

South East Regional Medicines Optimisation Group (SERMOG) policy recommendation

Title:	Compact oral nutritional supplements for adults
Number:	SERMOG-04
Category:	Eligibility criteria apply
Date determined by SERMOG:	September 2024

Policy recommendation:

The South East Regional Medicines Optimisation Group (SERMOG) considered national prescribing guideline recommendations, the evidence base, the baseline position, other integrated care board (ICB) policies, the views of clinical specialists, equality and equity issues, the potential impact of changing policy.

All decisions were made with reference to the South East Region Policy Recommendation Committees' Ethical Framework. Taking these into account, the SERMOG recommends:

The primary care prescribing of ready-to-serve (RTS) compact ONS (125ml preparations) is not routinely funded unless it is assessed by a specialist (e.g. dietitian) that one of the following criteria are met:

- The individual and/or their carers are unable to prepare powdered ONS products and they have been unable to consume adequate volumes* of standard ready to drink ONS
- The individual has trialled, but has not been able to tolerate powdered compact ONS products and they have clinical contraindications to standard ready to drink ONS preparations**

*Two servings of 200ml RTS ONS per day

**Contraindications include dysphagia; requires thickened fluids; a condition requiring fluid restriction e.g. renal or liver disease

Policy exclusions

- Children (18 years old or younger)
- Enteral tube feeding and parenteral nutrition

Version control:

Final version 1.0 – Circulated to ICBs for ratification on 9 October 2024

Notes:

This policy recommendation will be reviewed when new information becomes available that is likely to have a material effect on the current recommendation.

South East region ICBs will always consider appropriate individual funding requests (IFRs) through their IFR processes.