Berkshire West Integrated Care System
Representing
Berkshire West Clinical Commisioning Group
Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust
Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Berkshire West Primary Care Alliance

Prescribing Guidelines

Prescribing arrangement for the management of patients transferring from ***Secondary Care to Primary Care***

Primary care prescribing arrangements for midodrine (Bramox®) for use in orthostatic hypotension and Postural Tachycardia Syndrome (PoTS)

APC PG 017

For the latest information on interactions and adverse effects, always consult the latest version of the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC), which can be found at: http://www.medicines.org.uk/

Approval and Authorisation

Approved by	Job Title	Date
BW Area Prescribing Committee	A Penn, APC Chair	July 2016
RBH Drugs and Therapeutics Committee	S Hussain, DTC Chair	September 2016

Change History

Version	Date	Author	Reason
v.1.0	June 2016	A Scott	Change to licensed indication

Author	A Scott	Date of production:	July 2016
Job Title	Lead Interface Pharmacist	Review Date	August 2020
Protocol Lead	Anthony Chow, RBH	Version	v.1.0

Introduction

Midodrine is now a licenced for the treatment of severe orthostatic hypotension due to autonomic dysfunction. Midodrine is also used 'off label' for the treatment of PoTS. In affected individuals, PoTS occurs when the heart rate increases due to the effect of the autonomic system correcting for the effect of excessive blood pooling on standing. Midodrine acts to reduce the symptomatic experience of PoTS through reducing the excessive pooling and so the heart rate.

Dose

2.5mg to 10mg three times daily.

Cautions or precautions

- Patients who experience dizziness or light-headedness should refrain from driving or operating machinery.
- Last daily dose should be taken at least 4 hours before bedtime to prevent supine hypertension.
- May reduce heart rate, so caution if cardiac glycosides or other agents that reduce heart rate are used.

Contraindications

- Not indicated if acute renal impairment or severe renal impairment.

Side effects

Very Common

Piloerection (goosebumps), pruritis of scalp, dysuria;

Common

Paraesthesia, paraesthesia of the scalp, headache, supine hypertension (dose dependent), nausea, dyspepsia, stomatitis, pruritis, chills, flushing, rash, urinary retention.

See Summary of Product Characteristics for rare and uncommon side effects, and side effects where frequency unknown.

Please report any suspected adverse reactions to the MHRA www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard
At the beginning of treatment the patient should be advised to report any signs of bone marrow suppression (i.e. infection, fever, unexplained bruising or bleeding) to the IBD nurse. This should then be reported to the Consultant and GP.

Criteria for Use

RESPONSIBILITIES and ROLES

Specialist responsibilities	
1	Initiate treatment and prescribe until the GP formally agrees to share care (usually when the patient is stable on treatment).
2	Carry out baseline and subsequent monitoring until the GP agrees to share care
3	Send a letter to the GP requesting shared care for the patient.
4	Routine clinic follow-up on a regular basis.
5	Send a letter to the GP after each clinic attendance ensuring current dose, most recent blood results and frequency of monitoring are stated.
6	Evaluation of any reported adverse effects by GP or patient.
7	Advise GP on review, duration or discontinuation of treatment where necessary.
8	Inform GP of patients who do not attend clinic appointments.
9	Ensure that backup advice is available at all times

General Practitioner responsibilities	
1	Monitor patient's overall health and wellbeing.
2	Prescribe the drug treatment as described
3	Monitor blood pressure every 6 months both supine and sitting or standing.
4	Signs and symptoms of supine hypertension (e.g. chest pain, palpitations, shortness of breath, headache and blurred vision). Remind patients to report these immediately.
5	Report any signs and symptoms of bradycardia.
6	Report any adverse events to the hospital specialist, where appropriate

Patient's / Carer's role	
1	Ask the specialist or GP for information, if he or she does not have a clear understanding of the treatment.
2	Tell the specialist or GP of any other medication being taken, including over-the-counter products.
3	Read the patient information leaflet included with your medication and report any side effects or concerns you have to the specialist or GP

BACK-UP ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Cardiology	01183226676
Medicines Information	0118 322 7803

Document adapted from UCLH