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
2791	**NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance: Anhydrous sodium thiosulfate for preventing hearing loss caused by cisplatin chemotherapy in people 1 month to 17 years with localised solid tumours**	University Hospitals Bristol and Weston Royal Devon University Hospitals University Hospitals Plymouth Somerset Foundation Trust Royal United Hospitals Bath Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust Dorset County Hospital Foundation Trust Salisbury Foundation Trust University Hospitals Dorset

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

All Chief Executives

All Medical Directors

All Chief Pharmacists

Specialised Commissioning
South West
NHS England
100 Temple Street
Bristol
BS1 6AG
Email: england.speccomm-southwest@nhs.net

12 March 2025

Dear Colleagues,

Re: NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance: Anhydrous sodium thiosulfate for preventing hearing loss caused by cisplatin chemotherapy in people 1 month to 17 years with localised solid tumours.

I am writing to advise you regarding the funding position on the recently published NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance (TAG) for anhydrous sodium thiosulfate for preventing hearing loss caused by cisplatin chemotherapy in people 1 month to 17 years with localised solid tumours.

The TAG can be found at: https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta1034.

NICE in their TAG published on 22nd January 2025 has stated that:

> Anhydrous sodium thiosulfate is recommended, within its marketing authorisation, for preventing hearing loss caused by cisplatin chemotherapy in people 1 month to 17 years with localised, non-metastatic solid tumours.

Anhydrous sodium thiosulfate will be available via the Innovative Medicines Fund (IMF) from 26 February 2025 in line with these recommendations and according to a set of treatment criteria which translates the NICE recommendation into a clinical guide as to use in practice. These treatment criteria can be found on the application form(s) on the Blueteq site.

NHS England will then routinely commission anhydrous sodium thiosulfate for preventing hearing loss caused by cisplatin chemotherapy via commissioned centres, incorporating these treatment criteria, including those contained within this letter from 22 April 2025.

In addition, commissioned centres must:

- Ensure that they are purchasing anhydrous sodium thiosulfate at the agreed proposed patient access scheme (PAS) discounted price. This discounted price will be applied automatically at point of invoice and applies to all indications.
- Ensure that any patients registered on the company led compassionate use programme who meet the clinical criteria for the drug are registered via Blueteq in order for the IMF to pick up the costs of their ongoing treatment. Patients who do not meet the clinical criteria should continue to receive drug via the

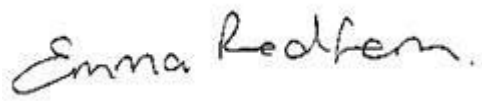
manufacturer.

- Ensure that, until 22 April 2025, only invoices for the drug procurement costs of anhydrous sodium thiosulfate in this indication are directed to the IMF and that they are also submitting complete and accurate information via the IMF minimum dataset (MDS).
- In line with the terms and conditions included in the NHS Standard Contract, 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 are registered via Blueteq (STS1) and meet the clinical criteria on the registration form during the interim funding period.
- **Payment of Trust invoices will be contingent on Blueteq registration and IMF MDS record applicable to the drug being completed and this information being made available in timely way.**
- 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.

Trusts should refer to the CAP portal for further information on the PAS price. The CAP portal is available at https://nhsengland.sharefile.eu/Authentication/Login

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.

With best wishes,



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Medical Director NHS England South West Region

Tracey Williams
Principal Pharmacist