

## YELLOW LIST DECISION AID

The General Medical Council Good Medical Practice states ‘**prescribe drugs or treatment, including repeat prescriptions, only when you have adequate knowledge of the patient’s health, and are satisfied that the drugs or treatment serve the patient’s needs. It also says provide effective treatments based on the best available evidence**’. By prescribing a medication a GP is taking **clinical responsibility**.

### **WHAT IS THE YELLOW LIST?**

The **Yellow list** contains only those medicines and indications which have been agreed by the Stakeholders/ Locality/ MOPB for **inclusion in the Blood Monitoring Service for Specialised drugs SLA**. These medicines must be **initiated by Specialists**, and then considered **suitable for GPs to continue prescribing**, with their agreement. This is referred to as ‘shared care’ as both the Specialist and GP retain certain clinical responsibilities. For list of medications see below.

- Shared care guidelines are used to assist with the prescribing of these medicines and must be adhered to. In many circumstances the provider will retain prescribing and clinical responsibilities (if proven beneficial) for the agreed amount of time specified in the shared care guideline or until the GP has agreed to continue to prescribe and take on appropriate responsibilities.
- If either clinician does not fulfil their responsibilities the prescribing should revert to the initiator of the medicines.
- Some medicines are on both hospital only (**RED**) and shared care list (**YELLOW**) depending on the condition they are being used to treat.
- **Specialist initiated medicines without shared care guidelines** will not be included on this list. **If the specialist requests the GP to continue prescribing the specialist should provide the GP with sufficient information to assist them in reaching a decision to prescribe, see GMC guidance.**

### **YOU RECEIVE A REQUEST TO PRESCRIBE A MEDICINE UNDER A SHARED CARE AGREEMENT**

*Do you have the correct skills, support and information to prescribe?*

**GMC Guidance**

GMC Prescribing guidance paragraphs 41-43: [http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/ethical\\_guidance/14321.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/ethical_guidance/14321.asp)

- If you share responsibility for a patient’s care with a colleague, you must be competent to exercise your share of clinical responsibility. You should:
  - a. keep yourself informed about the medicines that are prescribed for the patient
  - b. be able to recognise serious and frequently occurring adverse side effects
  - c. make sure appropriate clinical monitoring arrangements are in place and that the patient and healthcare professionals involved understand them
  - d. keep up to date with relevant guidance on the use of the medicines and on the management of the patient’s condition.
- In proposing a shared care arrangement, specialists may advise the patient’s general practitioner which medicine to prescribe. If you are recommending a new, or rarely prescribed, medicine, you should specify the dosage and means of administration, and agree a protocol for treatment. You should explain the use of unlicensed medicines, and departures from authoritative guidance or recommended treatments and provide both the general practitioner and the patient with sufficient information to permit the safe management of the patient’s condition.
- If you are uncertain about your competence to take responsibility for the patient’s continuing care, you should seek further information or advice from the clinician with whom the patient’s care is shared or from another experienced colleague. If you are still not satisfied, you should explain this to the other clinician and to the patient, and make appropriate arrangements for their continuing care.

**DECISION**

**ASSESS THE SHARED CARE GUIDELINES** which the Specialist **must provide**, to make a clinical prescribing decision using further information from the Specialist or SPC if needed

**PRESCRIBE**

**DOCUMENT YOUR DECISION IN THE PATIENT JOURNAL . INFORM THE PATIENT & AGREE THE OUTCOME FOR ONGOING TREATMENT**

**NOT HAPPY TO PRESCRIBE**

**ENTER INTO SHARED CARE AGREEMENT:** examples on website <https://westessexccg.nhs.uk/your-health/medicines-optimisation-and-pharmacy/shared-care-medicines-255-shared-care-letter/file>

**NOTE: IF YOU ARE ALREADY PRESCRIBING A YELLOW LIST MEDICATION YOU MUST HAVE/OBTAIN THE NECESSARY**

**REFER BACK TO SPECIALIST WITH REASONING**

**REPORT TO QUALITY INBOX [weccg.quality@nhs.net](mailto:weccg.quality@nhs.net) AND REPORT TO WECCG [weccg.medicinesoptimisationteam@nhs.net](mailto:weccg.medicinesoptimisationteam@nhs.net)**