHRA Drug Safety Updates can be accessed at [Drug Safety Update - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update) . This includes links to alerts, recalls and safety information and to the monthly Drug Safety Update PDF newsletter.

**The June Drug Safety Update includes:**

[**Topiramate (Topamax): introduction of new safety measures, including a Pregnancy Prevention Programme - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)**](https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/topiramate-topamax-introduction-of-new-safety-measures-including-a-pregnancy-prevention-programme)

A new [Major Safety Review](https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/topiramate-topamax-start-of-safety-review-triggered-by-a-study-reporting-an-increased-risk-of-neurodevelopmental-disabilities-in-children-with-prenatal-exposure) into topiramate was started by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) as a result of an observational study reporting an increased risk of neurodevelopmental disabilities in children whose mothers took topiramate during pregnancy.

Harms included a higher risk of congenital malformation, low birth weight and a potential increased risk of intellectual disability, autistic spectrum disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in children of mothers taking topiramate during pregnancy.

**Topiramate is now contraindicated in pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential unless the conditions of a Pregnancy Prevention Programme (PPP) are fulfilled.**

## General advice for healthcare professionals:

* topiramate should not be used:
  + in pregnancy for prophylaxis of migraine
  + in pregnancy for epilepsy unless there is no other suitable treatment
* topiramate should not be used in women of childbearing potential unless the conditions of the Pregnancy Prevention Programme are fulfilled. This aims to ensure that all women of childbearing potential:
  + are using highly effective contraception
  + have a pregnancy test to exclude pregnancy before starting topiramate
  + are aware of the risks from use of topiramate
* please see specific [advice for prescribers](https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/topiramate-topamax-introduction-of-new-safety-measures-including-a-pregnancy-prevention-programme#prescribers) and [advice for dispensers](https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/topiramate-topamax-introduction-of-new-safety-measures-including-a-pregnancy-prevention-programme#dispensers)
* ensure women of childbearing potential sign the Risk Awareness Form, you will receive materials including the Risk Awareness Form by post in the coming weeks to use in the implementation of the Pregnancy Prevention Programme
* report suspected adverse drug reactions associated with topiramate to the [Yellow Card](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) scheme

**Advice on contraceptives**

Topiramate may reduce the effectiveness of steroidal contraceptives, including oral contraceptives. Alternative or concomitant methods of contraception should be considered. Consult clinical guidance, including that from the [Faculty of Reproductive and Sexual Health Clinical Effectiveness Unit](https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ceu-clinical-guidance-drug-interactions-with-hormonal) (May 2022).

When using any medicine with teratogenic potential, the [most effective contraceptive method](https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/medicines-with-teratogenic-potential-what-is-effective-contraception-and-how-often-is-pregnancy-testing-needed) should be advised, taking into account their personal circumstances.

**Further information including PPP supporting materials, and advice for healthcare professionals and patients can be found on the drug safety update:** Topiramate (Topamax): start of safety review triggered by a study reporting an increased risk of neurodevelopmental disabilities in children with prenatal exposure - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

**Shortages Summary**

From February 2024 onwards, the monthly Medicines Optimisation newsletter will no longer contain the medicines shortages update document, which was compiled each month from the shortages listed on the SPS (Specialist Pharmacy Services) Medicines Supply tool. The information published on the SPS Medicines Supply tool is provided by DHSC and NHSEI Medicines Supply Teams and was not formally reviewed by the NHS Kent and Medway Medicines Optimisation team.

During the time that the shortages update was compiled and included in the Medicines Optimisation newsletter, practices and healthcare professionals were still encouraged to **register for free access to the** [SPS website](https://www.sps.nhs.uk/home/tools/medicines-supply-tool/) and to **access the SPS Medicines Supply tool directly** in real time, to have access to the most up-to-date and complete information and advice available. Now that the shortages update will no longer be compiled by the Medicines Optimisation team for inclusion in the newsletter, healthcare professionals will be required to access the SPS Medicines Supply tool to access information on the latest shortages. Serious Shortage Protocols (SPPs) can be found on the NHS BSA website [here](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps).