

Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System Area Prescribing Committee (APC)

Integrated Care Partnership - Surrey Downs, Guildford & Waverley, North West Surrey, and East Surrey Places & associated partner organisations.

Application for medicines described in CKS, NICE guidance and/or other national guidance

Name of guidance ¹	NICE Guideline NG91 Otitis Media (acute): antimicrobial prescribing
Available at	Overview Otitis media (acute): antimicrobial prescribing Guidance NICE

The APC will have 4 options when asked to consider the application/s:

1. To accept
2. To reject
3. To allocate alternative traffic light classification
4. To request a full evidence review.

The traffic light status for the Surrey PAD is available at: [Traffic Light Status \(res-systems.net\)](https://res-systems.net)

Background:

NICE updated NG91 (acute Otitis media antimicrobial prescribing) in March 2022 to include a new recommendation to consider using eardrops containing a local anaesthetic and an analgesic (Phenazone 40mg/g with lidocaine 10mg/g ear drops) to treat children and young people under 18 less likely to benefit from immediate antibiotics.¹ NICE noted that acute otitis media is a self limiting disease, affecting mainly children and most of these will get better within three days without antibiotics.

The Evidence review for NICE NG91 noted that eardrops containing an anaesthetic and an analgesic statistically significantly increased the proportion of children with a 50% and a 25% reduction in pain compared with placebo and statistically significantly reduced antibiotic consumption at day 8 compared with usual care (no or delayed antibiotic prescription; 2.6% compared with 29.0%).¹

This recommendation is already included in the NICE/PHE antimicrobial summary guidance² recommended by the APC, currently linked from the PAD and used by GPs. However a formal traffic light status is required to enable Phenazone 40mg/g with lidocaine 10mg/g ear drops to be added to acute trust

formularies. 84 prescriptions for Phenazone 40mg/g with lidocaine 10mg/g ear drops were prescribing in primary care across Surrey Heartlands during the six months Jul-Dec 2022.

There are an estimated 10.5k GP consultations per year for acute otitis media in Surrey Heartlands per year extrapolated from 500K in England³. The maximum additional cost for supplying Phenazone 40mg/g with lidocaine 10mg/g ear drops instead of a course of oral amoxycillin for these would be £75k pa.

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare Trust have approximately 500 A&E visits per year from patients with acute otitis media so there is potential to reduce antibiotic use in acute trusts if appropriate patients were prescribed phenazone 40mg/g with lidocaine 10mg/g ear drops as an alternative treatment in accordance with NICE NG91.

Name of guidance¹: NICE Guideline NG91 Otitis Media (acute): antimicrobial prescribing¹

Recommended treatment for children and young people under 18:

Phenazone 40mg/g with lidocaine 10mg/g. Apply 4 drops two or three times a day for upto 7 days.

Use only if immediate antibiotic is not given, and there is no eardrum perforation or otorrhoea.

Patients not receiving an immediate antibiotic should seek medical help if symptoms do not start to improve after 3 days or worsen significantly

Medicine name (generic and brand)	State licensed indication and if use in this application is licensed?	Place in therapy	Does it require dose titration?	Does it require monitoring? (SPC and SBS monitoring)	Recommended traffic light	Comments Must include information about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">whether a cost impact is expected and by how much.impact on workload, e.g. monitoring.
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Phenazone 40mg/g with lidocaine 10mg/g ear drops, solution. (Otigo™)	Local symptomatic treatment and relief of pain in the following diseases of the middle ear without tympanic perforation. -acute congestive otitis media - otitis in influenza the so called viral bullous otitis -barotraumatic otitis ⁴	First line treatment option for acute otitis media in children and young people under 18 who may be less likely to benefit from antibiotics (NICE NG91)	No	No	GREEN for use in patients under 18 years old treated in accordance with NICE NG91	Cat C Drug tariff price £8.92 for one 15ml bottle (Feb 23) ⁵ A course of Amoxycillin costs £1.04-£3.09 (Feb23) ⁵ Estimated maximum additional cost 75k pa
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Identified lead for development of additional necessary documents e.g. shared care agreement

Name:	Deborah Bunn
Designation:	Lead Antimicrobial Specialist Pharmacist
Organisation:	Surrey Heartlands ICB
Estimated date of preparation:	None required

References:

1. NICE. [Guideline NG91 Otitis Media \(acute\): antimicrobial prescribing \(updated March 2022\)](#)
2. BNF. [NICE/PHE Summary Guidance Antimicrobial Prescribing](#) updated December 2022
3. Helen Atkinson, Sebastian Wallis & Andrew P Coatesworth. [Acute Otitis Media](#) Postgraduate Medicine 2015 127:4 386
4. Electronic Medicines Compendium. [SPC: Otigo 40mg/10mg/g ear drops solution](#). (updated May 2020)
5. NHS Business Services Authority. [Drug Tariff online](#). February 2023.

Declaration of interest:

	Name	Role	Date	Declaration of interests (please give details below)
Prepared by	Deborah Bunn	Lead Antimicrobial Specialist Pharmacist, Surrey Heartlands ICB	13 Feb 2023	None
Reviewed by				

Explanation of declaration of interest:
None.

Version control sheet:

Version	Date	Author	Status	Comment
1	February 2023	Deborah Bunn	Draft	For initial consultation
2	March 2023	Deborah Bunn	Final	For APC with amendments of additional information requested from consultation (highlighted in yellow)