

Subject: Specialised Services Circular (SSC 2355)
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
SSC 2355	National procurement for antiretrovirals for HIV treatment and prevention (pre-exposure prevention (PrEP) and post-exposure prevention (PEP))	All South West region 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





England

Specialised Commissioning South West
NHS England
South Plaza
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NX

Email: england.speccomm-southwest@nhs.net
1st of April 2022

All Chief Executives

All Medical Directors

All Chief Pharmacists

Dear Colleague,

Re. National procurement for antiretrovirals for HIV treatment and prevention (pre-exposure prevention (PrEP) and post-exposure prevention (PEP))

NHS England & Improvement has changed the way it purchases HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) medicines from suppliers. As part of the new procurement, HIV treatment will be purchased from suppliers under a national agreement. This means that access to HIV medications will be the same for people living with HIV across the country. These contracts commenced on the 1st February 2022 and will be in place for 18 months.

Regional guidelines and prescribing algorithms will be replaced by a national clinical prescribing guide as well as a supportive toolkit based on the procurement outcomes and British HIV Association (BHIVA) guidelines. Existing national commissioning policies will remain in place.

Four combination products (Symtuza®, Rezolsta®, Evotaz® and Eviplera®) are not routinely recommended, as the individual components of these combination products are now available to the NHS at a significantly reduced cost.

However, if there are very specific clinical reasons that the patient need one of these four combination products, they can continue to prescribe them via the Blueteq form process.

Trusts should ensure they are registering new and existing patients on the Blueteq form for medications which have been listed as not routinely commissioned in the prescribing guidance. The process for completing a Blueteq form has been adapted for the HIV drugs. This will ensure that any new drugs coming down either the policy pipeline or through NICE will also be able to capture accurate HIV drug information.

It is important to note that Trusts should ensure they are fully aware of their legal obligations and requirements when sharing data, Trusts should only complete pseudonymised hospital identifier on to the Blueteq form, all fields attributed to identify

a patient have been removed.

Payment of Trust invoices for these four medicines will be contingent on Blueteq registration, the full MDS record applicable to the drug being completed and this information being made available in a timely way.

PrEP

PrEP packs will continue to be supplied 'Free of Charge' to those services commissioned by the Local Health Authority to deliver a PrEP service.

PEP

A new national contract for 30-day PEP packs has been awarded to Mawdsley-Brooks and Co Ltd.

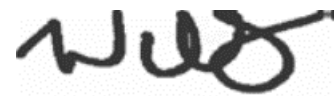
Actions for Trusts

1. Ensure this letter and the documents in Annex 1 are shared with HIV clinicians and specialist pharmacists in your Trust.
2. Implement the new national contracts and national clinical prescribing guide.
3. Where possible, the teams completing the Blueteq form should pseudonymise the hospital identifier (LOCALPATID) to maintain patient confidentiality whilst supporting accurate data collection.

With best wishes,



Dr Peter Wilson
Medical Director (Commissioning)
Information Governance lead



Tracey Williams
Principal Pharmacist

Annex 1



HIV FAQs for
clinicians V1.3_Final.d



ATT 3 PIL update v1.0
27012022.docx



ATT 1 Generics PIL
v1.1 27012022.docx



HIV FAQs for
clinicians on PEP V3.0