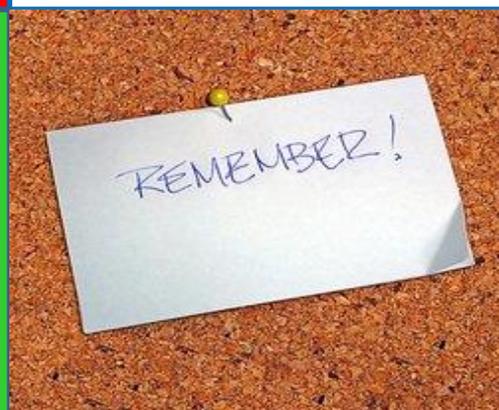


Prescribing reminder:

- Vitamin D
- Trimovate[®] cream

November 2018



Prescribing of Vitamin D:

- The prescribing of Vitamin D for **prophylaxis or maintenance** following treatment of deficiency and insufficiency for symptomatic individuals that are at risk of vitamin D deficiency is **not recommended (BLACK)**. Patients should be advised to purchase supplements for ongoing therapy.
- The prescribing of high-dose vitamin D (colecalfiferol or ergocalciferol) as a short-course **treatment**, for the correction of deficiency and insufficiency in high-risk, symptomatic patients is recommended only following confirmation by vitamin D assay (**Green**).
- Asymptomatic patients that are at risk of vitamin D deficiency should be advised to: increase their exposure to sunlight, increase the intake of food groups that are high in Vitamin D or purchase vitamin D supplements over the counter (OTC). The prescribing of Vitamin D and Vitamin D testing are **not recommended (BLACK)**.
- Clinicians should prescribe treatment doses of Vitamin D, including when requested by paediatrics for children over the age of 1, and then advise patients to purchase supplements for maintenance or prophylaxis once treatment is completed.
- The Healthy Start Vitamins Scheme is available across both BwD CCG and East Lancs CCG. Clinicians can advise pregnant or breastfeeding women, or those who have a child up to the age of 5, to contact their local children's centre to enquire whether they are eligible for free vitamin supplements.

Trimovate[®] cream supply issues:

Due to ongoing supply issues with Trimovate[®] cream and no exact date as to when supplies will resume, the East Lancashire Health Economy Medicines Management Board (ELMMB) have removed this product from formulary. Prescribers should therefore avoid the prescribing of imported/unlicensed versions of Trimovate[®] and consider other options. ELMMB has provided guidance on possible alternative formulations. This can be accessed at: [Topical Corticosteroids](#)

The issuing of Vitamin D on prescription should only be available for the treatment of deficiency and insufficiency in high-risk, symptomatic patients. All other patients should be expected to purchase supplements and self-care.

Following ongoing supply issues, Trimovate[®] cream has been removed from the ELMMB formulary. Prescribers should consider alternative formulations.

For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Team on
01254 282087 (BwD CCG) or 01282 644807 (EL CCG)