

## PATIENT GROUP DIRECTION (PGD)

### Supply/Administration of Levonorgestrel 1500 microgram tablet

By registered pharmacists for

## Emergency Hormonal Contraception

In Community Pharmacy

### Documentation details

Reference no:	
Version no:	4.0
Valid from:	April 2020
Review date:	December 2022
Expiry date:	March 2023

### Change history

Version number	Change details	Date
2.0	Finalise document for signing	28/072015
2.1	<p><b>‘Characteristics of Staff’</b></p> <p>Under ‘Additional requirements’ reworded the bullet points from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has had training in the use of PGDs</li> <li>Has had training which enables the pharmacist to make a clinical assessment in order to establish the need and supply the treatment according to this PGD as detailed in the service specification.</li> <li>Has satisfied the competencies and completed the self-declaration form appropriate to this PGD, as detailed in the CPPE and NHS Health Education North West <i>Declaration of Competence for community pharmacy services – Emergency Contraception Service with the use of a Patient Group Direction document</i> (<a href="http://www.cppe.ac.uk/sp/sp4.asp?PID=189&amp;ID=203">http://www.cppe.ac.uk/sp/sp4.asp?PID=189&amp;ID=203</a>).</li> <li>Is competent in the assessment of the individuals using Fraser guidelines</li> </ul> <p>To:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has undertaken training in the use of PGDs</li> <li>Has undertaken training which enables the pharmacist to make a clinical assessment in order to establish the need and supply the treatment according to this PGD as detailed in the service specification.</li> </ul>	27/07/2017

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Has satisfied the competencies and completed the self-declaration form appropriate to this PGD, as detailed in the CPPE and NHS Health Education England <i>Declaration of Competence for pharmacy services – Emergency Contraception Service with the use of a Patient Group Direction</i> document (<a href="https://www.cppe.ac.uk/services/declaration-of-competence#navTop">https://www.cppe.ac.uk/services/declaration-of-competence#navTop</a>).</li> <li>▪ Is competent in the assessment of the individuals using Fraser guidelines</li> </ul> <p>Under 'Continued training requirements' changed the following bullet point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must assess their own competence on the medicines supplied under this PGD at least every 3 years</li> </ul> <p>To:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must assess and maintain their own competence on the medicine supplied under this PGD in line with the requirements contained within the <i>Declaration of Competence for pharmacy services – Emergency Contraception Service with the use of a Patient Group Direction</i> document</li> </ul>	
<p>2.2</p>	<p><b>'Clinical condition or situation to which the direction applies'</b></p> <p>Under 'Criteria for inclusion' changed from:</p> <p>Women with spontaneous menstrual cycles presenting within 72 hours of UPSI or potential contraception failure (e.g. condom failure, severe vomiting/diarrhoea whilst on oral hormonal contraception), and who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Have no known contraindications to progestogen in their known medical history</li> <li>▪ Understand the risks, benefits and side effects</li> <li>▪ Meet Fraser guidelines, if under 16 years of age. <i>Note children under 13 years of age must be notified to the local Safeguarding Team; however, this should not prevent treatment if considered necessary under this PGD.</i></li> <li>▪ Are competent to consent to treatment</li> <li>▪ Have been offered the option of an intrauterine device. If referring for a post-coital intrauterine device, oral emergency hormonal contraception should be administered if within PGD and acceptable to the patient</li> <li>▪ Has reached the menarche.</li> </ul> <p>To:</p> <p>Women with spontaneous menstrual cycles presenting within 72 hours of UPSI or potential contraception failure (e.g. condom failure, severe vomiting/diarrhoea whilst on oral hormonal contraception), and who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Have been given information regarding the other methods available for EC (see Advice to be given to the patient or carer) and provided with information on services that can provide them, but decides not to access them. (If a woman is referred on for a copper intrauterine device (Cu-IUD), levonorgestrel EC should be given at the time of referral in case the Cu-IUD cannot be inserted or the woman changes</li> </ul>	<p>31/08/2017</p>

	<p>her mind.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Have no known contraindications to progestogen in their known medical history</li> <li>▪ Understand the risks, benefits and side effects of treatment with levonorgestrel.</li> <li>▪ Meet Fraser guidelines, if under 16 years of age. <i>Note children under 13 years of age must be notified to the local Safeguarding Team; however, this should not prevent treatment if considered necessary under this PGD.</i></li> <li>▪ Are competent to consent to treatment</li> <li>▪ Has reached the menarche.</li> </ul> <p>Under 'Criteria for exclusion' added two bullet points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Patients who decide to access treatment with ulipristal acetate at an alternative provider.</li> <li>▪ Use of ulipristal acetate emergency contraception within the last 5 days</li> </ul> <p>And removed the following bullet points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Severe Liver disease</li> <li>▪ Patients taking ciclosporin</li> </ul> <p>Removed 'Reference to national/ local policies or guidelines'. These are provided later in the PGD.</p> <p>Under 'Cautions' replaced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Severe intestinal malabsorption syndromes, e.g. Crohn's disease, might impair the efficacy of levonorgestrel 1500microgram. Advise patient accordingly.</li> <li>▪ Active trophoblastic disease (until return of normal urine and plasma gonadotrophin concentrations).</li> <li>▪ Patients receiving warfarin - progestogens may enhance or reduce anticoagulant effect of coumarins, patients should be made aware of this and visit their anticoagulant clinic to have their INR checked within 3 days of consuming treatment.</li> <li>▪ The small amount of levonorgestrel that appears in breast milk should not be harmful to the baby, however, patients should be advised to take levonorgestrel immediately after a breast feed, thus reducing the amount of the drug the baby may take in the next feed. This would be the only circumstance in which a patient may take their treatment away with them.</li> <li>▪ The Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) Clinical Evidence Unit (CEU) advises that if further UPSI occurs within 12 hours of a dose of LNG, further EC treatment is not required.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>The Cu-IUD can offer a more effective option and it is important that patients understand the risk of emergency contraception failure.</i></b></p> <p>With:</p> <p>Refer to the current version of the UK Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive use (UKMEC) and where necessary explain the benefits and risks.</p> <p>Under 'Action if excluded' and Action if patient or carer declines</p>	
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treatment' changed 'family planning clinic' to 'contraceptive clinic'.

**'Details of medicine'**

Under 'Unlicensed/ off label use' replaced:

In the following circumstances levonorgestrel 1500microgram may be used outside the terms of the product licence; such use is justified by current best practice (FSRH guidance):

- Enzyme-inducing medication can reduce the efficacy of oral emergency hormonal contraception. If the patient is currently receiving treatment with enzyme-inducing medication or has taken one within the previous 28 days, then they should always be offered the alternative of a copper-bearing intrauterine device which is unaffected by concomitant drug use. If levonorgestrel 1500microgram is preferable to the intrauterine device, then the dose of levonorgestrel 1500microgram must be doubled, i.e. levonorgestrel 3000 micrograms, to be taken immediately as a single dose, in patients prescribed enzyme-inducing medication.
- A repeat dose may be given within two hours of vomiting after taking levonorgestrel 1500microgram. This is a good practice point where no evidence exists but where best practice is based on the clinical experience of the multidisciplinary group.
- According to FSRH guidance 'Emergency Contraception (January 2012)' as there is no evidence to indicate levonorgestrel is not safe in pregnancy, the CEU recommends that levonorgestrel can be used more than once in the same cycle or can be used for a recent episode of UPSI even if there has been an earlier episode of UPSI outside the treatment window (>120 hours) (outside product licence).

*If used outside the licensed indication then this must be documented in the consultation record.*

With:

Check product SPC to identify off label usage as this can vary between manufacturers.

*If used outside the licensed indication then this must be documented in the consultation record.*

Under 'Dose and frequency' changed from:

One tablet to be taken as a single dose as soon as possible and no later than 72 hours after UPSI.

If the patient is taking enzyme-inducing medication, the dosage should be increased to **TWO** tablets, i.e. 3000 micrograms (see 'Unlicensed/off label use'). This should be taken as a single dose as soon as possible and no later than 72 hours after UPSI.

To:

- One tablet to be taken as a single dose as soon as possible and no later than 72 hours after UPSI.
- If the patient is taking enzyme-inducing medication or griseofulvin or has a BMI > 26 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or a weight > 70 kg, the dosage should be increased to TWO tablets, i.e. 3000 micrograms. This should be taken as a single dose as soon as possible and no later than 72 hours after UPSI.

- If vomiting occurs within two hours of taking, another dose should be taken immediately, but this must fall within the 72 hours since UPSI occurred.

Under 'Drug interactions' replaced the first bullet point:

- If the patient is taking any concomitant medication or treatment it is the practitioner's responsibility to ensure that treatment with the drug detailed in this Patient Group Direction is appropriate. (For drug interaction see Appendix 1 of BNF or contact the Medicine Information Service at Liverpool – telephone number inside front cover of BNF) In the case of any doubt, further advice must be sought from an appropriate health professional and recorded as having been sought before the drug is given.

With:

- If the patient is taking any concomitant medication or treatment it is the practitioner's responsibility to ensure that treatment with the drug detailed in this Patient Group Direction is appropriate. (For drug interaction see Appendix 1 of BNF (<https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/>) or the Summary of Product Characteristics (<http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/>) or contact the Medicine Information Service at Liverpool – telephone number inside front cover of BNF) or refer to *Clinical Guidance: Drug Interactions with Hormonal Contraception* (FSRH, January 2017)
- In the case of any doubt, further advice must be sought from an appropriate health professional and recorded as having been sought before the drug is given.

#### **'Patient Information'**

Under 'Advice to be given to the patient or carer' replaced:

The patient/carer should be given the following information verbally if appropriate and requested:

- Effectiveness of method, dependent on length of time from UPSI / potential contraceptive failure to treatment.
- Beneficial effects, side effects and risks should be discussed.
- How to take the pill correctly, preferably as an immediate dose in the pharmacy. Breast feeding mothers may be allowed to take away with them to allow them to feed their child before taking. This should only occur if it fits within the allowed time limits.
- If vomiting occurs within two hours of taking, a repeat dose is required (see 'Use outside the terms of the product licence').
- When to seek further medical advice e.g. INR check if on warfarin.
- To refer to Sexual Health Clinic or GP if no / light period up to three weeks after treatment.
- Discuss on going contraception including Quick Starting Contraception guidance (recommending starting contraception immediately after oral emergency hormonal contraception with seven days additional protection, if appropriate).

- Discuss long-acting reversible contraception and give written information that is in line with NICE guidance, CG 30, October 2005.
- Encourage use of condoms and reinforce the safer sex message.
- Recommend sexually transmitted infections screening.
- Supply or recommend condoms as detailed in the service specification.
- Use of the product outside the terms of its licence should be discussed with the patient, including the reasons why this may be necessary.
- Advise where the patient will continue to use a hormonal method of contraception that they should use an additional contraceptive method for 7 days (2 days for Progestogen Only Pill; 9 days for *Qlaira*<sup>®</sup>)

**To patients taking enzyme-inducing medication:**

- Advise on necessity for increased dose of levonorgestrel to 3000microgram (two tablets) (Off licence recommendation).

With:

The patient/carer should be given the following information verbally if appropriate and requested:

- Advise women that the Cu-IUD is the most effective method of EC.
- Advise women that UPA-EC has been demonstrated to be more effective than LNG-EC.
- EC providers should advise women that the available evidence suggests that oral EC administered after ovulation is ineffective.
- Effectiveness of method is dependent on length of time from UPSI / potential contraceptive failure to treatment.
- Beneficial effects, side effect and risks should be discussed.
- Advise women that after oral EC there is a pregnancy risk if there is further UPSI and ovulation occurs later in the same cycle.
- How to take the pill correctly, preferably as an immediate dose in the pharmacy. Breast feeding mothers may be allowed to take away with them to allow them to feed their child before taking. This should only occur if it fits within the allowed time limits. They can also avoid feeding for a further 8 hours after taking, however, there is no evidence that levonorgestrel causes harm to the unborn foetus.
- If vomiting occurs within two hours of taking, a repeat dose is required, but must be given within the 72 hours since UPSI.
- When to seek further medical advice e.g. INR check if on warfarin.
- To refer to Sexual Health Clinic or GP if no / light period up to three weeks after treatment.
- Advise women that oral EC methods do not provide contraceptive cover for subsequent UPSI and that they will need to use contraception or abstain from sex to avoid further

	<p>risk of pregnancy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss on going contraception including Quick Starting Contraception guidance (recommending starting contraception immediately after oral emergency hormonal contraception with additional protection as appropriate for the method used).</li> <li>Discuss long-acting reversible contraception and give written information that is in line with NICE guidance, CG 30, updated September 2014.</li> <li>Encourage use of condoms and reinforce the safer sex message.</li> <li>Recommend sexually transmitted infections screening.</li> <li>Supply or recommend condoms as detailed in the service specification.</li> <li>Use of the product outside the terms of its licence should be discussed with the patient, including the reasons why this may be necessary.</li> <li>Advise where the patient will continue to use a hormonal method of contraception that they should use an additional contraceptive method for 7 days (2 days for Progestogen Only Pill; 9 days for <i>Qlaira</i><sup>®</sup>)</li> </ul> <p><b>To patients taking enzyme-inducing medication or griseofulvin or has a BMI &gt; 26 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or a weight &gt; 70 kg:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advise on the need for an increased dose of levonorgestrel to 3000microgram (two tablets).</li> </ul> <p><b>‘References used to develop this PGD’</b></p> <p>Updated references.</p>	
2.3	<p>Under ‘2. Clinical condition or situation to which the direction applies.’ and ‘Cautions (including any relevant action to be taken)’ added a link to the UKMEC.</p> <p>Under ‘5. Patient Information’ and ‘Advice to be given to the patient or carer (Continued on next page)’ in the 7<sup>th</sup> bullet point changed:</p> <p>‘.... unborn foetus.’</p> <p>To:</p> <p>‘.... baby.’</p>	21/09/2017
3.0	Final format	09/10/2017

## Glossary

Abbreviation	Definition
CPPE	Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education
UPSI	Unprotected sexual intercourse
EC	Emergency contraception
Cu-IUD	Copper intrauterine device
UKMEC	UK Medical Eligibility Criteria
SPC	Summary of product characteristics

FSRH	Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare
UPA-EC	Ulipristal acetate emergency contraception
LNG-EC	Levonorgestrel – emergency contraception

## 1. PGD Working Group Membership

Name	Designation
Dr Connie Chen	GP, Chorlton Medical Centre, Manchester
	GM LPC Project Implementation and Clinical Lead
Richard Scarborough	Public Health Commissioning Manager - Sexual Health, Manchester City Council
Susan McKernan	Lead Pharmacist Manchester Health and Care Commissioning

## 2. Organisational authorisations

The PGD is not legally valid until it has had the relevant organisational authorisation.

It is the responsibility of the organisation that has legal authority to authorise the PGD, to ensure that all legal and governance requirements are met. The authorising body accepts governance responsibility for the appropriate use of the PGD.

**Manchester City Council** authorises this PGD for use by the services or providers listed below:

Authorised for use by the following organisation and/or services
Sexual health services provided by community pharmacies commissioned by Manchester City Council
Limitations to authorisation
The Pharmacy Contractor is responsible for ensuring that only suitable Pharmacists sign up to this PGD and should maintain a record of the names of individual Pharmacists and evidence of their self-declaration and sign up to the current PGD

Organisational approval (legal requirement)			
Role	Name	Sign	Date
Director of Public Health, Manchester City Council	David Regan	<i>David Regan</i>	23/04/20
Additional signatories according to locally agreed policy			
Role	Name	Sign	Date
Doctor	Connie Chen	<i>C.Chen</i>	24/4/2020
Senior Pharmacist (Lead Pharmacist Manchester Health and Care Commissioning)	Susan McKernan	<i>Susan McKernan</i>	23/4/20

<b>Pharmacist Representative</b> (Project Implementation and Clinical Lead, Greater Manchester LPC)	Luvjit Kandula	Lkandula	30.4.2020
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Section 7 provides a registered health professional authorisation sheet. Individual professionals must be authorised by name to work to this PGD. Alternative authorisation sheets/templates may be used where appropriate in accordance with local policy.

### 3. Characteristics of staff

<b>Qualifications and professional registration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pharmacist with current General Pharmaceutical Council registration</li> <li>▪ Work in a Community Pharmacy within Manchester City Council area</li> <li>▪ Pharmacist is required to have suitable indemnity insurance.</li> </ul>
<b>Initial training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Has undertaken training in the use of PGDs</li> <li>▪ Has undertaken training which enables the pharmacist to make a clinical assessment in order to establish the need and supply the treatment according to this PGD as detailed in the service specification.</li> <li>▪ Has satisfied the competencies and completed the self-declaration form appropriate to this PGD, as detailed in the CPPE and NHS Health Education England <i>Declaration of Competence for pharmacy services – Emergency Contraception with the use of a Patient Group Direction</i> document (<a href="https://www.cppe.ac.uk/gateway/ehc">https://www.cppe.ac.uk/gateway/ehc</a>)</li> <li>▪ Is competent in the assessment of the individuals using Fraser guidelines</li> </ul>
<b>Competency assessment</b>	It is essential that pharmacists complete and satisfy the competencies detailed in the CPPE and NHS Health Education England Declaration of Competence for pharmacy services – Emergency Contraception Service with the use of a Patient Group Direction document.
<b>Ongoing training and competency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The pharmacist should be aware of any change to the recommendations for the medicine listed.</li> <li>▪ Must be able to show regular update in the field of family planning and reproductive health care including emergency contraception.</li> <li>▪ Must assess and maintain their own competence every three years on the medicine supplied under this PGD in line with the requirements contained within the <i>Declaration of Competence for pharmacy services – Emergency Contraception with the use of a Patient Group Direction</i> document.</li> <li>▪ It is the responsibility of the pharmacist to keep up-to-date with continuing professional development</li> <li>▪ It is the responsibility of the pharmacist to maintain their own competency to practice within this PGD. Further training may be necessary when the PGD is reviewed</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>The decision to supply any medication rests with the individual registered health professional who must abide by the PGD and any associated organisation policies.</i></b></p>	

#### 4. Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies

<b>Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies</b>	<p>A patient requesting oral emergency contraception who presents within 72 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse (UPSI) or potential contraception failure</p>
<b>Criteria for inclusion</b> Use BNF/BNFC/SPC. Take into account any clinical guidelines or policies that are available locally or nationally, e.g. BASHH/NICE/JCVI	<p>Women with spontaneous menstrual cycles presenting within 72 hours of UPSI or potential contraception failure (e.g. condom failure, severe vomiting/diarrhoea whilst on oral hormonal contraception), and who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have been given information regarding the other methods available for EC (see Advice to be given to the patient or carer) and provided with information on services that can provide them, but decides not to access them. (If a woman is referred on for a copper intrauterine device (Cu-IUD), levonorgestrel EC should be given at the time of referral in case the Cu-IUD cannot be inserted or the woman changes her mind.)</li> <li>• Have no known contraindications to progestogen in their known medical history</li> <li>• Understand the risks, benefits and side effects of treatment with levonorgestrel.</li> <li>• Meet Fraser guidelines, if under 16 years of age. <b>Note children under 13 years of age must be notified to the local Safeguarding Team; however, this should not prevent treatment if considered necessary under this PGD.</b></li> <li>• Are competent to consent to treatment.</li> <li>• Has reached the menarche</li> </ul> <p>• Must attend in person for supply of medication to be Given</p> <p>NB. For the duration of the COVID-19 to reduce risk of transmission pharmacists may use their professional judgement on how they provide emergency hormonal contraception e.g. conducting a consultation remotely. This is provided they take steps to minimise patient risk and are mindful of potential for abuse with due regard to safeguarding.</p> <p>Any provision and use of professional judgement must give due consideration to the latest advice given by the General Pharmaceutical Council and Royal Pharmaceutical Society.</p> <p>Supplies made utilising this temporary adjustment should be recorded as such.</p>
<b>Criteria for exclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients who decide to access treatment with ulipristal acetate at an alternative provider.</li> <li>• Use of ulipristal acetate emergency contraception within the last 5 days</li> <li>• UPSI more than 72 hours ago</li> <li>• Allergy / known intolerance to progestogen or other product ingredients</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active acute porphyria</li> <li>• Known pregnancy. (Suspected pregnancy should be excluded using a pregnancy test<sup>1</sup>.)</li> <li>• Unexplained or unusual vaginal bleeding.</li> <li>• Patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, the Lapp lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption.</li> <li>• If the patient is receiving any concomitant medication or treatment, it is the responsibility of the pharmacist to ensure that treatment with the medicines detailed in this PGD is sought from an appropriate healthcare professional (e.g. patient's GP, sexual health clinic doctor) and this must be recorded as having been sought before the medicine is given</li> </ul>
<b>Cautions including any relevant action to be taken</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to the current version of the UK Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive use (UKMEC; <a href="https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ukmec-2016/">https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ukmec-2016/</a>) and where necessary explain the benefits and risks.</li> </ul>
<b>Action to be taken if the patient is excluded</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to a doctor or to the nearest available contraceptive clinic as appropriate.</li> <li>• Document action taken</li> </ul>
<b>Action to be taken if the patient or carer declines treatment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inform patient/carer re risks of not receiving treatment compared to the benefits.</li> <li>▪ Refer to a doctor or to the nearest available contraceptive clinic as appropriate.</li> <li>▪ Document action taken.</li> </ul>
<b>Arrangements for referral for medical advice</b>	<b><i>Refer to the appropriate medical practitioner in the care pathway</i></b>

## 5. Description of treatment

<b>Name, strength &amp; formulation of drug</b>	Levonorgestrel 1500 microgram tablet
<b>Legal category</b>	POM
<b>Route / method of administration</b>	Oral
<b>Indicate any off-label use (if relevant)</b>	<p>Check product SPC to identify off label usage as this can vary between manufacturers.</p> <p>If used outside the licensed indication then this must be documented in the consultation record. Consider, as part of the consent process, informing the individual/parent/carer that the drug is being offered in accordance with national guidance but that this is outside the product licence.</p> <p>The dosage of 3000 micrograms (TWO tablets) is classed as off-label use. See 'Dose and frequency' section below.</p>

<sup>1</sup>. Although there is potential for a false negative where fertilisation occurred less than 3 weeks previously, the FSRH CEU recommends that LNG can be used more than once in the same cycle or can be used for a recent episode of UPSI even if there has been an earlier episode of UPSI outside the treatment window (>120 hours) (outside product licence), as there is no evidence to indicate LNG is not safe in pregnancy. Please note in this PGD use is only allowed within the treatment window of ≤72 hours.

<b>Dose and frequency of administration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One tablet to be taken as a single dose as soon as possible and no later than 72 hours after UPSI.</li> <li>• If the patient is taking enzyme-inducing medication (see 'Drug interaction' section below) or griseofulvin or has a BMI &gt; 26 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or a weight &gt; 70 kg, the dosage should be increased to TWO tablets, i.e. 3000 micrograms (off-label use). This should be taken as a single dose as soon as possible and no later than 72 hours after UPSI.</li> <li>• If vomiting occurs within three hours of taking, another dose should be taken immediately, but this must fall within the 72 hours since UPSI occurred.</li> </ul>								
<b>Duration of treatment</b>	Single episode of treatment which may be repeated in the same cycle if appropriate.								
<b>Quantity to be supplied</b>	<p>Single dose of 1500 micrograms or 3000 micrograms to be supplied.</p> <p>Patients should be observed taking the medication unless they are breast feeding, when they can be allowed to take away for later consumption if necessary, but this must occur within the 72 hour window.</p> <p>Nb. For the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, the patient does not need to be observed taking the medication. The pharmacist should seek assurance from the patient they will take the dose as soon as possible and within 72 hours of UPSI or potential contraception failure when taking away.</p>								
<b>Storage</b>	Stock must be securely stored according to organisation medicines policy and in conditions in line with SPC, which is available from the electronic Medicines Compendium website: <a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk">www.medicines.org.uk</a>								
<b>Drug interactions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If the patient is taking any concomitant medication or treatment it is the practitioner's responsibility to ensure that treatment with the drug detailed in this Patient Group Direction is appropriate. (For drug interaction see Appendix 1 of BNF (<a href="https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/">https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/</a>) or the Summary of Product Characteristics (<a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/">http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/</a>) or contact the Medicine Information Service at Liverpool – telephone number inside front cover of BNF) or refer to <i>Clinical Guidance: Drug Interactions with Hormonal Contraception</i> (FSRH, January 2019)</li> <li>▪ In the case of any doubt, further advice must be sought from an appropriate health professional and recorded as having been sought before the drug is given.</li> </ul> <p>If the requirements of this Patient Group Direction cannot be complied with the patient must be referred to a suitable independent prescriber.</p>								
<b>Identification &amp; management of adverse reactions</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><b>Very common and common adverse effects</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th><b>Very common (≥ 10%)</b></th> <th><b>Common (≥ 1/100 to &lt;1/10)</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Headache</td> <td>Dizziness</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nausea Lower abdominal pain</td> <td>Diarrhoea Vomiting</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Very common and common adverse effects</b>		<b>Very common (≥ 10%)</b>	<b>Common (≥ 1/100 to &lt;1/10)</b>	Headache	Dizziness	Nausea Lower abdominal pain	Diarrhoea Vomiting
<b>Very common and common adverse effects</b>									
<b>Very common (≥ 10%)</b>	<b>Common (≥ 1/100 to &lt;1/10)</b>								
Headache	Dizziness								
Nausea Lower abdominal pain	Diarrhoea Vomiting								

	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 230 954 331">Bleeding not related to menses*</td> <td data-bbox="954 230 1455 331">Delay of menses more than 7 days ** Irregular menstruation Breast tenderness</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 331 954 383">Fatigue</td> <td data-bbox="954 331 1455 383"></td> </tr> </table> <p>* Bleeding patterns may be temporarily disturbed, but most women will have their next menstrual period within 7 days of the expected time. ** If the next menstrual period is more than 5 days overdue, pregnancy should be excluded.</p> <p>If pregnancy occurs after treatment with levonorgestrel 1500microgram, the possibility of an ectopic pregnancy should be considered. Severe abdominal pain may be an indication of ectopic pregnancy.</p> <p>For a full adverse effects profile, refer to the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC – <a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk">www.medicines.org.uk</a>) or the most current edition of the British National Formulary (BNF – <a href="http://www.bnf.org">www.bnf.org</a>)</p>	Bleeding not related to menses*	Delay of menses more than 7 days ** Irregular menstruation Breast tenderness	Fatigue	
Bleeding not related to menses*	Delay of menses more than 7 days ** Irregular menstruation Breast tenderness				
Fatigue					
<p><b>Management of and reporting procedure for adverse reactions</b></p>	<p>In the event of any adverse reaction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Record the adverse reaction in the patient consultation note</li> <li>▪ Inform the patient’s GP if the patient consents to this</li> </ul> <p>If appropriate report the adverse reaction under the Yellow Card scheme (forms can be found at the back of the BNF or completed online; <a href="http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk">http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk</a>)</p>				
<p><b>Written information to be given to patient or carer</b></p>	<p>The patient/carers should be given or directed to the following written information if appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The product specific patient information sheet supplied with the medicine.</li> <li>▪ A copy of the Family Planning Association (FPA) leaflet ‘Your guide to emergency contraception’ (<a href="http://www.fpa.org.uk/resources/downloads">http://www.fpa.org.uk/resources/downloads</a>)</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Patient advice / follow up treatment</b></p>	<p>The patient/carers should be given the following information verbally if appropriate and requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advise women that the Cu-IUD is the most effective method of EC.</li> <li>▪ Advise women that UPA-EC has been demonstrated to be more effective than LNG-EC.</li> <li>▪ EC providers should advise women that the available evidence suggests that oral EC administered after ovulation is ineffective.</li> <li>▪ Effectiveness of method is dependent on length of time from UPSI / potential contraceptive failure to treatment.</li> <li>▪ Beneficial effects, side effect and risks should be discussed.</li> <li>▪ Advise women that after oral EC there is a pregnancy risk if there is further UPSI and ovulation occurs later in the same cycle.</li> <li>▪ How to take the pill correctly, preferably as an immediate dose in the pharmacy. Breast feeding mothers may be allowed to take away with them to allow them to feed their child before taking. This should only occur if it fits within the allowed time</li> </ul>				

	<p>limits. They can also avoid feeding for a further 8 hours after taking; however, there is no evidence that levonorgestrel cause's harm to the baby.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If vomiting occurs within three hours of taking, a repeat dose is required, but must be given within the 72 hours since UPSI.</li> <li>▪ When to seek further medical advice e.g. INR check if on warfarin.</li> <li>▪ To refer to Sexual Health Clinic or GP if no / light period up to three weeks after treatment.</li> <li>▪ Advise women that oral EC methods do not provide contraceptive cover for subsequent UPSI and that they will need to use contraception or abstain from sex to avoid further risk of pregnancy.</li> <li>▪ Discuss on going contraception including Quick Starting Contraception guidance (recommending starting contraception immediately after oral emergency hormonal contraception with additional protection as appropriate for the method used).</li> <li>▪ Discuss long-acting reversible contraception and give written information that is in line with NICE guidance, CG 30, updated July 2019.</li> <li>▪ Encourage use of condoms and reinforce the safer sex message.</li> <li>▪ Recommend sexually transmitted infections screening.</li> <li>▪ Supply or recommend condoms as detailed in the service specification.</li> <li>▪ Use of the product outside the terms of its licence should be discussed with the patient, including the reasons why this may be necessary.</li> <li>▪ Advise where the patient will continue to use a hormonal method of contraception that they should use an additional contraceptive method for 7 days (2 days for Progestogen Only Pill; 9 days for Qlaira®)</li> </ul> <p><b>To patients taking enzyme-inducing medication or griseofulvin or has a BMI &gt; 26 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or a weight &gt; 70 kg:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advise on the need for an increased dose of levonorgestrel to 3000microgram (two tablets).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Records</b></p>	<p>PharmOutcomes should be used to record all consultations as required by the service specification.</p> <p>Supplies made utilising this temporary adjustment for COVID-19 should be recorded as such.</p> <p>Clinical records must be kept for at least 8 years following completion of treatment. In patients who are aged under 17 years, clinical records must be kept until the patient's 25th birthday, or if the patient was 17 at the conclusion of the treatment, until their 26th birthday.</p> <p>(Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Social Care 2016; <a href="https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/looking-after-information/data-security-and-information-governance/codes-of-practice-for-handling-information-in-health-and-care/records-management-code-of-practice-for-health-and-social-care-2016">https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/looking-after-information/data-security-and-information-governance/codes-of-practice-for-handling-information-in-health-and-care/records-management-code-of-practice-for-health-and-social-care-2016</a>)</p>

## 6. Key references

Key references	
	1. BNF – Levonorgestrel <a href="https://bnf.nice.org.uk/drug/levonorgestrel.html">https://bnf.nice.org.uk/drug/levonorgestrel.html</a>
	2. BNFC - Levonorgestrel <a href="https://bnfc.nice.org.uk/drug/levonorgestrel.html">https://bnfc.nice.org.uk/drug/levonorgestrel.html</a>
	3. Summary of Product Characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upostelle (Levonorgestrel) 1500 microgram tablets (December 2019) <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/10976/smpc">https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/10976/smpc</a></li> <li>▪ Emerres (Levonorgestrel) 1.5mg tablet (May 2019) <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/9569/smpc">https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/9569/smpc</a></li> <li>▪ Levonelle (Levonorgestrel) 1500 microgram tablet (June 2019) <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/133/smpc">https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/133/smpc</a></li> <li>▪ Levonorgestrel (Mylan) 1.5mg tablet (January 2019) <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/8626/smpc">https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/8626/smpc</a></li> <li>▪ Levonorgestrel (Lupin) 1.5mg tablet (April 2019) <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/7308/smpc">https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/7308/smpc</a></li> </ul>
	4. Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare – Emergency Contraception (December 2017) <a href="https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ceu-clinical-guidance-emergency-contraception-march-2017/">https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ceu-clinical-guidance-emergency-contraception-march-2017/</a>
	5. Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare – UK Medical Eligibility Criteria (September 2019) <a href="https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ukmec-2016/">https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ukmec-2016/</a>
	6. Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare – Drug Interactions with Hormonal Contraception (January 2019) <a href="https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ceu-clinical-guidance-drug-interactions-with-hormonal/">https://www.fsrh.org/standards-and-guidance/documents/ceu-clinical-guidance-drug-interactions-with-hormonal/</a>
	7. NICE CKS – Contraception – emergency (September 2019) <a href="https://cks.nice.org.uk/contraception-emergency">https://cks.nice.org.uk/contraception-emergency</a>
	8. NHS Digital – Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Social Care (July 2016) <a href="https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/looking-after-information/data-security-and-information-governance/codes-of-practice-for-handling-information-in-health-and-care/records-management-code-of-practice-for-health-and-social-care-2016">https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/looking-after-information/data-security-and-information-governance/codes-of-practice-for-handling-information-in-health-and-care/records-management-code-of-practice-for-health-and-social-care-2016</a>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPPE – Declaration of Competence Factsheet (May 2017) <a href="https://www.cppe.ac.uk/services/declaration-of-competence">https://www.cppe.ac.uk/services/declaration-of-competence</a></li> </ul>

## 7. Registered health professional authorisation sheet

### Supply of Levenorgestrel 1500mg for Emergency Hormonal Contraception

Version. 2.0

Valid from: April 2020

Expiry: March 2023

Before signing this PGD, check that the document has had the necessary authorisations in section 2. Without these, this PGD is not lawfully valid.

#### Registered health professional

By signing this patient group direction you are indicating that you agree to its contents and that you will work within it.

Patient group directions do not remove inherent professional obligations or accountability.

It is the responsibility of each professional to practise only within the bounds of their own competence and professional code of conduct.

**I confirm that I have read and understood the content of this Patient Group Direction and that I am willing and competent to work to it within my professional code of conduct.**

Name	Designation	Signature	Date

#### Authorising manager

**I confirm that the registered health professionals named above have declared themselves suitably trained and competent to work under this PGD. I give authorisation on behalf of INSERT NAME OF ORGANISATION for the above named health care professionals who have signed the PGD to work under it.**

Name	Designation	Signature	Date

#### Note to authorising manager

Score through unused rows in the list of registered health professionals to prevent additions post managerial authorisation.

This authorisation sheet should be retained to serve as a record of those registered health professionals authorised to work under this PGD.