Subject: Specialised Services Circular (SSC 2668)
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
2668	NHS England Clinical Commissioning Policy: Ustekinumab for refractory Crohn's disease in pre-pubescent children [200404P]	• University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust plus shared care providers.

Is an implementation plan required for this SSC? NO

For all other SouthWest 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

Specialised Commissioning South West
NHS England
360 Bristol
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NX
Email: england.speccomm-southwest@nhs.net

28 June 2024

All Chief Executives

All Medical Directors

All Chief Pharmacists

Re: NHS England Clinical Commissioning Policy: Ustekinumab for refractory Crohn's disease in pre-pubescent children [200404P]

I am writing to advise you that the not routinely commissioned NHS England Clinical Commissioning Policy (CCP) for Ustekinumab for refractory Crohn's disease in pre-pubescent children [200404P] has been updated; this is to reflect the licence extension for ustekinumab in children aged 6 years and over for paediatric plaque psoriasis. Application of the Commissioning Medicines for Children policy enables access to children aged 6 years and over with Crohn's disease as ustekinumab is listed in the BNF for Children with a recommended dosage schedule relative to the age of the child.

NHS England will commission ustekinumab in children where ustekinumab is used in accordance with the NHS England policy 'Commissioning medicines for children in specialised services' as regards post-pubescent patients and for younger patients in accordance with the ustekinumab dosage as described in the Childrens British National Formulary (BNF). In this setting ustekinumab should only be initiated by specialist centres, and the use of ustekinumab should be discussed at a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) meeting which must include at least two consultants in the subspecialty with active and credible expertise in the relevant field of whom at least one must be a consultant paediatrician. The MDT should include a paediatric pharmacist and other professional groups appropriate to the disease area. A specific Blueteq registration form is available for registration of children. Treatment may be delivered via shared care as appropriate. It should also be noted that ustekinumab should be used within the Trusts governance framework as ustekinumab is not licensed for use in children in Crohn's disease.

In addition:

- Trusts must ensure that only invoices for the drug procurement costs of ustekinumab in this indication are invoiced to NHSE and that they are also submitting complete and accurate information via the drugs minimum dataset (MDS). All other oncosts are in block arrangements.
- In line with the terms and conditions included in the NHS Standard Contract and as per the agreement that Cancer Services are commissioned with Trusts, Schedule 6a Reporting Requirements for drugs will apply. Payment of Trust invoices will be contingent on the completion of the MDS record and this information being made available in a timely way.
- Patients must be registered via Blueteq and meet the clinical criteria on the registration form. This letter gives the required one month's notice as per Schedule 2 Part G (Other Local Agreements, Policies and Procedures) of your Specialised Services contract for prior approval for this treatment/indication. From one month of the date specified above, NHS England will only reimburse these treatments for patients that have been confirmed as meeting the eligibility criteria via the formal Prior Approval Scheme (i.e. Blueteq). You may wish to use the prior approval mechanism earlier than this to expedite access to this drug.
- **Payment of Trust invoices will be contingent on Blueteq registration and the full MDS record applicable to the drug being completed and this information being made available in a timely way. Please note there is a specific Blueteq registration form children.**
- Trusts must ensure that local governance aspects (e.g. technical issues, education & training, patient information) have been identified and addressed for all staff groups (as appropriate) in order to permit the safe delivery of this therapy.

I would be grateful if you could cascade this information to relevant clinical teams within your organisation to support the consistent adoption of the policy nationally.

Yours sincerely,

Luke Culverwell
Deputy Director of Specialised

Tracey Williams
Clinical Pharmacist