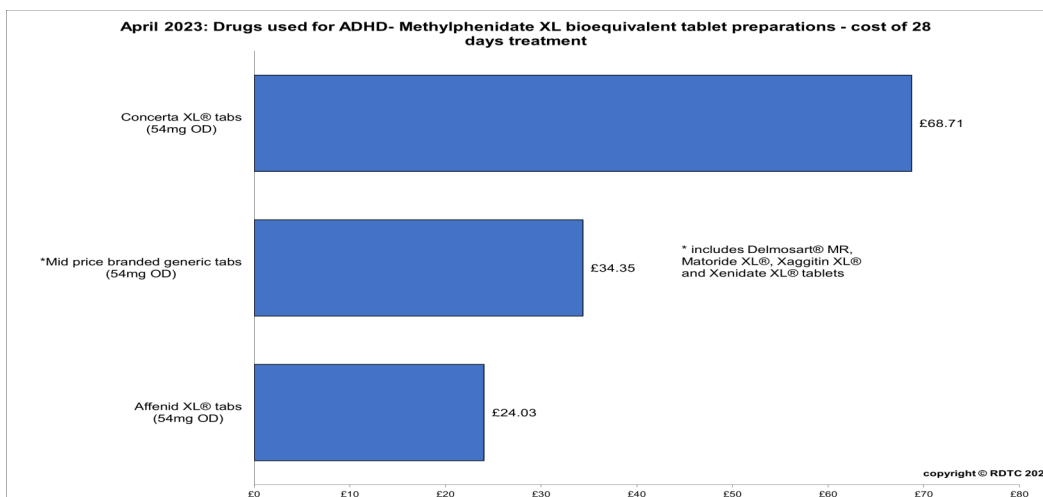


IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|---|
| RDTC Focus: Budget impact of methylphenidate modified release tablet choice | 1 |
| RDTC Focus: Prescribing budgets and Price concessions | 1 |
| Latest prescribing news from your area | 2 |
| Meet the RDTC Team | 2 |
| Recent publications from the RDTC | 2 |
| Changes to the shingles vaccination programme | 2 |
| SPS Spotlight Monthly Digest | 3 |
| Serious shortage protocols (SSPs) | 3 |
| Medicines Availability Information | 3 |
| New and updated NICE guidance | 3 |
| UK product launches | 3 |

RDTC Focus: New Prescribing Bulletin “Budget impact of methylphenidate modified release tablet choice”

The purpose of this new RDTC [bulletin](#) is to highlight the difference in cost between bioequivalent methylphenidate modified release (MR) tablets. It considers the budget impact of MR tablet choice and shows the yearly primary care spend on all methylphenidate XL tablets, and the proportion of this spend on each of the available brands.



For illustrative purposes the only strength shown is 54mg, however the other available strengths (18mg, 27mg and 36mg) follow proportional price differences.

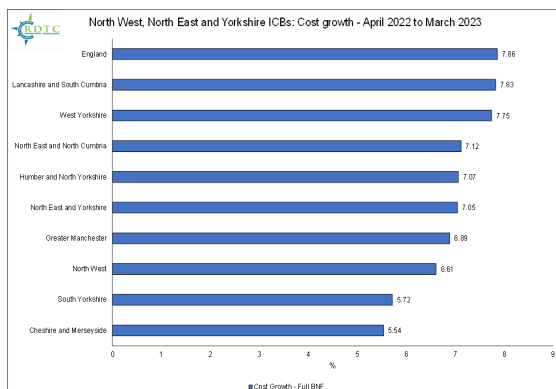
The bulletin proposes several recommendations, including consideration to the brands locally utilised and their position on the local formulary as well as using the yearly review as an opportunity to assess brand choice.

RDTC Focus: The effect of Price Concessions on your Prescribing Budget

Extra cost of drug concessions reaches highest level for more than two years
The Pharmaceutical Journal, Sept 2022

Drug shortages cost the NHS £250m in one year
The Times, Feb 2023

There has been a sharp increase in medicines cost growth throughout 2022, but not due to an increase in items prescribed. This is likely due to the significant upward trend in price concessions throughout 2022 and their continuation into 2023. The cost growth % per ICB area is illustrated on the chart.



The RDTC produces reports (fully customisable to your locality) on the effect of Concessions has on your budgets in the following:

- * [Monthly Financial Headlines](#)
- * [Top 50 BNF sections and drugs](#)
- * [Price Concessionary Bulletin](#)



@RDTC_Rx

Latest prescribing news from your area

To access formulary decision summaries from your local formulary committee, see:

- [North Yorkshire and York Area Prescribing Committee](#)
- [Greater Manchester Medicines Management Group](#)
- [Humber APC](#)
- [NENC Medicines Committee](#)

Meet the RDTC Team

In each newsletter we are going to include a few sentences to introduce one of the members of the RDTC team and how they support your work. This edition focuses on Dr Helena Nettleton, Principal pharmacist leading on prescribing data analysis and reports.

"I have a doctorate in polymer therapeutics and experience working across primary and secondary care, community pharmacy, public health and the pharmacy education sector.

My interests are in data sciences, public health, sustainability and research. Current work is focusing on developing methods and infrastructure within the RDTC to support in-depth analysis across multiple healthcare related datasets enabling a better understanding of prescribing related population health inequalities and outcomes."



Have an idea for a new document?

If you need a report, document, or prescribing data that we don't already produce, get in touch at nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net or tweet us at [@RDTC_Rx](https://twitter.com/RDTC_Rx)

Recent publications from the RDTC

Following feedback from one of our readers, we will be adding links to all of our recent RDTC documents, so accessing them is straightforward and quick!*

Comparison Document:

- [What are the statutory obligations of an ICS for the implementation of NICE guidance?](#)

Formulary Assessment tool:

- [Otinova® ear spray](#)

Monthly Horizon Scanning:

- [May](#), [June](#)

Monthly Formulary Amendments:

- [April](#), [May](#)

Prescribing Bulletin

- [Budget impact of methylphenidate modified release tablet choice](#)

Prescribing Analysis Reports:

- [Monthly Financial Headlines \(April 2023\)](#)
- [Drug Tariff Monitor \(April 2023\)](#)
- [Cost Comparison Chart \(April 2023\)](#)
- [Price concession bulletin \(June 2023\)](#)
- [Top 50 BNF Sections and Drugs Report \(Apr 2022 to March 2023\)](#)

Therapeutic reports

- [Dementia](#) (Q1,2,3 & 4 2022/23)
- [Diabetes](#) (Q1,2,3 & 4 2022/23)
- [Antibacterial](#) (Q1,2,3 & 4 2022/23)
- [Cardiovascular](#) (Q1,2,3 & 4 2022/23)
- [Respiratory](#) (Q1,2,3 & 4 2022/23)

*You will need to be logged into the RDTC website to access these documents.

Changes to the shingles vaccination programme

From 1 September 2023, the routine age for the shingles programme is changing from routinely offering Zostavax at 70 years of age to routinely offering Shingrix at 60 years of age. This change will be undertaken in a phased approach over 2 stages during a 10 year implementation period.

Included in this change is the guidance for immunocompromised individuals (eligibility as defined in the Green Book [Shingles chapter 28a](#)) aged 50 years and over who have not received the shingles vaccine before will be eligible for 2 doses of the Shingrix vaccine.

Further details of programme timings can be found [here](#).

SPS Spotlight Monthly Digest

A slide deck summarising SPS outputs and resources can be found [here](#).



Serious shortage protocols (SSPs)

| Drug involved | Start and End Date of SSP |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Utrogestan® 100mg capsules | 19 May 2023 to 18 August 2023 |
| Clarithromycin 125mg/5ml , 250mg/5ml oral suspension | 6 Apr 2023 to 21 Jul 2023 |
| Progynova® TS 100 microgram patches | 28 Mar 2023 to 8 September 2023 |

Details of all national shortages can be found on the [SPS website](#). Registration is required.

Primary care MI enquiries: 0300 7708564 or email asksp@nhs.uk

Medicines Availability Information

Hydrocortisone 2.5mg muco-adhesive buccal tablets sugar free (Accord Healthcare Ltd) are unavailable until June 2024. Other OTC preparations such as topical anaesthetics, topical analgesics/anti-inflammatory agents and topical antimicrobial agents marketed as oral gels, mouthwashes and oral sprays remain available. Betamethasone soluble tablets for off-label topical use in the treatment of aphthous ulcers remain available.

Clomid 50mg tablets are anticipated to be restocked in September 2023, with generic supplies expected to cover supply until the end of July 2023. After this point, prescribers could consider prescribing unlicensed clomifene tablets (in conjunction with local pharmacy) and only prescribe one 30 tablet pack. This is sufficient to cover 3 courses of treatment. Refer to specialists if these actions are not considered appropriate.

ADVANCE WARNING: Tresiba (insulin degludec) FlexTouch 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens will be unavailable between August 2023 to January 2024. Tresiba Penfill (Insulin degludec) 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml **cartridges** remain available and can support the increased demand. Patients should be counselled and supplied with the appropriate device and needles for use with cartridges.

New and updated NICE guidance

NICE Guidance—Updated

- [NG18: Diabetes \(type 1 and type 2\) in children and young people: diagnosis and management](#)
- [NG198: Acne vulgaris: management](#)
- [CG181: Cardiovascular disease: risk assessment and reduction, including lipid modification](#)
- [CG57: Atopic eczema in under 12s: diagnosis and management](#)
- [NG101: Early and locally advanced breast cancer:](#)

[diagnosis and management](#)

- [NG192: Caesarean birth](#)
- [NG83: Oesophago-gastric cancer: assessment and management in adults](#)
- [NG122: Lung cancer: diagnosis and management](#)
- [CG189: Obesity: identification, assessment and management](#)

NICE Guidance—New

- [NG232: Head injury: assessment and early management](#)

UK product launches

Riluzole 50 mg orodispersible film (Emylif[®], Zambon UK Limited) are licensed for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in adults. This is the only orodispersible formulation marketed currently.
Primidone 50mg, 125mg, 250mg tablets (Enodama[®], Desitin Pharma) for the management of grand mal, psychomotor epilepsy and essential tremor. The 125mg tablet (not previously available) should aid with initiation doses.

Latanoprost & netarsudil mesylate 50 mcg/ml + 200 mcg/ml eye drops, (Roclanda[®]▼, Santen UK Limited) are now available for the reduction of elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in adult patients with primary open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension, for whom monotherapy with a prostaglandin or netarsudil provides insufficient IOP reduction. The [NICE TA](#) for this product is due in March 2024.

Beclometasone / formoterol 100/6, 200/6 mcg/actuation inhaler (Bibecfo[®], Cipla EU Ltd) for the regular treatment of asthma where use of a combination product is appropriate or in symptomatic treatment of patients with severe COPD (FEV1 < 50% predicted normal) and a history of repeated exacerbations, who have significant symptoms despite regular therapy with long-acting bronchodilators.

Looking for something?

Our documents, reports, and other useful publications are all published on our website www.rdtc.nhs.uk

Drafts may be available on request

We need YOU!

We're always on the lookout for reviewers to comment on our draft publications. If you'd be interested [email us](#) and we'll add you to our reviewers list.

Specialise in a particular area?

We can tailor what we send you for review so that you only receive documents relevant to you

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED BY THE NHS FOR THE NHS:
NOT TO BE USED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES