

## ELRCCG incentive scheme for 2017/18.

This will involve both quality and cost components focusing on holistic reviews of patients and a small number of switches both to and from branded products. Most of the switches we have advocated previously but will now have a more focused approach. The main addition is a change from Pramipexole SR to Pipexous.

We do ask practices to contact local pharmacies before undertaking switches but if you are able to advise relevant community pharmacists through your LPC network that would be really helpful. Updated antimicrobial and COPD guidance will be on the LMSG website shortly at [Primary Care Clinical Guidelines - Leicestershire Medicines Strategy Group](#)

A summary of the initiatives which will affect prescribing choices are detailed below:

### **1. Quality**

- Antibiotic level of prescribing
- UTI - using nitrofurantoin as first line choice in line with the new Leicestershire guidelines

**2. Quality Review** of COPD patients to include components below in line with LMSG guidance  
Medicines reconciliation and removal of inappropriate items / items no longer used

a. Spiriva handihaler is no longer supported for COPD and we recommend a change to Leicestershire tiotropium choices Braltus, Eklira Genuair, Spiriva Respimat depending on the device

b. ICS as previous

c. Review of effectiveness / use of carbocysteine - again this is in line with Leicestershire Respiratory Prescribing Group recommendations

**3. Review and discontinue Co-proxamol** where possible (we have a high level of use in ELRCCG) We will also continue to discourage black drug prescribing

### **4. Cost – Switches**

- Pramipexole MR to Pipexous
- Venlafaxine MR to Vensir (aware of recent Category C changes but as this only affects two of the preparations we felt it would be confusing if we didn't include all)
- Fentanyl patches to Fencino
- Isosorbide Mononitrate 60mg MR to Monomil, MR
- Branded eye drops Azopt, Alphagan, Cosopt, Xalacom and Xalatan to generic
  
- Blood Glucose Testing strips. Use / frequency in line with [See Page 19 of Leicestershire Diabetes Guidelines](#) and choice in line with [LMSG](#)

Kind Regards

**Kath**

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