

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

**Formulary Extension Briefing Paper for Prescribing Clinical
Network**

Medicine details	
Name, brand name	Timolol maleate 5mg/ml and latanoprost 50mcg/ml Preservative free (Fixapost)
Manufacturer	Thea Pharmaceuticals
Licensed indication	Reduction of intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with open angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension who are insufficiently responsive to topical beta-blockers or prostaglandin analogues.
Formulation	Eye drops, solution in single-dose container.
Usual dosage	Recommended therapy is one eye drop in the affected eye(s) once daily.

Disease and potential patient group			
Brief description of disease	Glaucoma is a condition that affects eyesight, most often in people in their 70s or older. It tends to get worse slowly over several years. It is often caused by high pressure in the eye, and can be picked up during routine eye tests. Because glaucoma can cause permanent sight loss it needs to be spotted and treated as soon as possible. Around 1 in 10 people registered as blind have lost their sight because of glaucoma, but only a small proportion of people with glaucoma lose their sight altogether.		
Potential patient numbers per 100,000		Potential nos./100,000	Pop. ONS mid-2017
	NHS Crawley CCG	925	111,664
	NHS East Surrey CCG	1070	184,734
	NHS Guildford and Waverley CCG	1041	208,802
	NHS Horsham and Mid Sussex CCG	1117	236,113
	NHS North West Surrey CCG	1065	347,747
	NHS Surrey Downs CCG	1147	291,545
NHS Surrey Heath CCG	1119	96,627	

SUMMARY

Reason for formulary extension
The generic version of the combination product (and the originally licenced brand, Xalacom®) both contain benzalkonium chloride as a preservative. This can cause either direct irritation of the ocular and/or adjacent tissues or a delayed hypersensitivity reaction (after as long as weeks or months of symptom-free treatment). For these patients it is necessary to switch to a preservative-free preparation. The preservative-free preparations are significantly more expensive so it is not economically viable to start all patients on the preservative-free preparation. The incidence of local eye irritation in the Xalacom® SPC is 1%-10% of patients.
Tick one box Addition to formulary
Evidence as necessary



RSCH Fixapost DTC
application form.do

This combination has been used for many years in a preservative-containing combination, this is the first preservative –free formulation.

Cost implications

Cost of product: Flixapost®: £ 13.95 for 30 doses (Mims May 2019)

Current comparators are wither separate PF latanoprost and timolol, but much more likely bimatoprost/ timolol PF combination;

Row Labels	Sum of Items	Average of Cost per pack	Sum of Actual Cost
Bimatoprost/Timolol_Eye Dps 300mcg/5mg	6482	£13.15	£143,662
Ganfort_Eye Dps 300mcg/5mg	5262	£12.65	£118,677
Bimatoprost/Timolol_EyeDps300mcg/5mg 0.4	719	£16.66	£18,293
Ganfort_Eye Dps 300mcg/5mg 0.4ml Ud	522	£16.65	£14,142
Grand Total	12985	£14.07	£294,774

If existing patients were to be changed to the latanoprost/ timolol combination, from the bimatoprost/ timolol combination, the estimated savings would be £8045 for the entire SNWSAPC health economy.

This value is not sufficient to warrant any action, however Fixapost® is currently the least expensive **preservative free** combination product when a prostaglandin/ betablocker treatment is required.

Add to the Summary request for decision:

(New) Approve any future brands or generic combination products which come to market as long as they are the same or less expensive than this brand.

Availability of PAS and details (if appropriate): *No*

Availability of homecare service (if appropriate): *No – implications for VAT*

Alternative treatments and cost per (patient per year / per month as appropriate)

Pricing information for the Fixapost application May, 2019

Presentation	Drug combination	Brand	Drug Tariff	Current PAD position
Eye drop	Latanoprost/timolol with preservative	Generic	£6.57	Green
		Xalacom	£14.32	Black
	Bimatoprost/timolol	Ganfort	£14.16	Not listed
	Travoprost/timolol	DuoTrav	£13.95	Not listed
Unit dose presentation (pres-free)	Latanoprost/timolol PF	Fixapost	£13.49	Not listed
	Bimatoprost/timolol PF	Ganfort	£17.94	Not listed
	Tafluprost/timolol	Taptiqom	£14.50	Not listed
	Latanoprost PF	Monoprost	£8.49	Not listed
	Timolol PF	Tiopex	£7.49	Blue

Impact to patients

Fixapost is available on prescription, widely available through pharmacies and high-street opticians' stores; patient access is easy. This formulation is in unit doses which may be more

difficult to administer in patients with reduced dexterity.

Impact to primary care

Fixapost is available on prescription, widely available through pharmacies and high-street opticians' stores; patient access is easy. Prescription writing requirements are as standard.

Impact to secondary care

Already on the formulary at RSCH so it would appear that secondary care do not experience problems in procuring/supplying this product.

Impact to CCGs

Currently, patients who would require a combination treatment of a prostaglandin with a beta-blocker, would either be prescribed separate prescription of latanoprost PF plus separate timolol PF, (£15.98) Or, more likely, be prescribed the combination of bimatoprost and timolol PF (£17.94) Therefore this product is less expensive than currently available alternatives (£13.49). The aging population and increased incidence of sensitivities means that the requirement for increased PF formulations will occur.

Implementation

Providers that wish to prescribe this product will need to take through their respective DTCs for approve for use.

Recommendation to PCN

PbRe: N



Colour classification guidelines

Recommended traffic light status (see attached guidelines):

Fixapost should be included on the PAD as the first-line combination prostaglandin/beta-blocker eye drop where a preservative-free formulation is required. It should be for specialist initiation and GP continuation (ie Blue) .

The generic latanoprost/timolol eye drops is currently GREEN on the PAD, the branded version Xalacom is BLACK. No other combination product is currently on PAD.

Recommend that all eye drops licensed for the use of the treatment of intra-ocular pressure should be listed as blue in the traffic light classification unless listed as RED or BLACK.

Additional comments:

Generic latanoprost/ timolol with preservative should also be classified as Blue on the traffic light system

These medicines are used within license and therefore an information sheet is not required,

- b. Recommended minimum duration of supply if >1 month

NOTE: GPs do not have the equipment and skills to perform ocular pressure readings. Opticians are able to measure those readings but have thresholds they work to by which they refer to Ophthalmologists when pressure is high enough to require treatment, For example, in Glaucoma, following thresholds in NICE NG81: Glaucoma: diagnosis and managementt.

All initiation and changes to treatments of intraocular pressure are therefore made on the advice of Consultant Ophthalmologists. Traffic light status for all these medicines should therefore be Blue on the Traffic light system. This is very long-standing practice.

References:

1. RSCH DTC application form (see above)

Prepared by:

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Declaration of Interest:

Nil

Date: 9th April 2019

Reviewed by:

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Declaration of Interest:

None

Date: May 2019

VERSION CONTROL SHEET

Version	Date	Author	Status	Comment
<i>v.1</i>				<i>Out for consultation</i>
<i>v.2</i>				