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Dear CCG Pharmacists and GPs,

Advice for prescribing of domperidone in paediatrics

As you may be aware there was a MRHA alert on 25th April 2014 in regards to the restricted use of domperidone. Please find enclosed a position statement from the NPPG (Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group) which provides advice on our current position until the Joint Medicines Committee produces a final determination of the position of both the RCPCH and NPPG on the use of domperidone in children. Please see below a summary of this advice for the use of domperidone for reflux in children:

Children with Congenital Cardiac Disease

- Consider stopping domperidone
- Regular cardiac monitoring is recommended if Domperidone is continued – Refer to hospital

Children with established gastro-oesophageal reflux or gastrointestinal dysmotility

- **Continue treatment until next review**
- Consider reducing dose to 250micrograms/kg tds, and then reducing further as necessary
- Consider referral to hospital for cardiac monitoring where there are concerns eg. cardiovascular instability, concomitant CYP3A4 inhibitors eg erythromycin,

Children with newly diagnosed reflux

- Simple measures (such as feeding the infant upright and keeping them upright after feeds, and the use of feed thickeners if the child is on liquid feeds) should be introduced first for at least two weeks
- Start with low dose domperidone 250micrograms/kg TDS
- For patients where reflux or nausea is refractory to this dose consider referral to hospital for dose review. Dose may be increased to a maximum of 400micrograms/kg (max. 20mg) TDS, but regular cardiac monitoring is recommended

Use in nursing mothers to promote lactation

- Unlicensed use
- Further advice expected imminently

We would appreciate that GPs would continue prescribing for patients that are already established on domperidone. Further recommendations will be available in due course and we will keep you informed of any new information as it is published. The above information should cover most eventualities, however please feel free to contact us should you have any individual patient concerns on the above number.

Yours sincerely

Sandhia Naik Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist, Chin Nwokoro Consultant Respiratory Paediatrician and Paediatric Pharmacy Team.