



1st March 2018

Deprescribing of Lutein and antioxidants for age related macular degeneration

Dear Colleague

As you will be aware NHS England has recently issued commissioning guidance which includes the following recommendations regarding antioxidant supplements for age-related macular degeneration (AMD) (1):

- Prescribers in primary care should not initiate lutein and antioxidants for any new patient.
- CCGs should support prescribers in deprescribing lutein and antioxidants in all patients.

All CCGs within Wessex will be implementing the NHS England guidance, including supporting GPs to deprescribe products in patients currently receiving them on NHS prescription. We would ask for your support in explaining the national position to patients and that GPs will no longer prescribe these products. Local ophthalmologists and optometrists have been informed of the CCGs' positions.

(1) -Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs. NHS England December 2017 <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/items-which-should-not-be-routinely-prescribed-in-pc-ccg-guidance.pdf>

Neil Hardy

Associate Director - Medicines Optimisation NHS West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group |
Omega House
112 Southampton Road | Eastleigh | Hampshire SO50 5PB

Tel: 023 8062 7864

Mobile: 07917576539

Fax: 023 8064 4789

Email: neil.hardy2@nhs.net

Medicines Enquiry Helpline: 023 8062 7898 Medicines Enquiry Email: WHCCG.Medicines-Information-Enquiries@nhs.net

Website: www.westhampshireccg.nhs.uk/medicines

Follow us on twitter: @westhantsccg