

Prescribing of Stoma Powder Position Statement

Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB recommends one bottle of stoma powder to be prescribed per patient every two months, for a maximum of four months.

Recommendations

- Maximum of one bottle of stoma powder to be prescribed per patient every two months, for a maximum of four months (total of two bottles over four months).
- New patients should only be prescribed stoma powder after an assessment by a stoma care nurse.
- If ordering in excess of one stoma powder every two months, patients should be referred to their local stoma care nurse for review.
- If further prescriptions are requested after four months, patient should be referred to their local stoma care nurse for review.

Rationale

- Excessive use of stoma powder can cause problems with bag adherence.
- Using more than one bottle of stoma powder every two months could indicate a stoma related issue that requires a clinical review.
- Using one bottle of stoma powder every two months, for more than four months, could indicate a stoma related issue that requires a clinical review.

Background

- Stoma powder is used to help heal excoriated, wet and weepy peristomal skin. It should be used sparingly and the excess dusted off.
- There is no advantage to using stoma powder unless skin is weepy or raw.
- Stoma powder does not prevent skin irritation and should therefore not form part of a regular stoma care routine.
- If a patient is requesting repeat prescriptions for powders after a four month period, they should be referred for review by stoma care nurse to confirm indication for long term use.
- There is no clinical evidence to support a preferred formulary choice, and these products are comparably priced.
- The stoma care nurse is therefore best placed to advise on the appropriate stoma powder for the patient, taking into account the stoma type and skin condition.

Stoma Care Nurse Team Contact Details:

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ENH: Stoma office for hospital and community care service, Lister hospital, Stevenage	Telephone: 01438 284133 (Monday-Friday, 7am-4.30pm)	Email: stomacare.enh-tr@nhs.net
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

Version	4.0
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.
Date ratified	V1 September 2019 (Medicines Optimisation Clinical Leads Group); November 2019 (Primary Care Commissioning Committee). V2 July 2021 (Medicines Optimisation Clinical Leads Group). V3 May 2023 (Medicines Optimisation & Prescribing Delivery and Implementation Group). V4 Updated SWH Herts mere contact information.
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.

