



Northern Treatment
Advisory Group

Northern Treatment Advisory Group: 9th Annual Report, June 2023

Chairman's foreword

NTAG has continued to meet regularly as a forum of experts to ensure that consistent and considered recommendations are made on the adoption of new treatments for patients in the North East and North Cumbria.

The group has continued to make recommendations to ensure clinically effective treatments are adopted locally and ensuring the best use of NHS resources for the delivery of patient care.

Following the formation of the North East and North Cumbria ICB there has been review of the responsibilities and remit of NTAG with regards to medicines decision making. NTAG is now establishing itself as a sub group of the NENC Medicines Sub Committee which reports directly to the NENC ICB Executive Committee. NTAG is now responsible for making a recommendation to the NENC Medicines Committee on all new formulary applications and

I would like to thank the members of NTAG and the expert advisors who contribute to the detailed treatment appraisals for the work they have done on this important and complex agenda.

Dr Janet Walker

Chair of NTAG

Medical Directorate (Tees Valley)

North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board

Appraisal and Recommendations

During the financial year 2022/23 the group produced two new recommendation and re-reviewed six previous NTAG recommendations. It also approved six clinical guidelines or decision aids.

From November 2022 NTAG has taken on the responsibility from the three Area Prescribing Committees in the North East and North Cumbria on the formulary adoption of all NICE Technology Appraisals by the ICB.

Since January 2023 NTAG has been receiving all formulary applications from across the North East and North Cumbria.

All recommendations are based upon proven clinical outcomes, value for money and affordability.

Title	Recommendation
Flash Glucose Monitoring (June 2022)	Reviewed and updated to reflect the NICE guidance on glucose monitoring published in March 2022.

Prescribing of Biosimilar Medicines (June 2022)	New recommendation. Recommends the commissioning and use in the North East & North Cumbria of biosimilar equivalents to biologics at the time of their launch, within their licensed indications. These products should be added to local formularies at that time (or soon after) to maximise the financial savings available.
Budesonide orodispersible (Jorveza®) for maintenance treatment of eosinophilic oesophagitis (June 2022)	New recommendation. Budesonide orodispersible (Jorveza®) recommended for the maintenance treatment of eosinophilic oesophagitis for patients with a long-standing disease history and/or high extent of oesophageal inflammation in their acute disease state. The duration of maintenance therapy is determined by the discretion of the treating gastroenterologist depending on severity of symptoms and response.
i-Port Advance® for use in children and adults with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes (June 2022)	Reviewed and updated to include use in a limited cohort of patients with Type 2 diabetes.
Liposuction for Lipoedema and Lymphoedema (June 2022)	Reviewed and added links to interventional procedural guidance published in March and April 2022.
Top Tips and Recommendations for Dapagliflozin [FORXIGA] in Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) (June 2022)	New NENC prescribing top tips document approved.
Top Tips and Recommendations for Sodium Glucose Co-transporter 2 inhibitors (SGLT2i) in HFrEF (June 2022)	New NENC prescribing top tips document approved.
Top Tips and Recommendations for use of Sodium Glucose Co-transporter 2 inhibitors (SGLT2i) in people with Type 2 Diabetes (T2DM) For Glycaemic Control (June 2022)	New NENC prescribing top tips document approved.
Northern England Evaluation and Lipid Intensification guideline	Latest version approved by NTAG in September 2022.

Continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) position statement (November 2022)	Replaces previous NTAG Flash Glucose Monitoring. Now includes isCGM and rtCGM as per NICE guidance on glucose monitoring from March 2022. Plus includes Dexcom ONE as an option.
Sodium oxybate (Xyrem®) in the management of narcolepsy with cataplexy in adult patients in light of the RMOG guidance published in October 2019 (November 2022)	Reviewed and updated. Now recommends use in adults who have not previously had sodium oxybate as a child.
Vaginal devices for female urinary stress incontinence (November 2022)	Reviewed and updated. Does not recommend the use of Vaginal devices (e.g. Diveen®, Contiform® and Efemia®) for the routine management of female urinary stress incontinence on the NHS as per NICE NG123. But now does recommend use as per NICE NG210: Pelvic floor dysfunction: prevention and non-surgical management:
Transanal irrigation (TAI) systems (Peristeen Plus®, Aquaflush®, and QuFora®) for neurogenic bowel dysfunction, chronic constipation and chronic faecal incontinence (November 2022)	Reviewed and updated. Removed products which have been discontinued.
Management of Symptomatic Recurrent Uncomplicated Urinary Tract Infections in Adult Women (January 2023)	New NENC guideline approved.
Gabapentinoids for intractable itch with severe burn (March 2023)	Formulary application approved.
Teriparatide use outside of NICE guidance as per NOGG (March 2023)	Formulary application approved.
Tacalcitol lotion for psoriasis vulgaris (March 2023)	Formulary application rejected.
Trifarotene cream for acne (March 2023)	Formulary application approved.
Ciclosporin 1mg/mL (0.1%) eye drops (Verkazia®) for severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis in children from 4 years of age and adolescents (March 2023)	Formulary application approved.
Botulinum toxin for hernia (March 2023)	Formulary application approved.
Dihydroartemisinin/piperazine phosphate (Eurartesim®) for malaria	Formulary application approved.
NENC regional guidance on SGLT2 inhibitors (March 2023)	New NENC prescribing top tips document approved replacing the current separate documents for Type 2 diabetes, CKD and heart failure.

NENC ICB position statement non-palliative care use of opiates (March 2023)	New NENC document replacing previous versions from each APC across the NENC.
Single ICS formulary – approval of RAG status for each drug. (March 2023)	NTAG supported the proposed RAG status for each drug within the new single ICS formulary.
NTAG Paliperidone LAI recommendation – update (March 2023)	NTAG agreed that following the recent launch of generic paliperidone LAI to remove brand names from its current NTAG recommendation on paliperidone LAI and update the costings section.

Membership

The group is now well established. Representation has been drawn from throughout NHS North East and North Cumbria Cumbria, both geographically and strategically (i.e. primary and specialist care, providers and commissioners.)

Due to changes in the remit and responsibilities of NTAG the membership has been reviewed during 2022/23, and continues to be kept under review to ensure that NTAG has adequate membership from across the North East and North Cumbria, with all stakeholders represented in some way.

Work plan

Previously the majority of appraisals have been identified prospectively through horizon scanning processes with a minority identified following a referral or request to the group by APCs or IFR panels.

Since January 2023 NTAG has been receiving all formulary applications from across the North East and North Cumbria. This are incorporated into the workplan at the earliest opportunity.

The current work plan is available on the website and is updated following each meeting should any changes be made.

Further information

This is the 9th annual report for NTAG and covers the period of April 2022 to March 2023.

NTAG will continue to review its accountability arrangements and remit as NHS structures change within the region as ICS level commissioning establishes itself.

All NTAG recommendations are published now on the NHS North East and North Cumbria website once ratified by the ICB Executive and Medicines Committee at:

<https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/about-us/publications/medicines-committee/>

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