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1. **Prescribing Information**

We have included prescribing information that we are aware of and will update as more information or guidance is received:

**Last Updated: 08.02.2021**

| **A-Z** | **Brief Overview** | **Link or Information** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Antihypertensive medications and COVID-19** | ACE-I or ARBs  A briefing has been released which states there is no evidence from clinical or epidemiological studies that treatment with ACE-I or ARBs might worsen COVID-19 infection. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-covid-19-and-high-blood-pressure-medication?utm_source=3033b2ed-ef64-4581-8ee8-a83c726d9e91&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate> |
| **Drug Monitoring** | * Guidance on drug monitoring during Covid | <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/drug-monitoring-in-primary-care-for-stable-patients-during-covid-19/> |
| **Ibuprofen** | * A CAS alert has been sent to all practices around ibuprofen use and Covid. * Following review of the evidence around ibuprofen and other NSAIDS guidance has now been updated. Patients can take paracetamol or ibuprofen when self-medicating for symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever and headache, and should follow NHS advice if they have any questions or if symptoms get worse |  |
| **Palliative care** | * Morphine is now the first-line injectable opioid analgesic in palliative care, the EPaCCS template and the anticipatory formulary have been updated to reflect this. * Recommendation to issue 3 ampoules of each required drug when prescribing anticipatory medication for most patients * 7 community pharmacies in Calderdale are commissioned by NHSE to maintain stocks of palliative care medicines. * Details for the pharmacies and also what medicines are kept as stock. Please note: This is not for sharing * Overgate palliative care guidance has been updated to incorporate CHFT guidance. * Guidance document has been issued which allows the reuse of medication in certain very specific/limited circumstances within the care home/hospice setting as an additional measure to preserve the supply chain for anticipatory/palliative drugs. | <https://www.overgatehospice.org.uk/our-care/how-can-we-help/coronavirus-information/information-for-professionals/>  <https://apmonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/priority-meds-for-end-of-life-care-290420-final-2.pdf> |
| **Testosterone injection to gel considerations** | * Consider switching patients on testosterone injection to testosterone gel when this is next due to reduce need for patients to attend. CHFT endocrinologists have provided some advice about this – see attached * Please check with Leeds before switching gender transfer patients * See attached for more information |  |
| **Vitamin B12** | * Vitamin B12 guidance during Covid has now been issued by British Society of Haematologists * Leeds have produced guidance on B12 supplements during and after COVID pandemic | <https://b-s-h.org.uk/about-us/news/covid-19-updates/> |
| **Warfarin to DOAC** | * Stable patients should remain on warfarin * Unstable patients will be identified by the anticoagulant clinic with a view to switching to a DOAC. * National guidance has been issued to aid appropriate switching of patients on warfarin to DOACs. | [https://www.rpharms.com/Portals/0/RPS%20document%20library/Open%20access/Coronavirus/FINAL%20Guidance%20on%20safe%20switching%20of%20warfarin%20to%20DOAC%20COVID-19%20Mar%202020.pdf?ver=2020-03-26-180945-627](https://www.rpharms.com/Portals/0/RPS%20document%20library/Open%20access/Coronavirus/FINAL%20Guidance%20on%20safe%20switching%20of%20warfarin%20to%20DOAC%20COVID-19%20Mar%202020.pdf?ver=2020-03-26-180945-627%20) |