

In Scotland, a newly licensed medicine is routinely available in a health board only after it has been:

- accepted for use in NHS Scotland by the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC), and
- accepted for use by the health board's Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC).

All medicines accepted by SMC are available in Scotland, but may not be considered 'routinely available' within a particular health board because of available services and preferences for alternative medicines.

'Routinely available' means that a medicine can be prescribed by the appropriately qualified person within a health board.

Each health board has an ADTC. The ADTC, Grampian Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee, is responsible for advising NHS Grampian health board on all aspects of the use of medicines.

Medicines routinely available within NHS Grampian are usually included in the Grampian Joint Formulary. The formulary is a list of medicines for use in the health board that has been agreed by the ADTC in consultation with local clinical experts. It offers a choice of medicines for healthcare professionals to prescribe for common medical conditions. A formulary can help improve safety as prescribers are likely to become more familiar with the medicines in it and also helps make sure that standards of care are consistent across the health board.

How does the health board decide which new medicines to make routinely available for patients?

The ADTC in a health board will consider national and local guidance before deciding whether to make a new medicine routinely available.

What national guidance does the ADTC consider?

- SMC advice: The SMC considers newly licensed medicines and advises health boards in Scotland whether they should be available. When SMC considers a new medicine for the NHS in Scotland, it looks at:
 - how well the medicine works,
 - which patients might benefit from it,
 - whether it is as good or better than medicines the NHS already uses to treat the medical condition, and
 - whether it is good value for money.
- In the table below, national guidance usually refers to SMC advice. Links to SMC advice for individual medicines are also included in the table.
- In some cases, other agencies may also provide guidance on how medicines should be used. For example, Healthcare Improvement Scotland issues alerts to advise if National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Multiple Technology Appraisals (NICE MTAs) are applicable in Scotland.

What local guidance does the ADTC consider?

- Advice from local clinical experts who would be expected to prescribe a particular medicine, where that service is available in a health board.

Why is a particular medicine not routinely available in NHS Grampian?

- This is usually because the medicine is not recommended for use in NHS Scotland by the SMC.
- The medicine may not be routinely available in a health board, particularly in smaller health boards, because there is not a suitable specialist who may use the medicine.
- There may also be differences as to which medicines are preferred in health boards. Sometimes SMC accepts more than one medicine for treating a specific medical condition. Clinical experts in each health board consider whether to add new medicines to their formulary and advise the ADTC. Sometimes it is agreed that established medicines are a better choice than new medicines.

What happens if a particular medicine is not routinely available in NHS Grampian?

- If a medicine is not routinely available and not included in the Grampian Joint Formulary and there are no suitable alternatives on the formulary, a healthcare professional can request to prescribe a medicine that is not on the formulary if they think you will benefit from using it. All health boards have procedures in place to consider requests when a healthcare professional feels a medicine that is not on the formulary would be right for a particular patient.

The table below lists NHS Grampian's latest decisions on medicines.

If you need more information on medicines decisions in NHS Grampian, please email gram.formularyteam@nhs.scot.

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This document is also available in large print and other formats and languages, upon request. Please call NHS Grampian Corporate Communications on (01224) 551116 or (01224) 552245.

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
abiraterone acetate 500mg film-coated tablets	110	[Off-label use] In combination with prednisolone and androgen deprivation therapy for the treatment of newly diagnosed low-risk metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer patients who are not suitable for currently accessible on-label alternatives.	Routinely available in line with national guidance, NCMAG 110 https://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/technologies_and_medicines/ncmag_programme/idoc.ashx?docid=dadb83b0-a558-4933-8578-f49eeb98d4ac&version=-1	17/10/2023
Anthelios® Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50+		In line with recommendations of the ACBS, when prescribed for skin protection against ultraviolet radiation and/or visible light in abnormal cutaneous photosensitivity causing severe cutaneous reactions in genetic disorders (including xeroderma pigmentosum and porphyrias), severe photodermatoses (both idiopathic and acquired) and in those with increased risk of ultraviolet radiation causing adverse effects due to chronic disease (such as haematological malignancies), medical therapies and/or procedures.	Routinely available in line with national guidance, ACBS https://www.drugtariff.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/#/00848431-DC/DC00847955/A	17/10/2023
atogepant 10mg, 60mg tablets (Aquipta®)	2599	For the prophylaxis of migraine in adults who have at least 4 migraine days per month. SMC restriction: for patients with chronic and episodic migraine who have had prior failure on three or more migraine preventive treatments.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
azathioprine 75mg, 100mg tablets		<p>1) in immunosuppressive regimens as an adjunct to immunosuppressive agents that form the mainstay of treatment (basic immunosuppression)</p> <p>2) in combination with other immunosuppressive agents for the prophylaxis of transplant rejection in patients receiving allogenic kidney, liver, heart, lung, or pancreas transplants</p> <p>3) either alone or in combination with corticosteroids and/or other drugs and procedures in severe cases of the following diseases, in patients who are intolerant to steroids or who are dependent on steroids and in whom the therapeutic response is inadequate despite treatment with high doses of steroids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Severe active rheumatoid arthritis that cannot be kept under control by less toxic agents - Severe or moderately severe inflammatory intestinal disease - Systemic lupus erythematosus - Dermatomyositis - Auto-immune chronic active hepatitis - Polyarteritis nodosa - Refractory warm auto-immune haemolytic anaemia - Chronic refractory idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura 	Not routinely available in NHS Grampian	17/10/2023
belzutifan 40mg film-coated tablets (Welireg®)	2587	Treatment of adult patients with von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) disease who require therapy for VHL associated renal cell carcinoma (RCC), central nervous system (CNS) hemangioblastomas, or pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours (pNET), and for whom localised procedures are unsuitable or undesirable.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023

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brexucabtagene autoleucel 0.4 – 2 × 10 ⁸ cells dispersion for infusion (Tecartus®)	2548	Treatment of adults 26 years of age and above with relapsed or refractory B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL).	Routinely available from a specialist centre in another health board	17/10/2023
darolutamide 300mg film-coated tablets (Nubeqa®)	2604	Treatment of adults with metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer (mHSPC) in combination with docetaxel.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023
fenfluramine 2.2mg/mL oral solution (Fintepla®)	2569	For the treatment of seizures associated with Dravet syndrome as an add-on to other anti-epileptic medicines for patients 2 years of age and older.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023
lixisenatide 20micrograms/0.2mL (Lyxumia®)	903/13	For the treatment of adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus to achieve glycaemic control in combination with oral glucose-lowering medicinal products and/or basal insulin when these, together, with diet and exercise, do not provide adequate glycaemic control	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	17/10/2023
lutetium (¹⁷⁷ Lu) vipivotide tetraxetan 1,000MBq/mL solution for injection or infusion (Pluvicto®)	2517	Treatment of adult patients with prostate specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-positive metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) who have been treated with androgen receptor (AR) pathway inhibition and taxane-based chemotherapy or who are not medically suitable for taxanes.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2517 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/7871/lutetium-177-lu-vipivotide-tetraxetan-pluvicto-final-updated-310823-for-website.pdf	17/10/2023

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
maribavir 200mg film-coated tablets (Livtency®)	2576	Treatment of cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection and/or disease that are refractory (with or without resistance) to one or more prior therapies, including ganciclovir, valganciclovir, cidofovir or foscarnet in adult patients who have undergone a haematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) or solid organ transplant (SOT). Consideration should be given to official guidance on the appropriate use of antiviral agents.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023
methenamine hippurate 1g tablets	453/22	The prophylaxis of recurrent urinary tract infections in adult women as long-term therapy in the prevention of recurrent cystitis.	Routinely available in line with local guidance	17/10/2023
methenamine hippurate 1g tablets	453/22	The prophylaxis of recurrent urinary tract infections in adults: - as long-term therapy in the prevention of recurrent cystitis - to suppress urinary tract infection in patients with indwelling catheters and to reduce the incidence of catheter blockage	Routinely available in line with local guidance	17/10/2023
nivolumab 10mg/mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Opdivo®)	2519	In combination with fluoropyrimidine- and platinum-based combination chemotherapy for the first-line treatment of adults with unresectable advanced, recurrent or metastatic oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) with tumour cell programmed death ligand 1 (PD-L1) expression $\geq 1\%$.	Routinely available in line with national guidance, SMC 2519 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/7612/nivolumab-opdivo-final-may-2023-for-website.pdf	17/10/2023

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olaparib 100mg, 150mg film-coated tablets (Lynparza®)	2518	As monotherapy or in combination with endocrine therapy for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients with germline BRCA1/2-mutations who have human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative, high risk early breast cancer previously treated with neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023
racecadotril 100mg capsules (Hidrasec®)	832/12	Symptomatic treatment of acute diarrhoea in adults when causal treatment is not possible.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	17/10/2023
racecadotril 10mg granules (Hidrasec Infants®), 30mg granules (Hidrasec Children®)	818/12	Complementary symptomatic treatment of acute diarrhoea in infants older than three months and in children, together with oral rehydration and the usual support measures, when these measures alone are insufficient to control the clinical condition and when causal treatment is not possible. If causal treatment is possible racecadotril can be administered as a complementary treatment.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	17/10/2023
regorafenib 40mg film-coated tablets (Stivarga®)	2562	As monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with metastatic colorectal cancer who have been previously treated with, or are not considered candidates for, available therapies. These include fluoropyrimidine-based chemotherapy, an anti-VEGF therapy and an anti-EGFR therapy.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023

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semaglutide, 0.25mg, 0.5mg, 1mg, 1.7mg, 2.4mg FlexTouch solution for injection in pre-filled pen (Wegovy®)	2497	<p>As an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for weight management, including weight loss and weight maintenance, in adults with an initial Body Mass Index (BMI) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - $\geq 30\text{kg/m}^2$ (obesity), or - $\geq 27\text{kg/m}^2$ to $< 30\text{kg/m}^2$ (overweight) in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity. <p>SMC restriction: BMI of $\geq 30\text{kg/m}^2$* in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity. Patients should be treated in a specialist weight management service.</p> <p>*a lower BMI cut-off may be more appropriate for members of minority ethnic groups known to be at equivalent risk of the consequences of obesity at a lower BMI than the white population.</p>	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023
Sunsense® Ultra lotion SPF 50+		<p>In line with recommendations of the ACBS, when prescribed for skin protection against ultraviolet radiation and/or visible light in abnormal cutaneous photosensitivity causing severe cutaneous reactions in genetic disorders (including xeroderma pigmentosum and porphyrias), severe photodermatoses (both idiopathic and acquired) and in those with increased risk of ultraviolet radiation causing adverse effects due to chronic disease (such as haematological malignancies), medical therapies and/or procedures.</p>	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	17/10/2023

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testosterone 50mg/g gel (Testim®)	284/06	As replacement therapy for adult male hypogonadism when testosterone deficiency has been confirmed by clinical features and biochemical tests.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	17/10/2023
voclosporin 7.9mg soft capsule (Lupkynis®)	2570	In combination with mycophenolate mofetil for the treatment of adult patients with active class III, IV or V (including mixed class III/V and IV/V) lupus nephritis.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023
zanubrutinib 80mg hard capsules (Brukinsa®)	2600	As monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL). SMC restriction: For adults with CLL in whom chemo-immunotherapy is unsuitable.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/10/2023