

## Prescribing Clinical Network

<b>Policy Statement</b>	Intramuscular sodium aurothiomalate for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis
<b>Policy No:</b>	PCN 363 - 2018
<b>Date of Issue</b>	September 2018
<b>Review Date:</b>	September 2021 (Unless new published evidence becomes available before this date OR there is new published national guidance e.g. NICE)
<b>Recommendations:</b> The Prescribing Clinical Network considers the prescribing of sodium aurothiomalate in rheumatoid arthritis in NEW patients to be RED - specialist ONLY drugs - treatment initiated and continued by specialist clinicians.  <b>Please note:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For any new patients initiated on sodium aurothiomalate, prescribing should be retained by the specialist.</li> <li>For any patients currently taking sodium aurothiomalate in primary care, monitoring should be retained in primary care and requirements should be as described in the current BNF and SPC. Primary care monitoring requirements for people on sodium aurothiomalate are available from CKS at: <a href="https://cks.nice.org.uk/dmards#!scenario:7">https://cks.nice.org.uk/dmards#!scenario:7</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Key Considerations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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, continues to include the use of sodium aurothiomalate and recommends that patients receiving gold therapy should have urinalysis for blood and protein prior to each dose.</li> <li>Locally, when asked for their views and usage of sodium aurothiomalate:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The consultant rheumatologists at the Rheumatology Network responded in February 2018 that shared care guidelines for sodium aurothiomalate were no longer required.</li> <li>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 a red status be awarded.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The most recent ePACT search has shown that there were no patients in primary care on sodium aurothiomalate in SD, G&amp;W, ES and SH CCGs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Date taken to Prescribing Clinical Network</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
<b>Agreed by PCN members</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> 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