**THE LORDSHIP LANE SURGERY: High risk drugs monitoring**

Last review 04 FEB 2020

Next review 04 FEB 2022

Patients who are on medication for conditions which require regular biological testing will only be issued medication if they are up to date with their testing.

Review dates will be set 4 weeks prior to the date of the next test to ensure that a clinician reviews the prescription prior to the due date for a blood test. E.g. the review date for a methotrexate prescription will be between 0 and 8 weeks while that for an ACE inhibitor will be 11 months after the date of the last test.

Patients will be given a maximum of one month beyond the required test date to attend for testing before we may refuse to prescribe the drug.

The doctors issuing the medication will ensure that appropriate monitoring has been performed and if required will:

1. Check the local hospital system to see if the required blood tests have been performed via the “patient report list” link and down load the blood tests into our EMIS system if they have. If checked from another hospital system, manually enter the data with the correct test date on our system.
2. If there are no recent blood tests results they will attempt to contact the patient by phone immediately and arrange testing.
3. If the patient cannot be contacted by phone they will generate a task to send a reminder letter to the patient.
4. If this is the second month that the patient has not been monitored they will decline to issue the medication at this point.

We will also proactively manage the lists of patients requiring monitoring through the EMIS libraries searches using the code “66P” high risk drug monitoring and by running the EMIS search – ‘Drug monitoring folder’ from Emis population reporting and go through each high risk drugs and highlight patients that are due for blood monitoring.

This search will be run on a monthly basis by Pharmacist or GP. The patients highlighted as needing blood tests will be contacted by phone or text message initially and then by letter requesting that they make an appointment for their blood test. This will be done by the HCA’s or in their absence another designated member of the practice team.

The HCA’S will print off the relevant blood forms in accordance with the following schedule:

**Anticonvulsants**

Phenytoin 6 monthly fbc

Carbamazepine annual fbc/lft/egfr

Lamotrigine annual fbc/lfts/egfr

Valporate annual fbc, 6 monthly lfts

**Cardiovascular**

Amiodarone 6 monthly tsh/lfts/ues and annual ecg

Digoxin annual tsh/renal function

Ace/acr annual egfr

Statins annual LFTs

**Endocrine**

Calcitriol 6 monthly Ca/egfr

Carbimazole/ptu 6 monthly free T4

**Psychiatry**

Benperidol 6 monthly fbc/lfts

Clozapine 12 monthly, monthly fbc, 6 monthly weight

Olanzapine 12 monthly cholesterol and 6 monthly weight

Risperidone 12 monthly cholesterol and 6 monthly weight

Lithium 6 monthly tft, egfr, lithium level

**Renal**

Alphacalcidol – monthly calcium, egfr

Nitrofurantoin - 6 monthly LFT

**Immunosuppressives**

Methotrexate 2 monthly fbc/lfts/egfr

Sulphasalzine 6 monthly fbc/lft

Gold monthly FBC/ dipstick for protein monthly

Ciclopsorin monthly BP/egfr: 3 monthly FBC/lfts, annual cholesterol,

Penicillamine monthly fbc/urine dipstick for egfr

Leflunomide 2 monthly fbc/lfts/bp/weight

Mycophenolate monthly fbc

Azathioprine – monthly fbc/lfts, 6 monthly egfr

Example Patient Letter:

Date as post mark

Dear

According to our records you are taking a medication called . This requires regular monitoring to ensure that it is not harming you. We have tried unsuccessfully to contact you by telephone. Please make an appointment for a blood test with one of the Health Care Assistants or nurses.

Unfortunately we will not be able to prescribe any more of this medication if you are a month or more overdue for your required blood tests, as we need to make sure it is safe for us to prescribe for you.

Kind regards

THE LORDSHIP LANE SURGERY