

Prescribing of Adhesive Barrier Rings, Seals and Washers Position Statement

Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB recommends maximum monthly quantities, dependent on the stoma type, for the prescribing of barrier rings, seals and washers.

Recommendations

Stoma Type	Daily Quantity*	Maximum Monthly Quantity to be Prescribed**
Ileostomy	0.5 - 1	30
Colostomy	1-3	90
Urostomy	0.5 - 1	30

**Daily quantity of 0.5 indicates use on alternate days*

***Quantity required may be considerably more if used around a fistula site. This should be communicated by the local stoma care nurse*

- New patients using this product should only be prescribed barrier rings, seals or washers after an assessment by a stoma care nurse.
- If ordering in excess of recommended quantities, patients should be referred to their local stoma care nurse for review.

Rationale

- When the stoma bag is changed, the barrier ring, seal or washer will be removed at the same time. Therefore, a new one is required at each bag change.
- Patients with an ileostomy or urostomy usually change their stoma bag daily or on alternate days, therefore requiring 15-30 of these products each month.
- Patients with a colostomy may change their stoma bag up to three times a day, so could require 30-90 of these products each month.
- Using more than the recommended amount could indicate a stoma related issue that requires a clinical review.

Background

- Barrier rings, seals or washers stretch and fit around the stoma, adhering to the patient's skin and stoma appliance. They are usually made of hydrocolloid or silicone which ensures fluid is taken away from the skin due to its high absorbency properties.
- Used to prevent leakage and protect peristomal skin, which could be caused by either a difficult sited stoma (e.g. in a skin crease) or flat stomas (i.e. stomas flush to the peristomal skin).
- Barrier rings, seals or washers are not routinely required for all patients with a stoma.
- There is no clinical evidence to support a preferred formulary choice, and these products are comparably priced.



- The choice of product is generally governed by the type of problem causing the leak. The stoma care nurse is therefore best placed to advise on the appropriate product for the patient, taking into account the stoma type and skin condition.

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:

- PrescQIPP Prescribing Guidelines for Stoma Appliances and Accessories
- Stoma Toolkit Adults, February 2018; NHS Birmingham
- Stoma Care Products Formulary Guide, September 2011; NHS Buckinghamshire

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Developed by	Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation Team, Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board Stoma Care Clinical Nurse Specialists, West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust and The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust.
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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.

