

# Contents of the East Region Prescribing Bulletin

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- Exenatide safety update ▼ pancreatitis and acute renal failure
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#### Issue No 38 – April/May 2009

- Cefalexin - prescribed too much?
- Safer management of controlled drugs - the Controlled Drug Governance Team
- eLJF-GPASS - an effective tool with an uncertain future
- eLJF-GPASS v2009 upgrade
- Oral salicylate gels for pain relief: do not use in under 16s
- The return of dexamethasone 500microgram tablets
- 'The Bottom Line' No. 5 - Expiry dates - To use or not to use? That is the question...
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 37 – February/March 2009

- Introducing the Lothian Antimicrobial Management Team
- GI chapter review highlights poor prescribing pattern
- LJF recommendations for use of NSAIDS
- ASSIGN for CVD risk
- Rivaroxaban – approved for use in orthopaedic surgery
- Lothian hospitals switch to generic piperacillin/tazobactam
- The unfortunate case of the toddler, the ointment and the ferrets
- Supplement: Lothian Lipid Guideline, 1-page Summary
- Supplement: Prescribing Budget Setting Group Report 2009-10
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 36 – December 2008/January 2009

- Santa Claus is coming to town...
- Does your patient really need hydrocortisone 2.5% topical
- Paracetamol remains safe choice in children
- Focus on hydrocolloid dressings – Lothian could do better
- Mesalazine – prescribe by brand name
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 35 – October/November 2008

- Tacrolimus capsules – prescribe by brand
- Rimonabant – licence suspended
- Editorial Team – opportunity knocks
- Domiciliary oxygen equipment
- eLJF-GPASS v2008.1 upgrade
- Gonadorelin analogues and prostate cancer
- Reduced co-proxamol prescribing saves lives
- 'The Bottom Line' No.4 – Which tetracycline for acne?
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 34 – August/September 2008

- Wound management products – remember the formulary
- Managing adults with acute Psychosis
- Contraceptives – important new changes
- 'The Bottom Line' No. 3 - Glucosamine for Osteoarthritis
- Safer prescribing and dispensing of Methadone
- Do quality incentives change prescribing patterns?
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

### Issue No 33 – June/July 2008

- Unused medicines – what a waste
- ‘The Bottom Line’ No. 2 - antibiotic prophylaxis against infective endocarditis
- EpiPen® - recommended by Lothian paediatricians
- Accidental ingestion of clove oil can be dangerous
- Did you know? Phenytoin 100mg tablets cost much more than capsules
- Guidance issued on cervical cancer vaccine
- The treatment of acne rosacea
- Private prescriptions - who is watching you?
- Midazolam - now Schedule 3 Controlled Drug
- BNF moves with the times - new electronic newsletter
- LJF ring binders - destroy

### Issue No 32 - April/May 2008

- Eptadone® - not recommended in Lothian
- ‘The Bottom Line’ No. 1 - early treatment in Bell’s palsy
- General practice prescribing indicators 2008/09
- Diabetes - are you in the right *glitazone*
- The change of LJF-extensive update to HRT section
- Stop Press: eLJF-GPASS v2008 upgrade; Combivent® MDI discontinued; Naproxen OTC for period pain
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

### Issue No 31 - February/March 2008

- CFC-free Clenil Modulite® - inhaled steroid of choice
- Symbicort® SMART® - is it clever?
- Revised Lothian Lipid Guideline - February 2008
- MHRA reviews safety of fibrates
- Ezetimibe - what is its place in therapy?
- Varenicline - take care when prescribing
- DTB now available online
- No licence for prescribing co-proxamol
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

### Issue No 30 - December 2007/January 2008

- Lothian in Cumbria
- The safe use of methotrexate
- Read what you see, not what you think you see
- Palliative care medicines for community pharmacies
- eLJF-GPASS v2007.11 upgrade
- Exubera® inhaled insulin expires
- Did you know?...
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

### Issue No 29 - October/November 2007

- Show them the yellow card
- Withdrawal of co-proxamol - switch to alternative now
- Drugs used in substance dependence
- Treatment of hyperprolactinaemia
- CPD... look and learn
- Clopidogrel guideline
- Immunisation update
- Prescribing Indicator graphs - have you seen them?
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 28 - August/September 2007

- Safe use of inhaled steroids in children
- Supplementary and independent pharmacist prescribing
- What's new in the Lothian Joint Formulary
- Dovonex<sup>®</sup> ointment discontinued
- Oral fluconazole not to be used for mastalgia
- Vaccines for cervical cancer
- New restrictions on piroxicam
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 27 - June/July 2007

- We're all going on a summer holiday...
- Take heart - changes to LJF cardiovascular section
- LJF updated guidance - oral nutritional supplements
- Correction
- Smoking cessation in Lothian - prescribing guidance and outcomes
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 26 - April/May 2007

- Continuing to promote quality and cost effective prescribing
- CFC-free beclometasone dipropionate pMDIs
- Guidance on oral magnesium supplementation
- LJF updates
- eLJF-GPASS v2007 upgrade
- Drugs Not Recommended by the Scottish Medicines Consortium
- Nurse prescribing in Lothian
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 25 - February/March 2007

- Ever been asked to prescribe anything unfamiliar?
- Prescribing costs - facts and figures
- Launch of LJF section on Wound Dressings and Bandages
- PGDs online
- Formulary Pharmacist
- RHSC demonstrate good adherence to the LJF-C
- Venlafaxine - a tale of caution
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 24 - December 2006/January 2007

- Safety update on NSAIDs
- You told us what you think of the LPB
- Medication errors involving morphine and oxycodone
- Updated guidelines for managing hypertension
- Festive quiz 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 23 - October/November 2006

- Proton pump inhibitors for heartburn and dyspepsia
- LJF update - Management of skin conditions
- Comment on glitazones
- Items not permitted on prescription - are you confused?
- Medication Review - Quality and Outcomes Framework
- Medicines for the doctor's bag
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations



#### Issue No 22 - August/September 2006

- The Lothian Minor Ailments Formulary
- Wound Management - new LJF section
- Controls on the promotion of prescription medicines
- eLJF-GPASS v2006.1 upgrade
- Migraine and cluster headache - OUCH!
- Pregabalin (Lyrica®)
- Statin' the facts
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 21 - June/July 2006

- Changes in the management of Controlled Drugs
- Prescribing Indicators for Primary Care 2006/07
- Wound dressings PI
- Using eGFR - is the information filtering through?
- LJF for Adults - treatment of infections
- eLJF-GPASS v2006 upgrade
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 20 - April/May 2006

- Blood Glucose Monitoring - Advice from the LJF
- Treatment of adults with diabetes
- Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors
- Prostate cancer and gonadorelin analogues
- Learn more about the Lothian Joint Formulary
- Insulin administration error
- Doctors should not treat themselves or their families
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 19 - February/March 2006

- ASCOT-BPLA and the Lothian Hypertension Guidelines
- There may be hazards ahead: fentanyl patch formulations
- Update on availability of thioridazine
- Paediatric Asthma and Croup - an update
- Reintroduction of the Volumatic® spacer device
- Discontinuation of Bricanyl® (terbutaline) MDI
- Treatment of prolonged seizures and status epilepticus
- LUHD Antibiotic Prescribing Guideline in Adults
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 18 - December 2005/January 2006

- Controlled Drugs
- Osteoporosis Update
- Antivirals / Winter 'Flu
- Mistletoe just for Kiss-mas?
- eLJF-GPASS v2005.1
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 17 - October/November 2005

- A CVD Risk Calculator for your computer
- Prescribing and medication issues in palliative care
- Nurse Prescribing - a Lothian update
- Lothian Hypertension Guidelines
- Flomax® MR capsules discontinued
- When it comes to doxazosin - let's keep it plain
- Angiotensin-II receptor antagonists - LJF recommendations

- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### **Issue No 16 - August/September 2005**

- Lothian Depot Antipsychotic Guidelines
- Generic lamotrigine
- Withdrawal of Gaviscon® tablets and liquid (500mL)
- Novo Nordisk insulins update
- NSAIDs, COX-2s and cardiovascular safety
- Pneumococcal Immunisation Programme 2005/06
- eLJF-GPASS Training Sessions
- Volumatic® spacer discontinued
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Joint Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### **Issue No 15 - June/July 2005**

- Oral Methotrexate
- Prescribing Indicators for Primary Care 2005/06
- LJF Changes to Eye Section
- Formulary Application Forms (FAFs)
- Revised Lipid and Hypertension Guidelines
- Contra-indicated: Glitazones in Combination with Insulin
- Lothian Palliative Care Guidelines - Clarification on Compatibility Information
- eLJF-GPASS v2005
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Joint Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### **Issue No 14 - April/May 2005**

- Assessing Cardiovascular Disease Risk: New Treatment Thresholds for Primary Prevention
- Prescribing Unlicensed Medicines - Reducing the Risk
- Withdrawal of thioridazine (Melleril®)
- Launch of the LJF for Children
- Stop Press... Further update on COX-2 inhibitor, valdecoxib (Bextra®)
- Warfarin Guidelines Launch
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### **Issue No 13 - February/March 2005**

- Venlafaxine: Recent Advice from the CSM
- COX-2 Inhibitors ('the coxibs') - the story so far...
- Mesalazine - no generics please
- Notice to withdraw co-proxamol
- Fruit juice and drug interactions
- Guidance for the use of clopidogrel in Lothian
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### **Issue No 12 - December 2004/January 2005**

- The persisting hazard of co-proxamol
- Changes to peak flow meter scales
- Direct Access Ambulatory BP Monitoring in Lothian
- Infertility Treatment in Lothian
- Venous Thromboembolism - New Guidance
- Doxazosin - the plain facts
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### **Issue No 11 - October/November 2004**

- LJF update - which anticholinergic bronchodilators for COPD?
- LJF website - new search facility
- Pharmaceutical Industry Representatives
- LUHD Adult Emergencies Handbook - 3rd Edition

- Withdrawal of rofecoxib (Vioxx®, Vioxx® Acute)
- What's new in osteoporosis?
- **eLJF**-GPASS v2004.1
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 10 - August/September 2004

- OTC statin: mixed messages for patients and the NHS
- Z drugs
- Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunisation Programme 2004-05
- Prescribing Injections - Managing the Risk
- Use of NHS Prescriptions
- Learn More About Using **eLJF**-GPASS
- Correction
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 9 - June/July 2004

- Improving the life of the patient or the patent?
- "Economy Class Syndrome" - what advice do we give?
- Be alert - BAN to rINN
- LJF News
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 8 - April/May 2004

- Risperidone and olanzapine - CSM advises do not use for behavioural symptoms of dementia
- Update on prescribing indicators for primary care
- PPI News
- Reminder - do not prescribe these disallowed items
- Diethylstilboestrol - supply problem resolved
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 7 - February/March 2004

- New arrangements in Lothian for the treatment of patients with dementia
- Domiciliary Oxygen Therapy Services (DOTS)
- Feedback to GPs on Lothian Joint Formulary adherence
- Something for nothing?
- Eureka for EUROPA?
- Winner of the new year competition announced
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 6 - December 2003/January 2004

- Antiviral drugs for prophylaxis and treatment of influenza
- New Year resolution - no more drinking
- New Year resolution - no more smoking
- Lothian Prescribing Bulletin Competition
- Bicalutamide 150mg (Casodex®)
- Emergency hormonal contraception - new dose instructions
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 5 - October/November 2003

- Survey Results ... and New COX -2 Guidelines
- Pharmacovigilance in Scotland in the 21st Century
- BAN to rINN - Change of Drug Names
- Resuscitation Boxes - Standardised Across Lothian
- Venlafaxine (Efexor®) in Patients Under 18 Years
- Pneumococcal Vaccine Revisited - Re-immunisation Not Recommended
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 4 - August/September 2003

- A Joint Campaign - Pneumococcal and Flu Immunisation
- The Multiple Sclerosis Risk Sharing Scheme
- HRT - the Million Women Study
- New Drug Treatments for Erectile Dysfunction
- Launch of LUHT 'Policies and Procedures for Medicines'
- Learn More About the Lothian Joint Formulary
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 3 - June/July 2003

- Does Ibuprofen Reduce the Cardioprotective Effects of Aspirin?
- Withdrawal of Benztropine Tablets (Cogentin®)
- A Piece of Cake? ... Funding for Drugs in Lothian
- Prescribing Indicators ... The Icing on the Cake!
- Compounding the Problem with Analgesics
- Paroxetine (Seroxat®) in Patients Under 18 Years
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 2 - April/May 2003

- The ALLHAT Trial
- Patients are Advised to Take Their Own Medicines into Hospital
- New Guidance on the Use of Intravenous Potassium
- Generic Update - Significant Savings for Lothian
- Orlistat (Zenical®) and Sibutramine (Reductil®)
- Supplement: SMC and Lothian Formulary Committee Recommendations

#### Issue No 1 - February/March 2003

- Introducing the Lothian Prescribing Bulletin
- The Scottish Medicines Consortium and new drugs
- PROGRESS in the treatment of stroke
- Withdrawal of nefazodone (Dutonin®)