Surrey & North West Sussex Area Prescribing Committee

Policy Statement: Domperidone for the stimulation of lactation

Policy No: APC 466-2019
Date of Issue: 6th December 2019

Review Date: December 2022
(Unless new published evidence becomes available before this date OR there is new published national guidance e.g. NICE)

Recommendations:
The Area Prescribing Committee recommends the use of domperidone for the stimulation of lactation only when prescribed within a secondary care setting.

Domperidone will be considered RED on the traffic light system for this indication.

Prescribers should ensure that the patient understands the risks and consents to using domperidone off-label from its licensed indication, and should be mindful of the SPC and MHRA alert (2014) regarding cardiac side effects.

Treatment duration is restricted to a maximum of one week in all patients which limits its usefulness in this indication.

Primary care prescribers should ensure that patient medication records include any medicine for which prescribing remains the responsibility of secondary or tertiary care. This will ensure that GP records, which are accessed by other healthcare providers, are a true and accurate reflection of the patient's medication.

Key Considerations:
- Requests from Breast Feeding Clinics
  The APC agrees with previous local decision at G&W CCG that GPs should not be asked to prescribe domperidone for lactation stimulation from services such as the Breast Feeding Clinic at the RSCH.
- Patients presenting in General Practice
  NICE CKS Breastfeeding problems [https://cks.nice.org.uk/breastfeeding-problems](https://cks.nice.org.uk/breastfeeding-problems) recommends specialist referral before domperidone is started, as there is very limited evidence on its effectiveness, and there is no direct correlation between maternal prolactin levels and rates of milk production.
- MHRA alert in 2014: Domperidone: risks of cardiac side effects

Date taken to Area Prescribing Committee: 4th December 2019
Agreed by APC members: 23rd December 2019

Surrey (East Surrey CCG, Guildford & Waverley CCG, North West Surrey CCG, Surrey Downs CCG & Surrey Heath CCG), Crawley CCG and Horsham & Mid-Sussex CCG