

Position statement

Prescribing requests from out-of-area NHS specialists to Lancashire and South Cumbria GPs where there is an inconsistency with the recommended LSCMMG and out-of-area colour classification

Recommendation:

If an out-of-area NHS specialist requests that a Lancashire or South Cumbria GP prescribe an item for which there is no LSCMMG position, the following course of action should be taken:

- a. Secondary care NHS specialists should be directed to apply to the LSCMMG requesting a review of the medicine or device – **to be submitted by the specialist recommending the medicine or device.**
- b. Requests from an NHS tertiary service should be considered individually following a request to the specialist for additional information or evidence (if applicable).

Please note: if prescribing has already commenced this **must** be retained by the specialist, at their own departmental cost, until the outcome of the LSCMMG application is available. Further information on the LSCMMG application process can be obtained by emailing mlcsu.medicinesmanagement@nhs.net

If an out-of-area NHS specialist request GP prescribing and the LSCMMG position is Black:

Not recommended or commissioned in Lancashire and South Cumbria. Therefore, refer the patient back to out-of-area provider trust to recommend an alternative drug. NHS Specialist to consider IFR if genuine exceptionality.

If an out-of-area NHS specialist request GP prescribing and the LSCMMG position is Grey:

- c. Not recommended or commissioned in Lancashire and South Cumbria. Therefore, refer the patient back to out-of-area provider trust to recommend an alternative drug. NHS Specialist to consider IFR if genuine exceptionality.

Please note: If classified as 'Grey – not prioritised' the secondary care NHS specialists should be directed to apply to the LSCMMG requesting a review of the medicine or device – **to be submitted by the specialist recommending the medicine or device.**

If an out-of-area NHS specialist request GP prescribing and the LSCMMG position is Red:

- d. Prescribing responsibility rests with the specialist. Therefore, the patient should be referred back to the provider trust for on-going prescribing.

If an out-of-area NHS specialist request GP prescribing and the LSCMMG position is Amber 1 or 2:

- e. The GP can consider accepting on-going prescribing as per the LSCMMG shared-care agreement. The out-of-area specialist must initiate and stabilise the patient according to the criteria specified in the LSCMMG SCG.

Please note: a shared-care agreement is not required if the LSCMMG RAG rating is 'Green' or 'Amber 0'.

Please note: an 'NHS specialist' is defined as either:

- A specialist practitioner in a specified discipline employed by the NHS directly, OR
- A specialist practitioner in a specified discipline employed by an organisation commissioned by the NHS to provide NHS services and liaise with the patient's GP in their capacity to deliver NHS services.

Please access this guidance via the LSCMMG website to ensure that the correct version is in use.

Version Control

Version Number	Date	Amendments Made	Author
Version 1.0	14 th February 2019	New position statement	PT/AG
Version 1.1	April 2024	Clarification that the specialist should be an NHS specialist. A definition of this has also been added.	AGR

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