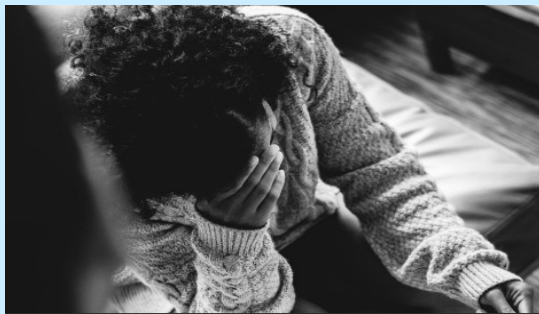


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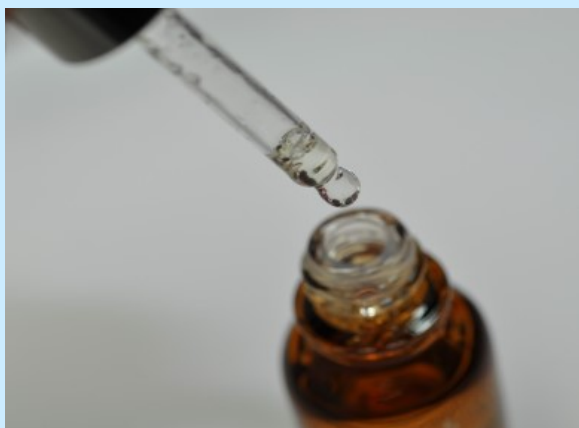
Prescribing Citalopram Oral Drops Safely



Prescribers are reminded that citalopram oral drops have approximately 25% increased bioavailability compared to the tablet formulation i.e. **they are not mg for mg directly equivalent.**

Citalopram oral drops come in a strength of 40mg/ml. **8mg (four drops)** is equivalent to **one 10mg citalopram tablet** (see table).

Citalopram dose in <u>tablet</u> form	Equivalent Citalopram dose in <u>oral drops</u> form	No. of drops to deliver required dose
10mg	8mg	4 drops
20mg (max dose in >65yrs)	16mg	8 drops
30mg	24mg	12 drops
40mg	32mg	16 drops



The dose for citalopram oral drops should be **stated in drops**, not in millilitres, to avoid confusion and for ease of administration. There is a dropper fitted in the bottle to facilitate this.



Actions for GP practices when prescribing citalopram drops

- A dose adjustment is required when switching between citalopram tablets and drops
- The **number of drops** needed to make up the required dose should be specified on the prescription with the dose in mg beside it in brackets e.g. “take 4 drops (8mg)”

Actions for Community Pharmacy when dispensing citalopram drops

- All of the above should be considered when clinically checking citalopram drops
- Patients/carers should be counselled on how to use the dropper provided
- A supplementary oral syringe **should not** be provided

Further information is available on which tablet-to-liquid switches [require extra care](#).

Compass Therapeutic Notes: Overactive Bladder Syndrome in Women



A recently published **Compass Therapeutic Notes: Overactive Bladder Syndrome in Women** is now available on the [NICPLD](#), [BSO](#) and [MedicinesNI](#) websites.

This has been produced in conjunction with local experts in the field and provides practical advice on symptoms, diagnosis and management of the condition. It also includes detailed analysis of the anticholinergic risks of prescribing antimuscarinics and provides practical advice on deprescribing.

A set of multiple choice questions is available to facilitate continuing professional development (CPD).

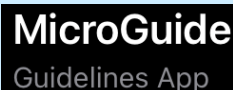
Northern Ireland Management of Infection Guidelines for Primary Care Microguide App



The Northern Ireland Management of Infection Guidelines for Primary Care are available as a smartphone app. The free MICROGUIDE app may be downloaded via the app store or google play ([or scan barcode](#)). The app will prompt the user to 'Choose your medical organisation' - It is important that practitioners who



work in Primary care ensure that the "Northern Ireland Primary Care Antimicrobial Guidelines" is selected.



**Merry Christmas
Everyone!**



NICE GUIDANCE

[NICE TA830](#) Pembrolizumab for adjuvant treatment of renal cell carcinoma

[NICE TA832](#) Relugolix–estradiol–norethisterone acetate for treating moderate to severe symptoms of uterine fibroids

[NICE TA833](#) Zanubrutinib for treating Waldenstrom's macroglobulinaemia

[NICE TA835](#) Fostamatinib for treating refractory chronic immune thrombocytopenia (review of TA759)

[NICE TA837](#) Pembrolizumab for adjuvant treatment of resected stage 2B or 2C melanoma

MANAGED ENTRY DECISIONS

- Dexamethasone + levofloxacin (Ducressa®) eye drops
- Esketamine (Spravato®)
- Fostamatinib disodium (Tavlesse®)
- Palbociclib (Ibrance®)
- Faricimab (Vabysmo®)
- Atezolizumab (Tecentriq®)

See NI Formulary [Managed Entry section](#)

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information included in this newsletter is correct at the time of publication. This newsletter is not to be used for commercial purposes.

This newsletter has been produced for GPs and pharmacists by the Regional Pharmacy and Medicines Management Team. If you have any queries or require further information on the contents of this newsletter, please contact one of the Pharmacy Advisors in your local SPPG office:

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