

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. Opt. 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 (Opatanol [®]) (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 [®])	⊕	✓

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 (Miochol-E [®])		✓
	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% (Acular [®])	⊕	✓
	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 (Cosopt [®])	⊕	✓
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 [®])	⊕	✓
	Bimatoprost P/F (Lumigan [®])	⊕	✓

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Combination Products			
	Latanoprost + timolol	⊕	✓
	Bimatoprost + timolol (Ganfort [®])	⊕	✓
	Travoprost + timolol (Duo trav [®])	⊕	✓
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 (Eylea [®]) (1 st line)	✓
	Brolucizumab (Beovu [®]) (1 st line)	✓
	Ranibizumab (Lucentis [®]) (2 nd line)	✓

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		

6.3 Optic neuropathy	Primary Care	Acute/ Opt. Specialists
	Idebenone (Raxone [®])	✓

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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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