

Position statement on the prescribing of Minocycline for acne

Following the NHS England guidance 'Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs (version 2, June 2019) the following changes to prescribing have been agreed across Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge.

**From 17th September 2019
Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge Clinical
Commissioning Groups (BHR CCGs) no longer supports the
prescribing of Minocycline for acne**

Decision

- The decision to stop Minocycline for acne applies to ALL patients across Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge. BHR CCGs have agreed NO exceptions to this recommendation

This decision was made because:

- The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Clinical knowledge Summaries (CKS) advises *Minocycline is not recommended for use in acne as it is associated with an increased risk of adverse effects such as drug induced lupus, skin pigmentation and hepatitis.*
- A PrescQIPP Community Interest Company (CIC) review found there is no evidence to support the use of one tetracycline over another in terms of efficacy for the treatment of acne vulgaris and alternative once daily products are available.
- BHR CCGs have a duty to spend taxpayer's money wisely, to make sure they get the best value possible – especially when NHS funding is being severely squeezed and more patients are being seen with more complex health issues than ever before

Reference:

NHS England and NHS Improvement. Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs. Version 2, June 2019. Publishing approval reference 000608 <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/items-which-should-not-be-routinely-prescribed-in-primary-care-guidance-for-ccgs/>

NICE CKS Acne vulgaris last revised April 2018 <https://cks.nice.org.uk/acne-vulgaris#!prescribinginfosub:10>

PrescQIPP DROP Drugs to review for Optimised Prescribing items: Minocycline (archived) <https://www.prescqipp.info/our-resources/webkits/drop-list/drop-drugs/>