

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 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

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<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) 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>	<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) Opioid analgesics For acute management of severe pain before hospital admission</p>	<p>① Morphine Morphine immediate release tablets 10mg, 20mg 50mg; oral solution 10mg/5ml; 20mg/ml; modified-release tablets, capsules; injection (see BNF) (Prescribe by brand)</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>

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Chronic secondary pain cont..	<p>Stop codeine and consider modified release preparations below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If codeine not tolerated, there is no improvement or goals not achieved • To maintain goals beyond 8-12 weeks codeine treatment Continue regular paracetamol +/- NSAID <p>3 Tramadol modified release, m/r capsules 50mg, 100mg, 150mg, 200mg (Maxitram®) +/- NSAID / Paracetamol or</p> <p>Buprenorphine patch (as a sole opioid agent) Butec® patches, '5' patch (releasing 5 micrograms/ hour), '10' patch (releasing 10 micrograms/hour) '15' patch (releasing 15 micrograms/hour), '20' patch (releasing 20 micrograms/hour) +/- NSAID / Paracetamol</p>
Neuropathic pain (except trigeminal neuralgia)	<p>1 Amitriptyline tablets 10mg, 25mg, 50mg; oral solution 25mg/5ml, 50mg/5ml</p> <p>2 Gabapentin capsules 100mg, 300mg, 400mg or</p> <p>3 Duloxetine capsules 30mg, 60mg</p>
Acute migraine - Treatment of acute attack	<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>
Migraine prophylaxis	<p>1 Propranolol tablets 10mg, 40mg, 80mg, 160mg Propranolol m/r 80mg, 160mg</p> <p>2 Topiramate tablets 25mg, 50mg, 100mg Highly effective contraception is required prior to initiation in women of childbearing age</p>
Cluster headache - Acute attacks	1 Sumatriptan subcutaneous injection 6mg/0.5ml syringe
Cluster headache - Prophylaxis	1 Verapamil tablets 40mg, 80mg, 120mg, 160mg [unlicensed indication] [under specialist supervision]
Control of epilepsy Pharmacological treatment of focal seizures, evolving / not evolving to bilateral tonic clonic seizure (previously termed with and without secondary generalisation)	<p>See MHRA Antiepileptic drugs: updated advice on switching between different manufacturers' products</p> <p>1 Lamotrigine tablets 25mg, 50mg, 100mg, 200mg</p> <p>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 [NB Sodium valproate is contraindicated in women and girls of childbearing potential unless conditions of Pregnancy Prevention Programme are met – see MHRA]</p>

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<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 [NB Sodium valproate is contraindicated in women and girls of childbearing potential unless conditions of Pregnancy Prevention Programme are met – see MHRA]</p> <p>2 Levetiracetam tablets f/c 250mg, 500mg, 750mg, 1g; oral solution 100mg/ml or Topiramate tablets 25mg, 50mg, 100mg, 200mg Highly effective contraception is required in women of childbearing age</p>
<p>Drugs used in status epilepticus</p>	<p>1 <u>Step 1 (in community)</u> 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> Lorazepam injection 4mg/ml Or Diazepam injection (emulsion) 5mg/ml (Diazemuls®) Or Midazolam buccal liquid NB. To be used only when IV access not available</p> <p><u>Step 3 (In hospital)</u> The first choice for the next drug agent used in convulsive status epilepticus should be guided by the local trust Phenytoin sodium injection 50mg/ml or Levetiracetam or Sodium Valproate Avoid Sodium Valproate if suspect mitochondrial epilepsies – can be fatal [NB Sodium valproate is contraindicated in women and girls of childbearing potential unless conditions of Pregnancy Prevention Programme are met – 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>

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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 <u>For information only: Usual drugs prescribed for substitute prescribing</u> 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 dependence - Assisted alcohol withdrawal for moderate to severe alcohol dependence	① Chlordiazepoxide capsules 5mg, 10mg AND psychosocial support
Alcohol dependence - 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

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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; orodispersible tablets 5mg, 10mg</p> <p>② Galantamine m/r capsules 8mg, 16mg, 24mg Gatalin XL® cost-effective brand 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 drops</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>