

To contact NHS BSW CCG Medicines Optimisation Team: ✉ bswccg.prescribing@nhs.net
Website: <https://prescribing.bswccg.nhs.uk/>

ACTIONS this month:-

- Prescribe Priadel as normal as it is no longer being withdrawn in March 2021
- Consider alternative SSRIs when initiating pts on sertraline due to increased cost
- Ensure the APC and BSW formulary websites are easily accessible
- Check SystmOne formularies in the practice so NO old versions of Meds Opt Formularies are active
- Read Prescribing Incentive Scheme Documents and diarise webinars to support practices

Priadel Withdrawal Has Been Paused

The [Competition and Markets Authority \(CMA\)](#) has announced it will investigate the pharmaceutical company Essential Pharma. This development means Priadel will NOT be withdrawn from the UK market by March 2021 and there is no longer a need to progress any system wide switching of patients from Priadel to an alternative brand of lithium.

Stock Update: A [CAS Alert](#) was also released on 8th October with further information and confirmation that ordering quotas will remain in place to ensure supplies available to all patients. Details of where community pharmacy can order emergency stock above their allocated quota can also be found in this document.

ACTION: Continue to prescribe Priadel as normal.

Unexpectedly expensive Sertraline

Sertraline tablets have increased in price following price concessions over the last few months.

	September Drug Tariff Price	Actual Cost in September
Sertraline 50mg tablets (28)	£1.55	£4.10
Sertraline 100mg tablets (28)	£1.99	£8.50

This is up to four times more expensive than other SSRIs so please consider alternatives where possible when initiating **NEW** patients. It is **NOT** suggested to switch existing patients who are currently taking Sertraline.

ACTION: Note sertraline price increase and consider alternative SSRI's where possible when initiating patients.

BSW Area Prescribing Committee (APC) Updates

The [BSW APC website](#) includes information on the APC and the formulary decision making process and explains how clinicians can make a submission to the [BSW joint formulary](#). APC decisions will be communicated via this newsletter and on the APC [recent decision page](#). APC meeting dates can be found [here](#).

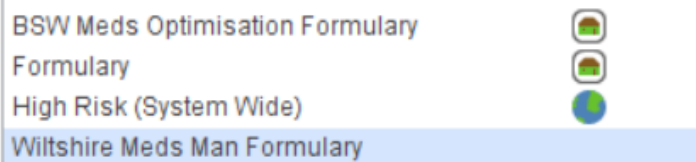
ACTION: Add the BSW APC and the BSW formulary websites to your favourites or as shortcuts on your desktop/laptop for ease of access.

New BSW SystemOne Formulary

This is available to all SystemOne practices across BSW. It contains all Amber and Green drugs on the BSW formulary with pre-defined doses as per the BNF. Although we have deleted the previous versions centrally, we are aware that they may still be active in practices. Please check ONLY the new version entitled BSW Meds Optimisation Formulary is available in your practice and delete old versions such as “Wiltshire Meds Man Formulary”, “BCAP Amber formulary” or “BCAP Green Red Black formulary”. Please contact us if you require further support to remove these older versions.

Active formularies can be found here in SystemOne: [Setup/Prescribing/Drug Formularies](#)

In the screenshot below the highlighted version should be deleted.



ACTION: Please ensure the new BSW Formulary is the ONLY Meds Optimisation formulary in SystemOne in your practice.

Prescribing Incentive Scheme Update

GP Practices across BSW should have now received an email detailing this year’s prescribing incentive scheme. Apologies this is very late. The content has been agreed with GP representation from BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire to ensure it reflects realistic expectations for the coming 6 months. The monthly BSW Medicines Optimisation Webinars are an opportunity to hear about BSW Medicines Optimisation priorities, including the incentive scheme. Look out for details of upcoming webinars in the Primary Care Bulletin. Slides from the previous webinars are available in the ‘Training and Education’ tab on our website here: <https://prescribing.bswccg.nhs.uk/training-and-education>.

Date/time	Planned Topics
14th October, 1.30pm	PCN Network Contract DES – Summary of what CCG request – DES Focus on Dependence Forming Meds
11th November, 1.30pm	PCN Network Contract DES Antimicrobial Stewardship, DES resources to support structured medication review (SMR)

Safety Updates September 2020

[Prescribing Opioids new MHRA recommendations](#) include discussing with the patient the risks and features of tolerance, dependence and addiction and agreeing together a treatment strategy and plan for end of treatment.

[Transdermal Fentanyl patches](#) - Do NOT use in opioid naïve patients for non-cancer pain. A 12 microgram (µg) per hour fentanyl patch equates to daily doses of oral morphine of up to 45mg a day.

[Methotrexate Prescribing](#) – New recommendation to specify day of the week on dose instructions of prescription to support WEEKLY dosing message.

Website Updates

Presentation - Medicines Optimisation across BSW (September 2020)	https://prescribing.bswccg.nhs.uk/?wpdmdl=6400
BSW Formulary Update – Summary of changes March-September 2020	https://prescribing.bswccg.nhs.uk/?wpdmdl=7951
BSW Care Home (MOCH) October Newsletter	https://prescribing.bswccg.nhs.uk/?wpdmdl=8035

This newsletter represents what is known at the time of writing so information may be subsequently superseded. Please contact the Medicines Optimisation Teams with comments/feedback or information for inclusion. This newsletter is aimed at healthcare professionals working within BSW.

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