

Prescribing Clinical Network

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| Policy Statement | Penicillamine for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis |
| Policy No: | PCN 362 - 2018 |
| Date of Issue | September 2018 |
| Review Date: | September 2021 (Unless new published evidence becomes available before this date OR there is new published national guidance e.g. NICE) |
| <p>Recommendations: The Prescribing Clinical Network considers the prescribing of penicillamine in rheumatoid arthritis in NEW patients to be RED – specialist ONLY drugs - treatment initiated and continued by specialist clinicians.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penicillamine is no longer used routinely (see guidelines from BSR and BHPR below). • For any new patients initiated on penicillamine, prescribing should be retained by the specialist. • For the small number of patients currently taking penicillamine in primary care, monitoring requirements should be as described in the current BNF and SPC. Primary care monitoring requirements for people on penicillamine are available from CKS at: https://cks.nice.org.uk/dmards#!scenario:12 | |
| <p>Key Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationally, the British Society for Rheumatology (BSR) and the British Healthcare Professionals in Rheumatology (BHPR) guideline for the prescription and monitoring of non-biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs published in 2017 stated that: <i>‘Monitoring guidance for penicillamine is no longer included in this document because this drug has disappeared from routine use as a DMARD in contemporary practice.’</i> • Locally, when asked for their views and usage of penicillamine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The consultant rheumatologists at the Rheumatology Network responded in February 2018 that shared care guidelines for penicillamine were no longer required. ○ GPs felt that due to extremely limited patient numbers their experience of monitoring had much reduced and they were no longer in a strong position to take on shared care and recommended that a red status be awarded. | |
| Date taken to Prescribing Clinical Network | 5 th September 2018 |
| Agreed by PCN members | 18th September 2018 |

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