

11 Eye

Comment: Preservative-free versions of eye drops can be prescribed in patients with allergy to preservatives or patients receiving more than 4 doses of preservative per day. Ophthalmology specialists are defined as anyone in a primary or secondary care setting who may have specialist knowledge on the prescribing of medicines for eye conditions. Prescribing should be in line with competencies/specialist knowledge.

1 Allergic and inflammatory eye conditions

1.1 Allergic conjunctivitis		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
	Sodium Cromoglicate (1 st line)	✓	✓
	Olopatadine (2 nd line)	✓	✓
	Lodoxamide (Alomide [®]) (2 nd line)	✓	✓
	Antazoline with xylometazoline (Otrivine-Antistin [®])	✓	✓
Comment: Otrivine-Antistin [®] contains the sympathomimetic xylometazoline. It should be avoided in angle-closure glaucoma.			
	Azelastine (Optilast [®])	✓	✓

1.2 Inflammatory eye conditions		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs			
	Nepafenac (Nevanac [®])	⊕	✓
Corticosteroids			
Comment: Steroid eye drops - Ophthalmologist recommendation only - GPs should not initiate.			
	Prednisolone 0.5% , 1.0% (Pred-Forte [®]), 0.5% P/F (Minims [®]) (1 st line)	⊕	✓
	Dexamethasone (Maxidex [®] drops, Maxitrol [®] drops, ointment, Dexafree [®] P/F UDV) (2 nd line)	⊕	✓
	Fluorometholone (FML [®])	⊕	✓
	Hydrocortisone sodium phosphate (Softacort [®])	⊕	✓
Intravitreal Corticosteroids			
	Dexamethasone intravitreal implant (Ozurdex [®])		✓
Immunosuppressants			
	Ciclosporin eye drops 1mg/ml (Verkazia [®]) (treatment of severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis in children from 4 years of age and adolescents)	⊕	✓

Key ✓ Initiate and continue ⊕ Continue where appropriate.

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1.2a Anterior Uveitis		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
Antimuscarinics			
	Atropine 1% (Minims [®])	⊕	✓
	Cyclopentolate (Drops & Minims [®])	✓	✓
Uveitis			
	Adalimumab (Imraldi [®])		✓

2. Dry eye conditions		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
Comment: Preservative free products for use in patients with allergy to preservatives or patients receiving more than 4 doses of preservative per day To ensure the most cost-effective product is dispensed. Products should be prescribed by the brand name where specified.			
1st line Ocular Lubricants (mild – moderate disease)			
Standard Eye Drops			
	Carbomer 980 0.2% Gel (Clinitas [®])	✓	✓
	Hypromellose 0.3% drops	✓	✓
Preservative Free			
Eye Drops			
	Carbomer 980 0.2% (Evolve [®])	✓	✓
	Hypromellose 0.3% (Evolve [®])	✓	✓
Unit Dose Vials (UDV)			
	Carbomer 980 0.2% (Viscotears [®])	✓	✓
	Hypromellose 0.3% (Hydromoor [®])	✓	✓
Eye ointment			
	Hylo-Night [®] (previously known as Vita-POS [®])	✓	✓
	Xailin Night [®]	✓	✓
2nd line Ocular Lubricants (moderate – severe disease)			
Preservative Free			
Eye Drops			
	Carmellose sodium 0.5%, 1% (VIZcellose [®])	✓	✓
	Sodium hyaluronate 0.1% (Hylo-Tear [®] , VIZhyal [®]), 0.2% (Evolve HA, Hylo-Forte), 0.4% (VIZhyal [®])	✓	✓

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Unit Dose Vials (UDV)			
	Carmellose sodium 0.5%, 1% (Celluvisc®)	✓	✓
	Sodium hyaluronate 0.2% (Blink® Intensive Tears), 0.4% (Hydramed® Forte)	✓	✓
Comment: Evolve range – can be used for up to 3 months after bottle has been opened Hylo- range can be used for up to 6 months after bottle has been opened			
	Sodium hyaluronate + Co-enzyme Q10 (VisuXL®)	⊕	✓
Comment: VisuXL can be continued in primary care if recommended by the corneal ulcer clinic			
	Hydroxypropyl guar (Systane®) (eye drops, unit dose vials)	⊕	✓
Miscellaneous			
	Acetylcysteine 5% (Ilube®)	⊕	✓
	Ciclosporin eye drops 1mg/ml (Ikervis®)	⊕	✓
Comment : For treatment of severe keratitis in adults with dry eyes which has not improved despite treatment with tear substitutes			
	Hydroxyethylcellulose eye drops 0.44% (Minims® Artificial Tears UDV)	⊕	✓

3. Eye Infections

3.1 Bacterial eye infections		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
	Chloramphenicol (1 st line)	✓	✓
Comment: Chloramphenicol eye drops are well tolerated and the recommendation that they should be avoided because of increased risk of aplastic anaemia is not well founded.			
	Fusidic acid (2 nd line)	✓	✓
	Gentamicin (2 nd line)	✓	✓
Corneal Ulcers			
	Ofloxacin (1 st line)	⊕	✓
Comment: Severe corneal infection (keratitis) should be managed with ofloxacin initially pending microbiology studies			
	Levofloxacin (eye drops, P/F UDV) (2 nd line)	⊕	✓
Acanthamoeba Keratitis			
	Brolene® eye drops + chlorhexidine gluconate 0.02% eye drops (unlicensed)		✓
Prophylaxis of Endophthalmitis			
	Cefuroxime intracameral injection (Aprokam®)		✓

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3.2 Viral eye infection		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
	Ganciclovir (Virgan [®]) (1 st line)	⊕	✓
	Aciclovir eye ointment (2 nd line)	⊕	✓

4. Eye procedures		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
Mydriatics and cycloplegics			
Antimuscarinics			
	Tropicamide Minims [®] 0.5%, 1%	⊕	✓
Antiseptics and disinfectants			
	Povidone-iodine 5%		✓
Diagnostic agents - dyes			
	Fluorescein sodium Minims [®]		✓
Miotics			
Parasympathomimetics			
	Acetylcholine chloride (Miphtel [®])		✓
	Phenylephrine Minims [®]		✓

4.1 Post-operative pain and inflammation		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
Eye, surgical and peri-operative drug use			
Anaesthetics, local			
	Fluorescein with lidocaine Minims [®]	✓	✓
	Oxybupricaine Minims [®]	✓	✓
	Proxymetacaine Minims [®] (less stinging than others)	✓	✓
	Tetracaine 1% Minims [®]	✓	✓
Analgesics – Non-steroidal ant-inflammatory drugs			
	Diclofenac Sodium 0.1% (Voltarol Optha [®])	⊕	✓
	Ketorolac trometamol 0.5%	⊕	✓
	Loteprednol (Lotemax [®])		✓

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5. Glaucoma and ocular hypertension		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
Comment: Preservative-free versions of glaucoma eye drops can be prescribed in patients with allergy to preservatives or patients receiving more than 4 doses of preservative per day.			
Beta-blockers			
	Timolol 0.25%, 0.5% eye drops	⊕	✓
	Timoptol- LA [®] 0.25%, 0.5% eye gel (if compliance issues or once daily preparation required)	⊕	✓
Preservative Free			
	Timolol 0.1% unit dose eye gel (Tiopex [®])	⊕	✓
	Timolol P/F eye drops 0.25% (Eysano [®])	⊕	✓
Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors			
	Dorzolamide (1 st line)	⊕	✓
	Brinzolamide (2 nd line)	⊕	✓
Preservative Free			
	Dorzolamide P/F (Trusopt [®])	⊕	✓
Combination Products			
	Dorzolamide + timolol	⊕	✓
	Brinzolamide + timolol	⊕	✓
Preservative Free			
	Dorzolamide + timolol P/F	⊕	✓
Systemic drugs			
	Acetazolamide	⊕	✓
	Acetazolamide 500mg IV injection		✓
Miotics			
	Pilocarpine	⊕	✓
Prostaglandin analogues			
	Latanoprost (1 st line)	⊕	✓
	Bimatoprost (1 st line)	⊕	✓
	Travoprost (3 rd line)	⊕	✓
Preservative Free			
	Latanoprost P/F (Monopost [®])	⊕	✓

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	Bimatoprost P/F	⊕	✓
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Combination Products			
	Latanoprost + timolol	⊕	✓
	Bimatoprost + timolol (Ganfort [®])	⊕	✓
	Travoprost + timolol (Duotrav [®])	⊕	✓
Preservative Free			
	Latanoprost+ timolol P/F (Fixapost [®])	⊕	✓
	Bimatoprost + timolol P/F (Ganfort [®])	⊕	✓
Sympathomimetics			
	Apraclonidine 0.5% drops, 1% UDV (Lopidine [®])	⊕	✓
	Brimonidine	⊕	✓
Combination Products			
	Brimonidine + timolol (Combigan [®])	⊕	✓
	Brimonidine + brinzolamide (Simbrinza [®])	⊕	✓

6. Retinal disorders

6.1 Macular degeneration	Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Inhibitors		
	Aflibercept (1 st line)	✓
	Faricimab (Vabysmo [®]) (2 nd line)	✓
	Ranibizumab (3 rd line)	✓
Comment: To be prescribed in line with licensed indications and SMC restrictions. Faricimab may be used in patients where aflibercept has been ineffective or further treatment extension is preferred.		

6.2 Macular oedema	Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
	Fluocinolone acetonide implant (Iluvien [®])	✓
Comment: Fluocinolone is approved for use for the prevention of relapse in recurrent non-infectious uveitis affecting the posterior segment of the eye		

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6.3 Optic neuropathy		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
	Idebenone (Raxone®)		✓
6.4 Vitreomacular traction		Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
	Ocriplasmin (Jetrea®)		✓
Peri-Operative Preparations/Emergency Use			
	Amikacin (endophthalmitis)		✓
	Amphotericin B (endophthalmitis)		✓
	Ceftazidime (endophthalmitis)		✓
	Cefuroxime 5% eye drops (severe keratitis) – unlicensed product		✓
	Dexamethasone sodium injection preservative free		✓
	Disodium edetate (EDTA) 0.37% eye drops (corneal burns)		✓
	Fluorescein IV 20%		✓
	Hydroxyamphetamine eye drops (for pupil testing)		✓
	Gentamicin 1.5% eye drops (severe keratitis) – unlicensed product		✓
	Mydrane®		✓
	Mydrasert®		✓
	Natamycin (fungal keratitis) – unlicensed product		✓
	Penicillin 0.3% eye drops (severe keratitis) – unlicensed product		✓
	Potassium ascorbate (ascorbic acid 10%)		✓
	Vancomycin (endophthalmitis)		✓
Comment: - Severe intraocular infection (endophthalmitis) should be managed as per Royal College of Ophthalmologist guidelines and following discussion with the local vitreoretinal unit			

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