

Subject: Specialised Services Circular (SSC)

Sent on behalf of: Chair of the SW Specialised Service Circular Group

Dear Colleagues,

Please find attached the following Specialised Services Circular(s):

SSC Number	SSC Title	Trusts approved to prescribe in accordance with the SSC, providing appropriate internal governance arrangements are in place
2160	Serum eye drops for the treatment of severe ocular surface disease (All ages)	All South West Acute Trusts

Is an implementation plan required from all SW trusts (regardless of commissioned status) for this SSC? No

For all other South West region trusts this is for information only.

Trusts should ensure that use is registered on the Blueteq system (if appropriate).

Treatment will only be funded where the drugs minimum dataset is fully and accurately populated.

Please direct any queries to: england.speccomm-southwest@nhs.net

*Following a review of providers, it has been agreed that this be available for use at any acute provider in the SW.

All Chief Executives

All Medical Directors

All Chief Pharmacists

Specialised Commissioning
South West
NHS England
100 Temple Street
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07 February 2025

Dear Colleagues,

Re: Serum eye drops for the treatment of severe ocular surface disease (All ages)

I am writing to advise you that NHS England has recently published a clinical commissioning policy outlining the start/stop criteria for the use of serum eye drops for the treatment of severe ocular surface disease and to clarify the associated commissioning arrangements.

Serum eye drops for complex ocular surface disease is not a new treatment, NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) has been providing a serum eye drop service since 2003 and prepares serum eye drops from the patient's own blood (auto-SED) or from male-volunteer blood donors (allo-SED).

Serum eye drops are a treatment for complex, often immune-mediated, ocular surface disease where the production and quality of the tear-film has been compromised, leading to debilitating symptoms and severe sight-threatening damage to the surface of the eye.

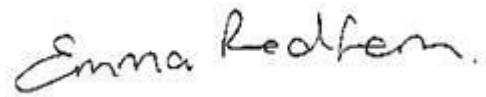
NHS England has been commissioning this treatment for patients who have severe disease that is refractory to standard interventions, for those who require supportive therapy for specialised ocular surface surgical procedures, or for use in the acute management of ocular surface injury. Use will be monitored through the appropriate Blueteq™ form.

The published policy can be found here:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/serum-eye-drops-for-the-treatment-of-severe-ocular-surface-disease-all-ages/>

I would be grateful if you could cascade this information to relevant clinical teams within your organisation to support referral and access to this treatment for patients who may be eligible.

With best wishes,



Emma Redfern
Medical Director NHS England South West
Region



Tracey Williams
Principal Pharmacist