

## Prescribing of Barrier Cream for Stoma Care Position Statement

### Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB recommends:

#### Formulary Choice:

**1<sup>st</sup> Line:** Comfeel® Barrier cream 60g tube

**2<sup>nd</sup> Line:** Guard® Barrier Cream (formerly OstoMart®, OstoGuard®) 60g tube

#### Quantity:

- Maximum quantity of two 60g tubes per year

#### Additional:

- Cavilon® barrier cream should not be used in stoma care
- Barrier cream sachets are not cost effective and should not be prescribed

### Recommendations

- For all patients, Comfeel® Barrier Cream should be prescribed as first line option.
- Guard® Barrier Cream should be prescribed as second line option.
- Maximum quantity of **two 60g tubes per patient, per year** to be prescribed.
- Excessive ordering of barrier creams should be questioned. Excessive use may affect the security of the appliance, and may signify that the person is having problems and needs a stoma assessment.
- Authorisation for the use of barrier cream must come from a stoma care nurse.
- Cavilon® barrier cream should not be used in stoma care.
- Barrier cream sachets are not cost effective and should not be prescribed.

### Rationale

- Barrier creams are rarely required for stoma care. Usually reserved for patients with dry skin conditions or where sore skin has healed and requires moisture/protection.
- Barrier cream is not usually required at every bag change and should be used sparingly only as required when peristomal skin is dry.
- Normal emollients/moisturising creams should also not be used; they form a greasy surface, preventing an appliance from adhering to the peristomal skin.
- Cavilon® barrier cream is not suitable for use as barrier protection for stoma sites.

### Background

- A tube of barrier cream should last for at least six months.
- A pea sized amount is required at each application to the peristomal skin. This should be left to absorb for 2 minutes prior to bag application.
- Based on the amount used for each application, and due to the fact that barrier cream is not usually required at every bag change, a maximum quantity of two 60g tubes per year should suffice.
- Barrier creams will not prevent peristomal skin excoriation due to leakage of faecal matter/urine onto the skin.



**Stoma Care Nurse Team Contact Details:**

SWH: Dacorum, Watford and St Albans & Harpenden Localities	Telephone: 01923 217489 (Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm)	Email: <a href="mailto:westherts.stomacare@nhs.net">westherts.stomacare@nhs.net</a>
SWH: Hertsmere Locality	Telephone: 07901 118827 (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm)	Email: <a href="mailto:nclibc.stomanurse@nhs.net">nclibc.stomanurse@nhs.net</a>
ENH: Stoma office for hospital and community care service, Lister hospital, Stevenage	Telephone: 01438 284133 (Monday-Friday, 7am-4.30pm)	Email: <a href="mailto:stomacare.enh-tr@nhs.net">stomacare.enh-tr@nhs.net</a>
West Essex: Stoma care nursing team	Telephone: 01279 827072 (Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm)	Email: <a href="mailto:paht.stomacare@nhs.net">paht.stomacare@nhs.net</a>

**References:**

1. Stoma Care Products Formulary Guide, September 2011; NHS Buckinghamshire
2. Stoma Toolkit Adults; February 2018, Birmingham, Sandwell, Solihull and environs Area Prescribing Committee
3. Accessories Used In Stoma Care, Rotherham CCG

<b>Version</b>	4.0
<b>Developed by</b>	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.
<b>Date ratified</b>	V1 July 2020 (Medicines Optimisation Clinical Leads Group). V2 July 2021 (Medicines Optimisation Clinical Leads Group). V3 May 2023 (Medicines Optimisation & Prescribing Delivery and Implementation Group). V4 Updated SWH Hertsmere contact information.
<b>Review date</b>	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.

