

From: WALKER, Sharymar (NHS LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND ICB - 04C)
<sharymar.walker@nhs.net>

Sent: 05 March 2026 12:12

To: Chief Officer <chiefofficer@leics-lpc.co.uk>

Subject: (Confidential) Early Information on upcoming LLR ICB Medicines Formulary alignment work programs

Hi Rajshri,

Please see comms below:

From: Medicines Optimisation Team Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland (LLR) ICB

To: Leicestershire LPC for dissemination to pharmacy contractors within LLR

We would like to advise you of a number of medicine Formulary alignment work programmes which we anticipate will be implemented across GP practices in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland (LLR) ICB within the next 3 months.

We are sharing this information at this early stage as a courtesy to support community pharmacy contractors in planning ahead, particularly in relation to stock management and to help ensure continuity of care for patients who may be affected by the upcoming changes. This forms part of our due diligence and our commitment to working collaboratively with community pharmacy.

The proposed changes will be aligned with the LLR Formulary and LLR APC guidelines, and are expected to include the following:

Lidocaine patches: The use of lidocaine patches (brand and generics) will be restricted to the licensed indication of post-herpetic neuralgia in line with the LLR formulary. All other indications are classified as "Do Not Prescribe (DNP)" within LLR.

Cetirizine: For patients aged 6 years and over without swallowing difficulties, cetirizine 10mg tablets will be the preferred formulation, rather than cetirizine 1mg/mL sugar-free oral solution (brand and generics). Practices will be encouraged to review patients and switch to the tablet formulation where clinically appropriate.

Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs): Lansoprazole orodispersible and omeprazole dispersible tablets formulations are the first and second-line choices within the LLR formulary. Patients aged over 1 year and weighing ≥ 10 kg who are prescribed omeprazole 20mg/5mL sugar-free oral suspension (brand and generic) will be encouraged to be reviewed and switched to a dispersible formulation, where appropriate.

Providing this early indication aims to help community pharmacy prepare appropriately and to support ensure a smooth transition for patients when the final changes are implemented.

Many thanks,

Shary Walker

Lead Pharmacist Operations and Delivery

Medicines Optimisation Team

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland ICB

✉ Sharymar.Walker@nhs.net

☎ 07770 652 072