NewTherapiesSubgroup

GMMMG Greater Manchester Medicines Management Group

NHS

26th July 2011

Deferasirox (Exjade®) dispersible tablets

The New Therapies Subgroup discussed the above drug at a meeting on the 16th October 2007 and 26th July 2011. The recommendation of this subgroup is as follows:*

The New Therapies Subgroup of the GMMMG considered the therapeutic use of deferasirox (Exjade®) within its licensed indication for the treatment of chronic iron overload due to blood transfusions.

The group recommends that deferasirox is used to treat chronic iron overload in accordance with its licensed indications:

- **First-line in patients with beta thalassaemia major aged ≥ 6 years due to frequent blood transfusions.**
- **Second-line in patients aged ≥ 2 years when desferrioxamine is not tolerated, contraindicated, or inadequate.**

Deferasirox should only be initiated, prescribed and monitored by a physician experienced in the treatment of chronic iron overload.

Responsibility for prescribing can be transferred to primary care if the dose has been stabilised and it is more convenient for the patient as outlined in the shared care guideline issued by the Interface Prescribing Group (IPG). However responsibility for monitoring of the drug and condition will remain with the initiating physician.

Review date: July 2013

* Unless superseded by NICE guidance or substantial and significant new evidence becomes available.
▼ Newly marketed drugs and vaccines are intensively monitored for a minimum of two years, in order to confirm the risk / benefit profile of the product. Healthcare professionals are encouraged to report all suspected adverse drug reactions.