In Scotland, a newly licensed medicine is routinely available in a health board only after it has been:

- accepted for use in NHS Scotland by the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC), and
- accepted for use by the health board's Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC).

All medicines accepted by SMC are available in Scotland, but may not be considered 'routinely available' within a particular health board because of available services and preferences for alternative medicines.

'Routinely available' means that a medicine can be prescribed by the appropriately qualified person within a health board.

Each health board has an ADTC. The ADTC, Grampian Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee, is responsible for advising NHS Grampian health board on all aspects of the use of medicines.

Medicines routinely available within NHS Grampian are usually included in the Grampian Joint Formulary. The formulary is a list of medicines for use in the health board that has been agreed by the ADTC in consultation with local clinical experts. It offers a choice of medicines for healthcare professionals to prescribe for common medical conditions. A formulary can help improve safety as prescribers are likely to become more familiar with the medicines in it and also helps make sure that standards of care are consistent across the health board.

How does the health board decide which new medicines to make routinely available for patients?

The ADTC in a health board will consider national and local guidance before deciding whether to make a new medicine routinely available.

What national guidance does the ADTC consider?

- SMC advice: The SMC considers newly licensed medicines and advises health boards in Scotland whether they should be available. When SMC considers a new medicine for the NHS in Scotland, it looks at:
  - how well the medicine works,
  - which patients might benefit from it,
  - whether it is as good or better than medicines the NHS already uses to treat the medical condition, and
  - whether it is good value for money.
- In the table below, national guidance usually refers to SMC advice. Links to SMC advice for individual medicines are also included in the table.
- In some cases, other agencies may also provide guidance on how medicines should be used. For example, Healthcare Improvement Scotland issues alerts to advise if National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Multiple Technology Appraisals (NICE MTAs) are applicable in Scotland.

What local guidance does the ADTC consider?

- Advice from local clinical experts who would be expected to prescribe a particular medicine, where that service is available in a health board.

Why is a particular medicine not routinely available in NHS Grampian?

- This is usually because the medicine is not recommended for use in NHS Scotland by the SMC.
- The medicine may not be routinely available in a health board, particularly in smaller health boards, because there is not a suitable specialist who may use the medicine.
- There may also be differences in which medicines are preferred in health boards. Sometimes SMC accepts more than one medicine for treating a specific medical condition. Clinical experts in each health board consider whether to add new medicines to their formulary and advise the ADTC. Sometimes it is agreed that established medicines are a better choice than new medicines.

What happens if a particular medicine is not routinely available in NHS Grampian?

- If a medicine is not routinely available and included in the Grampian Joint Formulary and there are no suitable alternatives on the formulary, a healthcare professional can request to prescribe a medicine that is not on the formulary if they think you will benefit from using it. All health boards have procedures in place to consider requests when a healthcare professional feels a medicine that is not on the formulary would be right for a particular patient.

The table below lists NHS Grampian's latest decisions on medicines.

If you need more information on medicines decisions in NHS Grampian, please email grampian.formularyteam@nhs.net.

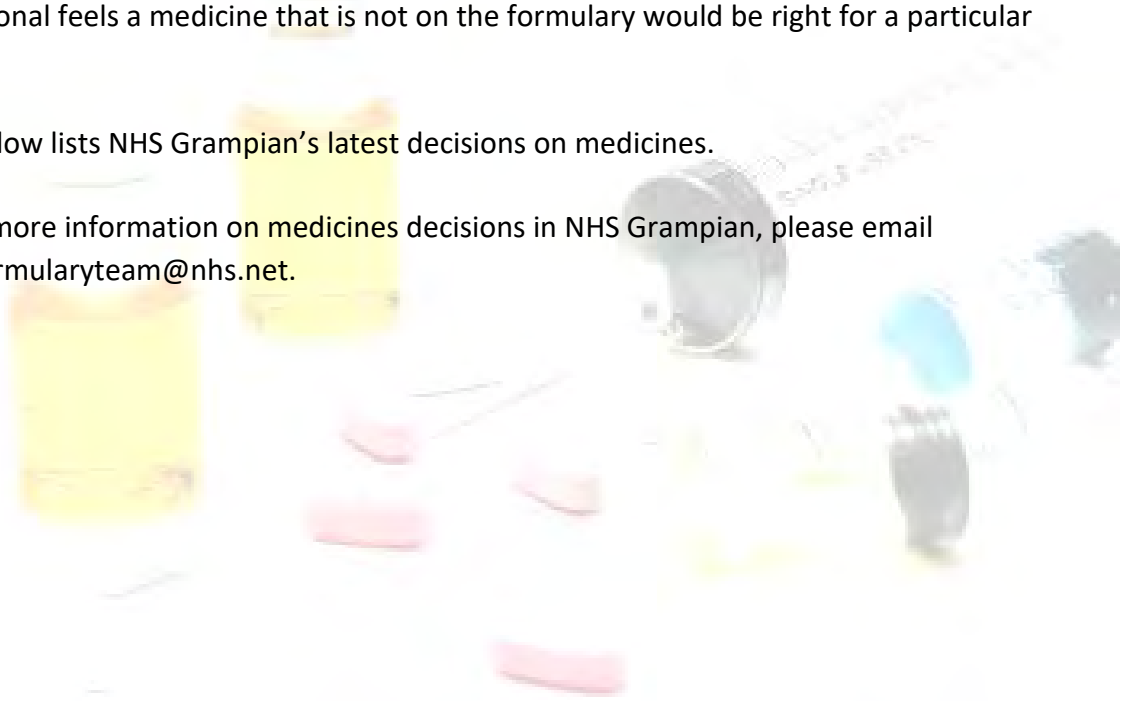

Image courtesy of Baitong333 - image ID: 100128772/ FreeDigitalPhotos.net

This document is also available in large print and other formats and languages, upon request. Please call NHS Grampian Corporate Communications on (01224) 551116 or (01224) 552245.

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
atezolizumab 1,200mg concentrate for solution for infusion (Tecentriq®)	2254	In combination with nab-paclitaxel and carboplatin for the first-line treatment of adult patients with metastatic non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) who do not have EGFR mutant or ALK-positive NSCLC.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2254 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/4945/atezolizumab-tecentriq-non-sub-final-november-2019-for-website.pdf	17/12/2019
collagenase clostridium histolyticum 0.9mg powder and solvent for solution for injection (Xiapex®)		For the treatment of:. 1) Dupuytren's contracture in adult patients with a palpable cord. 2) adult men with Peyronie's disease with a palpable plaque and curvature deformity of at least 30 degrees at the start of therapy	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	17/12/2019
lanadelumab 300mg solution for injection (Takhzyro®)	2206	For the routine prevention of recurrent attacks of hereditary angioedema (HAE) in patients aged 12 years and older. **SMC restriction:** patients with HAE type I or II, who would otherwise be considered for long-term prophylaxis treatment with C1-esterase inhibitor.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/12/2019
lusutrombopag 3mg film-coated tablets (Mulpleo®)	2227	For the treatment of severe thrombocytopenia in adult patients with chronic liver disease undergoing invasive procedures.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/12/2019
olaparib 100mg, 150mg film-coated tablets (Lynparza®)	2209	As monotherapy for the maintenance treatment of adult patients with advanced (FIGO stages III and IV) BRCA1/2-mutated (germline and/or somatic) high-grade epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer who are in response (complete or partial) following completion of first-line platinum-based chemotherapy.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/12/2019

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
prasterone 6.5mg pessary (Intrarosa®)	2255	For the treatment of vulvar and vaginal atrophy in postmenopausal women having moderate to severe symptoms.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2255 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/4941/prasterone-intrarosa-non-sub-final-november-2019-for-website.pdf	17/12/2019
ruxolitinib phosphate 5mg, 10mg, 15mg, 20mg tablets (Jakavi®)	2213	The treatment of adult patients with polycythaemia vera who are resistant to or intolerant of hydroxyurea (hydroxycarbamide).	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	17/12/2019
Terrosa® 20micrograms/80microliters solution for injection (teriparatide)		As licensed in adults. **Restriction:** in line with SMC and Healthcare Improvement Scotland advice for the reference teriparatide product [Forsteo®].	Routinely available in line with local guidance	17/12/2019
trabectedin 0.25mg, 1mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion (Yondelis®)	2210	For the treatment of adult patients with advanced soft tissue sarcoma, after failure of anthracyclines and ifosfamide, or who are unsuited to receive these agents. Efficacy data are based mainly on liposarcoma and leiomyosarcoma patients.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2210 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/4943/trabectedin-yondelis-final-november-2019-amended-251119-for-website.pdf	17/12/2019

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
zanamivir 10mg/mL solution for infusion (Dectova®)	2204	For the treatment of complicated and potentially life-threatening influenza A or B virus infection in adult and paediatric patients (aged ≥ 6 months) when: - the patient's influenza virus is known or suspected to be resistant to anti-influenza medicinal products other than zanamivir, and/or - other anti-viral medicinal products for treatment of influenza, including inhaled zanamivir, are not suitable for the individual patient.	Routinely available in line with national guidance, SMC 2204 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/4944/zanamivir-dectova-abbreviated-final-august-2019-for-website.pdf	17/12/2019
Zerbaxa® 1g/0.5g powder for concentrate for solution for infusion (ceftolozane/tazobactam)	2256	In adults for the treatment of hospital acquired pneumonia, including ventilator-associated pneumonia.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2256 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/4946/ceftolozane-tazobactam-zerbaxa-non-sub-final-november-2019-for-website.pdf	17/12/2019