Surrey & North West Sussex Area Prescribing Committee (APC)

Policy Statement	Etanercept for all CCG-commissioned indications
Policy No:	APC 432-2019
Date of Issue	August 2019
Review Date:	August 2022 *(Unless new published evidence becomes available before this date OR there is new published national guidance e.g. NICE)*

Recommendations:

The APC recommends the use of biosimilar etanercept in all new patients for all CCG-commissioned indications.

Etanercept is considered as **RED** on the traffic light system.

Prescribing would be by hospital specialists only, in line with NICE and using the Blueteq initiation and continuation forms.

Primary care prescribers should ensure that patient medication records include any medicine for which prescribing remains the responsibility of secondary or tertiary care. This will ensure that GP records, which are accessed by other healthcare providers, are a true and accurate reflection of the patient's medication.

Please note; the Medicines Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) recommends that to prescribe biological products **by brand name** to ensure that substitution of a biosimilar product does not occur when the medicine is dispensed by the pharmacist.
https://www/gov/uk/drug-safety-update/biosimilar-products

Key Considerations:

- The choice of biosimilar brand used at provider trusts will be dependent on regional Commercial Medicines Unit (CMU) tender processes and trust preference.
- Biosimilar etanercept could provide potential savings to the health economy
- Patients can be switched between brands of etanercept under a locally agreed switch programme if considered appropriate.

Date taken to Area Prescribing Committee	7th August 2019
Agreed by APC members	27th August 2019