

Management of suspected UTI in non-pregnant females (16<65 years)

Frequently Asked Questions

What form do I use when “prescribing” *trimethoprim*?

A CP (US) should be completed for 6 X Trimethoprim Tablets 200mg: One tablet twice daily.

Endorse with **Y 9996** (Public Health Code)

Can I only prescribe for patients registered with a GP in Dumfries & Galloway?

Following a review of initial guidance, it has been agreed that the aim of this service is to provide timely access to treatment for uncomplicated lower urinary infections in adult women from 16 < 65 years. In so doing, this should have a significant impact on the number of referrals to out of hours services and GP Practices in Dumfries & Galloway. Therefore, if a woman who is not resident in Dumfries & Galloway fits the PGD criteria and it is the professional opinion of the pharmacist that she would otherwise require onward referral to NHS Dumfries & Galloway services for treatment, then *trimethoprim* may be supplied. Local supporting documentation should be completed, as with patients resident in the region, and this should be forwarded to the GP practice where possible.

How can I ensure that relevant women are offered this service in my pharmacy?

It is suggested that pharmacy support staff refer patients looking for advice on urinary tract infections to the pharmacist. If a patient is purchasing a self – care product, then the staff member may ask if the person wishes further advice from/referral to the pharmacist, as part of a local service.

This should not increase the number of patients being prescribed *Trimethoprim*, since the pharmacist must ensure that the criteria for supply are met before *trimethoprim* can be prescribed. Where symptoms are mild, then self care guidance should be given and the patient advised that she should seek further advice (including returning to the pharmacy) if symptoms worsen, or do not improve, within 48 hours.

Will GP Practices/Out of Hours’ Services triage patients to pharmacies?

It is anticipated that, over time, patients may be triaged to community pharmacies by some GP Practices. GPs and pharmacists will be encouraged to liaise at a local level to ensure seamless care for patients.

Out of Hours/ NHS 24 services will be provided with details of pharmacies that can provide this service, especially over holiday periods.

It is important that it is understood that a pharmacy can only provide this service where the pharmacist on duty has been trained and has signed the PGD. We would encourage all locum/relief pharmacists working in Dumfries & Galloway to complete training and sign the local PGD.

(Completion and proof of NES training will be the minimum requirement for PGD authorisation).