

NI Formulary: Chapter 4 Central Nervous system

Please refer to the full version of the Formulary for further advice and information.

Therapeutic Area	Drug choice
Hypnotics	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Non-drug treatment</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2 Zolpidem tablets 5mg, 10mg or Zopiclone 3.75mg, 7.5mg or Temazepam tablets 10mg, 20mg</p>
Anxiolytics -Acute anxiety state	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Non-drug treatment</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2 Diazepam tablets 2mg, 5mg</p>
Antidepressant drugs - for treatment of depression	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Citalopram tablets 10mg, 20mg, 40mg or Fluoxetine capsules 20mg or Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg</p>
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety -Generalised anxiety disorder (GAD), social anxiety disorder	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Non-pharmacological treatment</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2 Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg [GAD unlicensed indication]</p>
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety - Panic Disorder	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Non-pharmacological treatment or</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2 Citalopram tablets 10mg, 20mg, 40mg or Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg</p>
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Non-pharmacological or</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2 Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg or Venlafaxine MR [unlicensed] tablets 75mg, 150mg, 225mg; capsules 75mg, 150mg, 225mg</p>
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety - Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD)	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Non-pharmacological treatment</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2 Citalopram tablets 10mg, 20mg, 40mg [unlicensed indication] or Fluoxetine capsules 20mg or Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg</p>
CNS stimulants - Narcolepsy For information - specialist initiation only	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Modafinil tablets 100mg</p>
CNS stimulants - Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) For information - specialist initiation only	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">1 Methylphenidate prolonged-release tablets/capsules Prescribe by brand name</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2 Methylphenidate standard release tablets 5mg, 10mg, 20mg</p>

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Nausea and vomiting - Drugs for the short-term treatment of nausea and vomiting. For Migraine see 4.7.4	<p>1 Prochlorperazine tablets 5mg, buccal tablets 3mg (Reserve buccal tablets for active vomiting) or Domperidone tablets 10mg; suspension 5mg/5ml or Metoclopramide tablets 10mg; oral solution 5mg/5ml</p>
Nausea and vomiting - Motion sickness	<p>1 Advise patients that medication can be purchased over-the-counter (OTC)</p>
General management of acute pain (i) Non-opioid and compound analgesics (For dysmenorrhoea, see NIF Chapter 7) (For musculoskeletal and joint pain, including gout, see NIF Chapter 10) (For migraine, see NIF 4.7.4)	<p>1 Paracetamol tablets 500mg 2 Consider NSAID (see Chapter 10.1.1) Consider addition of codeine 15mg tablets to paracetamol or Co-codamol 8/500 tablets (codeine 8mg with paracetamol 500mg) Co-codamol 15/500 tablets (codeine 15mg with paracetamol 500mg) Co-codamol 30/500 tablets (codeine 30mg with paracetamol 500mg)</p>
General management of acute pain (ii) Opioid analgesics For acute management of severe pain before hospital admission	<p>1 Morphine Morphine immediate release tablets; modified-release tablets, capsules; oral solution; injection (see BNF for available strengths) Prescribe modified release morphine preparations by brand name</p>
Management of chronic secondary pain (where pain is a symptom of an underlying condition e.g. Osteoarthritis) - Opioids have a very limited role. They should only be used where absolutely necessary and only where recommended as an option within the specific NICE guidance for the condition.	<p>1 Non-pharmacological Management Paracetamol tablets 500mg Plus/or NSAID (see NIF chapter 10.1) 2 Consider addition of codeine 15mg tablets to paracetamol or Co-codamol 8/500 tablets (codeine 8mg with paracetamol 500mg) Co-codamol 15/500 tablets (codeine 15mg with paracetamol 500mg) Co-codamol 30/500 tablets (codeine 30mg with paracetamol 500mg)</p>

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<i>Neuropathic pain (except trigeminal neuralgia)</i>	<p>1 Amitriptyline tablets 10mg, 25mg, 50mg</p> <p>2 Gabapentin capsules 100mg, 300mg, 400mg or</p> <p>3 Duloxetine capsules 30mg, 60mg</p>
<i>Acute migraine</i> <i>- Treatment of acute attack</i>	<p>1 Combination Therapy Ibuprofen tablets 200mg, 400mg, 600mg Plus oral triptan (sumatriptan 50mg, 100mg) or Paracetamol tablets 500mg , soluble tablets 500mg plus oral triptan (sumatriptan 50mg, 100mg)</p> <p>2 If monotherapy preferred Aspirin tablets 300mg, 300mg dispersible tablets or Oral triptan (sumatriptan 50mg, 100mg) or Ibuprofen tablets 200mg, 400mg, 600mg or Paracetamol tablets 500mg, soluble tablets 500mg</p>
<i>Migraine prophylaxis</i>	<p>1 Propranolol tablets 10mg, 40mg, 80mg, 160mg Propranolol m/r 80mg, 160mg or Amitriptyline tablets 10mg, 25mg or 50mg</p> <p>2 Topiramate tablets 25mg, 50mg, 100mg Topiramate is contraindicated in pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential unless the conditions of a Pregnancy Prevention Programme are fulfilled. See MHRA</p>
<i>Cluster headache - Acute attacks</i>	1 Sumatriptan subcutaneous injection 6mg/0.5ml syringe
<i>Cluster headache - Prophylaxis</i>	1 Verapamil tablets 40mg, 80mg, 120mg, 160mg [unlicensed indication] [under specialist supervision]

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Therapeutic Area	Drug choice
<p>Dopaminergic drugs used in parkinsonism - Dopamine receptor agonists</p>	<p>1 Ropinirole tablets 250 micrograms, 500 micrograms, 1mg, 2mg, 5mg; Ropinirole tablets m/r 2mg, 4mg, 8mg or Pramipexole tablets 88 micrograms, 180micrograms, 350micrograms, 700micrograms; pramipexole tablets m/r 260micrograms, 520micrograms, 1.05mg, 1.57mg, 2.1mg, 2.62mg, 3.15mg <i>Strengths stated in terms of pramipexole base</i></p> <p>2 Transdermal preparations Specialist initiation Rotigotine transdermal patches 1mg/24 hours, 2mg/24 hours, 3mg/24 hours, 4mg/24 hours, 6mg/24 hours, 8mg/24 hours</p>
<p>Dopaminergic drugs used in parkinsonism - Levodopa</p>	<p>1 Co-beneldopa (Madopar®) containing levodopa and benserazide Or Co-careldopa (Sinemet®) containing levodopa and carbidopa</p>

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Dopaminergic drugs used in parkinsonism - Monoamine-oxidase-B (MAOB) inhibitors	<p>1 Rasagiline tablets 1mg or Selegiline tablets 5mg, 10mg; oral lyophilisate 1.25mg</p>
Dopaminergic drugs used in parkinsonism - Dopamine enzyme inhibitors / catechol-O-methyltransferase inhibitors (COMT inhibitors)	<p>1 Entacapone tablets 200mg 2 Opicapone 50mg capsules or Tolcapone 100mg tablets</p>
Antimuscarinic drugs used in parkinsonism	<p>1 Procyclidine tablets 5mg or Trihexyphenidyl hydrochloride tablets 2mg, 5mg</p>
Essential tremor	<p>1 Propranolol tablets 10mg, 40mg, 80mg, 160mg, capsules m/r 80mg, 160mg</p>
Management of dementia in Parkinson's disease	<p>1 Non drug treatment - see Prescribing Notes 2 Cholinesterase inhibitor [off-label] See Section 4.11</p>
Drugs used in substance dependence - Opioid maintenance prescribing	<p>1 <i>For information only: Usual drugs prescribed for substitute prescribing</i> Buprenorphine sublingual tablets 400micrograms, 2mg, 8mg or Espranor® (buprenorphine oral lyophilisates) 2mg, 8mg or Suboxone®(sublingual) - buprenorphine 2mg/naloxone 500micrograms tablets, buprenorphine 8mg/naloxone 2mg tablets, buprenorphine 16mg / naloxone 4mg) sublingual tablets (Reserve Suboxone® for when there is a risk of dose diversion for parenteral administration) or Methadone oral solution 1mg/ml</p>
Benzodiazepine and Z drug withdrawal	See section 4.10.3
Alcohol dependance - Assisted alcohol withdrawal for moderate to severe alcohol dependence	<p>1 Chlordiazepoxide capsules 5mg, 10mg AND psychosocial support</p>
Alcohol dependance - Relapse Prevention	<p>1 Acamprosate (Campral EC®) tablets e/c 333mg AND a psychological intervention, e.g. CBT, behavioural therapies, social network and environment-based therapies, or behavioural couples therapy or Naltrexone tablets 50mg AND a psychological intervention on specialist advice</p> <p>2 Disulfiram tablets 200mg AND a psychological intervention on specialist advice</p>
Alcohol Dependence -vitamin supplementation Oral Prophylaxis	<p>1 <u>Low risk of Wernicke's Encephalopathy (WE)</u> Thiamine (vitamin B1) tablets 100mg</p>

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Cigarette smoking	<p>1 Drug treatments should be offered as part of a programme of behavioural support Nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) or Varenicline f/c tablets 500 micrograms, 1mg</p> <p>2 Bupropion hydrochloride 150mg m/r, f/c tablets</p>
Drugs for dementia	<p>1 Donepezil tablets 5mg, 10mg</p> <p>2 Galantamine m/r capsules 8mg, 16mg, 24mg or Rivastigmine capsules 1.5mg, 3mg, 4.5mg, 6mg; patch 4.6mg/24 hours and 9.5mg/24 hours <i>In line with NICE guidance:</i> Memantine tablets 10mg, 20mg; treatment initiation pack 7x5mg, 7x10mg, 7x15mg and 7x20mg; oral solution 10mg/ml sugar free</p>
Alzheimer's disease Management of Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of	<p>1 Non-drug treatment / watchful waiting</p> <p>2 Risperidone tablets 500micrograms, 1mg; liquid 1mg/ml</p>