

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Non-drug treatment 2 Zolpidem tablets 5mg, 10mg or Zopiclone 3.75mg, 7.5mg or Temazepam tablets 10mg, 20mg
Anxiolytics -Acute anxiety state	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Non-drug treatment 2 Diazepam tablets 2mg, 5mg
Antidepressant drugs - for treatment of depression	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Citalopram tablets 10mg, 20mg, 40mg or Fluoxetine capsules 20mg or Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety -Generalised anxiety disorder (GAD), social anxiety disorder	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Non-pharmacological treatment 2 Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg [GAD unlicensed indication]
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety - Panic Disorder	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Non-pharmacological treatment or 2 Citalopram tablets 10mg, 20mg, 40mg or Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Non-pharmacological or 2 Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg or Venlafaxine MR [unlicensed] tablets 75mg, 150mg, 225mg; capsules 75mg, 150mg, 225mg
Antidepressants for treatment of anxiety - Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Non-pharmacological treatment 2 Citalopram tablets 10mg, 20mg, 40mg [unlicensed indication] or Fluoxetine capsules 20mg or Sertraline tablets 50mg, 100mg
CNS stimulants - Narcolepsy For information - specialist initiation only	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Modafinil tablets 100mg
CNS stimulants - Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) For information - specialist initiation only	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Methylphenidate prolonged-release tablets/capsules Prescribe by brand name 2 Methylphenidate standard release tablets 5mg, 10mg, 20mg
Obesity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Non-pharmacological treatment - diet and lifestyle changes 2 Orlistat capsules 120mg

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
<p>Nausea and vomiting - Drugs for the short-term treatment of nausea and vomiting. For Migraine see 4.7.4</p>	<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>
<p>Nausea and vomiting - Motion sickness</p>	<p>① Advise patients that medication can be purchased over-the-counter (OTC)</p>
<p>General management of acute pain (i) <i>Non-opioid and compound analgesics</i> (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>	<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>
<p>General management of acute pain (ii) <i>Opioid analgesics</i> For acute management of severe pain before hospital admission</p>	<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>
<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>	<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>

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
Neuropathic pain (except trigeminal neuralgia)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Amitriptyline tablets 10mg, 25mg, 50mg 2 Gabapentin capsules 100mg, 300mg, 400mg or 3 Duloxetine capsules 30mg, 60mg
Acute migraine - Treatment of acute attack	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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) 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
Migraine prophylaxis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Propranolol tablets 10mg, 40mg, 80mg, 160mg Propranolol m/r 80mg, 160mg 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
Cluster headache - Acute attacks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Sumatriptan subcutaneous injection 6mg/0.5ml syringe
Cluster headache - Prophylaxis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Verapamil tablets 40mg, 80mg, 120mg, 160mg [unlicensed indication] [under specialist supervision]
Control of epilepsy <i>Pharmacological treatment of focal seizures, evolving / not evolving to bilateral tonic clonic seizure (previously termed with and without secondary generalisation)</i>	<p>See MHRA Antiepileptic drugs: updated advice on switching between different manufacturers' products</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Lamotrigine tablets 25mg, 50mg, 100mg, 200mg 2 Levetiracetam tablets f/c 250mg, 500mg, 750mg, 1g; oral solution 100mg/ml or Oxcarbazepine tablets 150mg, 300mg, 600mg or Carbamazepine (prescribe by brand name) m/r tablets 200mg, 400mg; Carbamazepine liquid 100mg/5ml; Carbamazepine suppositories 125mg, 250mg or Sodium valproate tablets e/c 200mg, 500mg; m/r 200mg, 300mg, 500mg; oral solution 200mg/5ml [Valproate must not be started in new patients (male or female) < 55 years, unless two specialists independently consider and document that there is no other effective or tolerated treatment, or there are compelling reasons that the reproductive risks do not apply. Any use of valproate in women of childbearing potential who cannot be treated with other medicines must be in accordance with the Pregnancy Prevention Programme. See MHRA

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
<p>Control of epilepsy <i>Pharmacological treatment of generalised (tonic-clonic, absence, myoclonic, tonic, clonic, atonic) and unclassified seizures</i></p>	<p>1 Lamotrigine tablets 25mg, 50mg, 100mg, 200mg or Sodium valproate tablets e/c 200mg, 500mg; m/r 200mg, 300mg, 500mg; oral solution 200mg/5ml</p> <p>[Valproate must not be started in new patients (male or female) < 55 years, unless two specialists independently consider and document that there is no other effective or tolerated treatment, or there are compelling reasons that the reproductive risks do not apply. Any use of valproate in women of childbearing potential who cannot be treated with other medicines must be in accordance with the Pregnancy Prevention Programme.</p> <p>See MHRA</p> <p>2 Levetiracetam tablets f/c 250mg, 500mg, 750mg, 1g; oral solution 100mg/ml or Topiramate tablets 25mg, 50mg, 100mg, 200mg</p> <p>Topiramate is contraindicated in pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential unless the conditions of a Pregnancy Prevention Programme are fulfilled</p> <p>See MHRA</p>
<p>Drugs used in status epilepticus</p>	<p>1 <u>Step 1 (in community)</u></p> <p>Midazolam buccal liquid Prescribe by brand [off label use in adults]</p> <p>2 Diazepam rectal solution 10mg/2.5ml</p> <p>1 <u>Step 2 (in hospital)</u></p> <p>Lorazepam injection 4mg/ml Or Diazepam injection (emulsion) 5mg/ml (Diazemuls®) Or Midazolam buccal liquid</p> <p><i>NB. To be used only when IV access not available</i></p> <p><u>Step 3 (In hospital)</u></p> <p>The first choice for the next drug agent used in convulsive status epilepticus should be guided by the local trust</p> <p>Phenytoin sodium injection 50mg/ml or Levetiracetam or Sodium Valproate</p> <p>Avoid Sodium Valproate if suspect mitochondrial epilepsies – can be fatal</p> <p>[Valproate must not be started in new patients (male or female) < 55 years, unless two specialists independently consider and document that there is no other effective or tolerated treatment, or there are compelling reasons that the reproductive risks do not apply. Any use of valproate in women of childbearing potential who cannot be treated with other medicines must be in accordance with the Pregnancy Prevention Programme.</p> <p>See MHRA</p>

<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>

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
Dopaminergic drugs used in parkinsonism - Monoamine-oxidase-B (MAOB) inhibitors	1 Rasagiline tablets 1mg or Selegiline tablets 5mg, 10mg; oral lyophilisate 1.25mg
Dopaminergic drugs used in parkinsonism - Dopamine enzyme inhibitors / catechol-O-methyltransferase inhibitors (COMT inhibitors)	1 Entacapone tablets 200mg 2 Opicapone 50mg capsules or Tolcapone 100mg tablets
Antimuscarinic drugs used in parkinsonism	1 Procyclidine tablets 5mg or Trihexyphenidyl hydrochloride tablets 2mg, 5mg
Essential tremor	1 Propranolol tablets 10mg, 40mg, 80mg, 160mg, capsules m/r 80mg, 160mg
Management of dementia in Parkinson's disease	1 Non drug treatment - see Prescribing Notes 2 Cholinesterase inhibitor [off-label] See Section 4.11
Drugs used in substance dependence - Opioid maintenance prescribing	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
Benzodiazepine and Z drug withdrawal	See section 4.10.3
Alcohol dependance - Assisted alcohol withdrawal for moderate to severe alcohol dependence	1 Chlordiazepoxide capsules 5mg, 10mg AND psychosocial support
Alcohol dependance - Relapse Prevention	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 2 Disulfiram tablets 200mg AND a psychological intervention on specialist advice
Alcohol Dependence -vitamin supplementation Oral Prophylaxis	1 <u>Low risk of Wernicke's Encephalopathy (WE)</u> Thiamine (vitamin B1) tablets 100mg

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
<i>Cigarette smoking</i>	<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>
<i>Drugs for dementia</i>	<p>1 Donepezil tablets 5mg, 10mg; orodispersible 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>
<i>Alzheimer's disease</i> 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>