

Prescribing Clinical Network

Policy Statement	Nicotinic Acid for the treatment of familial hypercholesterolaemia
Policy No:	PCN 254 - 2017
Date of Issue	March 2017
Review Date:	March 2020 <i>(Unless new published evidence becomes available before this date OR there is new published national guidance e.g. NICE)</i>
<p>Recommendations: NICE CG71 (updated in July 2016) recommends patients with familial hypercholesterolaemia (FH) with intolerance or contraindications to statins or ezetimibe, should be offered a referral to a specialist with expertise in FH for consideration for treatment with either a bile acid sequestrant (resin), nicotinic acid, or a fibrate to reduce their LDL-C concentration.</p> <p>At the time of publication of CG71 nicotinic acid was available as a licensed product. Nicotinic acid is no longer available as a licensed product in the UK (Niaspan license withdrawn in June 2011), and other licensed treatments are available for FH. Therefore, the PCN recommends nicotinic acid is classified as BLACK on the traffic light system for this indication.</p> <p>Patients that are currently being treated with Nicotinic Acid for the treatment of familial hypercholesterolaemia* should have their treatment reviewed. It should be a shared decision between the NHS clinician and the patient as to whether it is appropriate for the treatment to be stopped.</p> <p><i>*Some patient's may have been initiated on Nicotinic Acid prior to NICE recommendations</i></p>	
<p>Key considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NICE CG71 https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg71/resources/familial-hypercholesterolaemia-identification-and-management-975623384005 	
Date taken to Prescribing Clinical Network	March 2017
Agreed by PCN members	23 rd March 2017