

Stoma Accessories Not for Prescribing - Position Statement

Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB does not support the prescribing of the following stoma accessories: deodorants, skin cleansers, filters, bridges and bag covers.

Recommendation

Products including deodorants, skin cleansers, filters, bridges and bag covers should not be prescribed (for existing or new patients).

Rationale

Deodorants

With correctly fitting stoma bag no odour should be apparent, except when the bag is emptied / changed. If odour is present at times other than changing or emptying, refer for stoma nurse review.

If deodorants are required for social reasons (e.g. for issues with odour when emptying or changing the bag), these should be purchased: air fresheners from supermarkets or deodorants online (search under 'ostomy deodorants').

Skin Cleansers

Water (or soap and water) is adequate to cleanse peristomal skin and the stoma itself. Ensure soap is rinsed off before drying skin.

Filters

Modern stoma bags have integrated filters. Filters may still be used with some older appliances. There will be a cohort of patients on these old style bags without filters. Any patients using bags without integrated filters should be referred to the Stoma Care Nurse Specialist for review.

Bridges

Stoma bridges are designed to keep the plastic films that form the bag apart, thus avoiding pancaking but there is no evidence to prove they are effective.

Bag Covers

Some patients prefer a transparent bag to aid application and view contents. Patients can purchase bag covers online. Helpful websites are www.respond.co.uk and www.ostomycoversbylinda.co.uk.



Stoma Care Nurse Team Contact Details:

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West Essex: Stoma care nursing team	Telephone: 01279 827072 (Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm)	Email: paht.stomacare@nhs.net

References:

1. PrescQIPP Prescribing Guidelines for Stoma Appliances and Accessories;
2. London Procurement Partnership; Recommendations for Stoma Prescribing in London.

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Review date	The recommendation is based upon the evidence available at the time of publication. This recommendation will be reviewed upon request in the light of new evidence becoming available.

