

NEL Prescribing and Medicines Newsletter

October 2024

Updates for Community Pharmacy across North East London

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1. Formulary and Pathways Update

NEL electronic Joint Formulary is now LIVE!

On 23rd October 2024, the North East London (NEL) Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation Team launched a new NEL-wide electronic formulary platform called netFormulary®.

netFormulary® is already used widely across London and has the benefit of clearly showing what can be prescribed across all provider Trusts and primary care in NEL.

The team have worked across the system to align existing formularies where possible, and this has been reflected on netFormulary®. Going forward, netFormulary® will be regularly updated to reflect formulary decisions across NEL.

Clinicians will also be able to access the BNF, BNFC and other useful resources through the platform. NEL approved medicines-related guidelines will also be available on netFormulary®, which will save time for clinicians by helping to streamline prescribing decisions and enhance productivity.

This has been a huge undertaking and is **an ongoing process, with clinical chapters published as they are finalised. For any chapters not immediately uploaded, clinicians will also be able to access the legacy formularies via netFormulary® during this transition period.**

A NEL netFormulary® user guide is available [here](#).

Access netFormulary® via www.nel-jointformulary.nhs.uk

Formulary and Guideline Updates

Please see table below listing the drugs and guideline updates approved by the NEL Formulary and Pathways Group, including any relevant additional information to support practices.

Approved item	Additional information
Generic 'Sitagliptin 50mg and Metformin 1g' combination tablets for Type 2 Diabetes	Formulary status: Green

<p>Primary care implementation protocol to support the prescribing of the recommended cost-effective generic sitagliptin tablets – linked here</p>	<p>Accompanying the protocol, there is a <i>generic patient medicine switch letter</i> to help practices – linked here</p>
<p>Empagliflozin for Type 2 diabetes in Children and Young people (10-years and over) – <i>First line</i>.</p>	<p>Formulary status: Amber – specialist initiated</p>
<p>Dapagliflozin for Type 2 Diabetes in Children and Young People (10-years and over) – <i>Second line</i></p>	<p>Overview Diabetes (type 1 and type 2) in children and young people: diagnosis and management Guidance NICE</p>
<p>NICE TA999 Vibegron for treating symptoms of overactive bladder syndrome</p>	<p>Formulary status: Amber – specialist initiated</p> <p>Overview Vibegron for treating symptoms of overactive bladder syndrome Guidance NICE</p>
<p>NEL Oral Nutritional Supplements (ONS) guideline update: Identification, treatment and management of malnutrition in adults, including the appropriate prescribing of oral Nutritional Supplement.</p>	<p>Aymes Complete® has been discontinued. Guidelines updated to reflect this change: Actagain 1.5 Complete® replaces Aymes Complete® -</p> <p>(NEL) Oral nutritional supplements (ONS) guideline in adults 09.2024</p>
<p>Position Statement: GLP-1 analogues – Semaglutide (Wegovy®) and Liraglutide (Saxenda®) for managing overweight and obesity – (UPDATED)</p>	<p>Medicines Position Statements – NEL – North East London</p>

2. Change of FreeStyle Libre 2 to FreeStyle Libre 2 Plus and Dexcom ONE to Dexcom ONE+

FreeStyle Libre 2 Plus

- From early 2025, FreeStyle Libre 2 sensors are going to be replaced by FreeStyle Libre 2 Plus sensors.
- Prescribers are now recommended to prescribe the FreeStyle Libre 2 Plus sensors [PIP CODE 428 0194] replacing FreeStyle Libre 2 sensors [PIP: 416-3416].
- Please ensure that FreeStyle Libre 2 sensors are omitted from the patient's repeat medication list.
- The cost of both products is the same.

Key Differences:

- a) The new sensors have a new life of 15 days (compared to 14 days for FreeStyle Libre 2).
- b) Indicated for patients aged 2 years and older (whereas the FreeStyle Libre 2 sensors are indicated for patients 4 years and older).

Note: Sensors will fit into the same reader and the phone app remains the same, therefore these do not require changing. The sensors are compatible for patients on insulin pump therapy using the Omnipod 5 in a Hybrid Closed Loop System.

Please visit the FreeStyle Abbott website for further product information: [linked here](#).

Dexcom ONE+

- The Dexcom ONE device is going to be discontinued as of 1st May 2025.
- Prescribers are now recommended to prescribe Dexcom ONE+ [PIP CODE 426-8058].
- There is no price difference between Dexcom ONE and Dexcom ONE+.

Key differences:

- Dexcom ONE+ differs in appearance to Dexcom ONE as it has a smaller sensor size
- No separate transmitter is required (all-in-one device) and the app is updated – therefore patients **do not** need to use their old transmitter.
- The Dexcom ONE+ app can be downloaded from the app store.
- If a patient is transitioning from a previous Dexcom Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) device, they do NOT need a new account. Simply use the existing username and password on all Dexcom apps. For more information on compatibility please visit: [Dexcom ONE + FAQs](#)
- Dexcom ONE+ has a 30-minute warm-up time compared to 2 hours with Dexcom ONE. This means that it will now only take 30 minutes from the time of inserting the sensor before obtaining the first reading.
- Dexcom ONE+ has a 12-hour grace period between sensor sessions. Each sensor session lasts up to 10 days with a 12-hour grace period at the end. The grace period gives the patient more time to replace the sensor, so they can do so when it is convenient.
- Patient information [Dexcom ONE to Dexcom ONE+ transition guide](#)

Please visit the Dexcom website for further product information: [linked here](#)

3. PrescQIPP Update

Clinical Masterclass – Upcoming webinars:

Clinicians may find the following monthly upcoming webinars (1-2pm) useful.

Date	Webinar
6 th November 2024	Taking the first Steps to Real-world Clinical Implementation of Genomic Medicine
10 th December 2024	NICE/BTS guideline on Asthma: diagnosis, monitoring and chronic asthma management
29 th January 2025	NICE Guideline on Menopause; diagnosis and management

View recordings and slides from previous webinars: <https://www.prescqipp.info/our-resources/clinical-masterclasses/>

Practice Plus webinar recordings:

PCN pharmacists, practice pharmacists and pharmacy technicians may find the following past webinar recording useful.

Date	Webinar
16 th October 2024	Demystifying Research in Primary Care

View previous webinars: <https://www.prescqipp.info/learning/practice-plus/>

Prescribing Mastery – Upcoming webinars

These webinar sessions support pharmacist prescribers in general practice and offer action learning opportunities where attendees can bring cases along to share. Clinicians may find the following webinars (1-2pm) useful.

Date	Webinar
14 th November 2024	Cholesterol management session 2: Reflecting on mastering cholesterol prescribing - what went well, what was difficult, what could you do differently?
20 th November 2024	Severe mental illness session 1: Unlocking excellence – Mastering Severe Mental Illness for our patients
11 th December 2024	Severe mental illness session 2: Reflecting on mastering severe mental illness - what went well, what was difficult, what could you do differently?

Virtual Professional Groups

Clinicians may find the following monthly webinar (1-2pm) useful.

Date	Webinar
13 th November 2024	Antimicrobial stewardship

PrescQIPP Podcast – Talking Meds

The PrescQIPP 'Talking Meds' podcast is hosted by Jonathan Underhill (former Medicines Clinical Adviser at NICE) with episodes released bi-monthly. Episode 1 is out now, featuring guest Magnus Hird, a pioneer of clinical pharmacists working in general practice, to discuss his role, how he prioritises people for medication review as well as safety issues.

Future podcast episodes will include:

- Penicillin allergy de-labelling with Phil Howard OBE
- New NICE Menopause guideline with NICE committee member Hayley Berry
- NICE/SIGN Asthma guideline, depression deprescribing and insomnia
- A series on 'Sensible prescribing in Older people with Jonathan and Lucy', with consultant geriatrician and author Lucy Pollock.

You can subscribe to the Talking Meds podcast via the following platforms:

- [iTunes/Apple podcasts](#)
- [Spotify](#)

Not registered with PrescQIPP yet?

You can register free of charge to access PrescQIPP resources by [clicking here](#). Please select "ICS North East London" as the organisation.

4. Contact Details and Additional Resources

CONTACT DETAILS

NEL ICB Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation Team

For prescribing and medicines enquiries:
nelondonicb.prescribingqueries@nhs.net

For all enquires, reporting concerns or incidents relating to Controlled Drugs

england.londonaccountableoffice@nhs.net

Report CD incidents using the national reporting tool
www.cdreporting.co.uk

RESOURCES

For NEL electronic Joint Formulary (netFormulary®)

www.nel-jointformulary.nhs.uk

For Pharmacy & Medicines Optimisation Team Resources

<https://primarycare.northeastlondon.icb.nhs.uk/home/meds/>

For Medicine Supply Shortages

[Click here](#) for **SPS Medicines Supply Tool** which offers up-to-date information on Medicines Shortages, provided by DHSC and NHSE/I.

[Register](#) with SPS free-of-charge to access.

For Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs)

[Click here](#) for SSPs and supporting guidance.

For PGD Updates

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) – [click here](#)
Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) – [click here](#)
NHS England (NHSE) – [click here](#)

For your information:

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