







## Chapter 1. Gastro-intestinal System

### Contents

- [1.1 Dyspepsia and gastro-oesophageal reflux](#)
- [1.2 Antispasmodics and other drugs altering gut motility](#)
- [1.3 Antisecretory drugs and mucosal protectants](#)
- [1.4 Acute diarrhoea](#)
- [1.5 Chronic bowel disorders](#)
- [1.6 Laxatives](#)
- [1.7 Local preparations for anal and rectal disorders](#)
- [1.8 Stoma care](#)
- [1.9 Drugs affecting intestinal secretions](#)

### Key

	<p><b>Red drug</b> see <a href="#">GMMMG RAG list</a></p> <p><i>Click on the symbols to access this list</i></p>
	<p><b>Amber drug</b> see <a href="#">GMMMG RAG list</a></p> <p><i>Click on the symbols to access this list</i></p>
	<p><b>Green drug</b> see <a href="#">GMMMG RAG list</a></p> <p><i>Click on the symbols to access this list</i></p>
	<p><b>If a medicine is unlicensed this should be highlighted in the template as follows</b></p> <p><b>Drug name U</b></p>
	<p><b>Not Recommended</b></p>
	<p><b>Over the Counter</b></p> <p>In line with NHS England guidance, GM do not routinely support prescribing for conditions which are self-limiting or amenable to self-care. For further details see <a href="#">GM commissioning statement</a>.</p>
<b>Order of Drug Choice</b>	<p>Where there is no preferred 1<sup>st</sup> line agent provided, the drug choice appears in alphabetical order.</p>

<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Gastro-intestinal system</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>Dyspepsia and gastro-oesophageal reflux disease</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.1.1</b>	<b>Antacids and simeticone</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Co-magaldrox</b> Suspension SF 195/220 (low sodium, bowel neutral)		
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.1.2</b>	<b>Compound alginates and proprietary indigestion preparation</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Peptac®</b> or <b>Acidex®</b> Suspension SF (Contains 6.2 mmol, 6.0 mmol of sodium in 10ml respectively)		
<b>Alternative</b>	<b>Gaviscon® Advance</b> Liquid (Contains 4.6 mmol of sodium in 10 ml, plus 2 mmol of potassium)		Lower sodium content, but more expensive



**Additional notes**

Alginate-containing products have low acid suppressant activity and should be reserved for patients with reflux symptoms.


<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<b>Indigestion and heartburn</b> See <a href="#">commissioning statement</a> for exceptions	In line with NHS England guidance, GM do not routinely support prescribing for conditions which are self-limiting or amenable to self-care. For further details see <a href="#">GM commissioning statement</a> .
	<b>Lactase drops</b> e.g. Colief®	<a href="#">Criterion 1</a> (see RAG list)
	<b>Infant colic</b>	In line with NHS England guidance, GM do not routinely support prescribing for conditions which are self-limiting or amenable to self-care. For further details see <a href="#">GM commissioning statement</a>





<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Gastro-intestinal system</b>
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>Antispasmodics and other drugs altering gut motility</b>
<b>Antispasmodics</b>		
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Mebeverine</b> Tablets 135 mg	<a href="#">NICE CG61: IBS in adults</a>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Hyoscine butylbromide</b> Tablets 10 mg	
	<b>Peppermint oil</b> Capsules	Mintec® best value option
	<b>Alverine citrate</b> Capsules 60 mg, 120 mg	
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<b>Dicycloverine</b> Tablets, oral solution	<a href="#">Criterion 2 (see RAG list)</a>
<b>Motility stimulants (see section 4.6)</b>		
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Metoclopramide</b> Tablets 10 mg	<a href="#">MHRA DSU (2013): Metoclopramide</a>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Domperidone</b> Tablets 10 mg	<a href="#">MHRA DSU (2014): Domperidone</a>
<b>Additional Notes</b>		
For abdominal cramps, antispasmodics are of limited clinical benefit but are occasionally used. The drug with the lowest acquisition cost should be used.		
<b>Antimuscarinics</b>		
See GMMMG guidance: <a href="#">Management of Hypersalivation and Sialorrhoea in Adult Patients</a>		
Where there is no preference for a first line antimuscarinic on clinical grounds, hyoscine is the least expensive and should be chosen first.		
	<b>Hyoscine hydrobromide U</b> Tablets 150 micrograms (Joy-rides®) Tablets 300 micrograms (Kwells®)	<b>Gn</b> Following specialist initiation
	<b>Hyoscine U</b> Patch 1.5mg (Scopoderm®)	<b>Gn</b> Following specialist initiation <a href="#">MHRA DSU: Hyoscine hydrobromide patches (Scopoderm 1.5mg Patch or Scopoderm TTS Patch): risk of anticholinergic side effects, including hyperthermia (May 2023)</a>

<p><b>Atropine U</b> Eye drops 1% (administered orally)</p>	<p><b>Gn</b> Following specialist advice</p>
<p><b>Glycopyrronium bromide</b> Oral solution Choose the product with the lowest acquisition cost and taking into account shelf-life of the product where appropriate. Maintain patients on the same product due to differences in bioavailability between products and the potential for error. Care should be taken if switching between oral solutions and dosing adjusted accordingly</p>	<p><b>Gn</b> Following specialist initiation</p>

<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Gastro-intestinal system</b>
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>Antisecretory drugs and mucosal protectants</b>
<b>Helicobacter pylori eradication regimes</b>		
<b>First choice regimes</b>		
<p><b>Lansoprazole</b> 30 mg twice daily <b>or omeprazole</b> 20 mg twice daily + <b>amoxicillin</b> 1 g twice daily + <b>clarithromycin</b> 500 mg twice daily (7 day course)</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>Lansoprazole</b> 30 mg twice daily <b>or omeprazole</b> 20 mg twice daily + <b>amoxicillin</b> 1 g twice daily + <b>metronidazole</b> 400 mg twice daily (7 day course)</p> <p>Choose the treatment regimen with the lowest acquisition cost, and take into account previous exposure to clarithromycin or metronidazole.</p>		
<b>First choice regime for those patients with penicillin allergy</b>		
<p><b>Lansoprazole</b> 30 mg twice daily <b>or omeprazole</b> 20 mg twice daily + <b>clarithromycin</b> 500 mg twice daily + <b>metronidazole</b> 400 mg twice daily (7 day course)</p> <p>If the patient is allergic to penicillin and has had previous exposure to clarithromycin offer a seven day twice daily course of:</p> <p>PPI + bismuth + metronidazole 400 mg + tetracycline 500 mg</p>		
<b>Alternative choice regimes (for those who still have symptoms after first-line eradication treatment)</b>		
<p>As per first choice regime above, using the alternative antibacterial option to the one used first-line.</p> <p>If the patient has previously been exposed to clarithromycin or metronidazole use amoxicillin 1 g BD + a quinolone BD or tetracycline 500 mg BD (7 day course). Use the option with the lowest acquisition cost</p> <p>If the patient has a penicillin allergy and no previous quinolone exposure use PPI + metronidazole 400 mg BD + levofloxacin 250 mg BD (7 day course)</p> <p>If eradication is unsuccessful following second-line treatment seek advice form a gastroenterologist.</p>		
<p><a href="#"><b>NICE CG184: Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease and dyspepsia in adults: investigation and management</b></a></p> <p><a href="#"><b>NICE NG201: Antenatal care</b></a></p>		
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.3.1</b>	<b>H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists</b>
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Famotidine</b> Tablets 20mg, 40mg	
<b>Subsections</b>	<b>1.3.2. Selective antimuscarinics – not recommended for use</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.3.3. Chelates and complexes</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Sucralfate</b> Oral suspension 1 g/5 mL	 Following specialist initiation

<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.3.4. Prostaglandin analogues – not recommended for use</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.3.5 Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs)</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<p><b>Lansoprazole</b> Capsules 15 mg, 30 mg</p>	<p><a href="#">MHRA DSU (2015): PPIs and SCLE</a> <a href="#">MHRA DSU (2014): PPIs and hypomagnesaemia</a></p>
	<p><b>Omeprazole</b> Capsules 10 mg, 20 mg</p>	<p><a href="#">MHRA DSU (2014): Clopidogrel and PPIs interaction</a></p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p><b>Lansoprazole</b> Dispersible tablets 15 mg, 30 mg Substantially cheaper than dispersible omeprazole</p> <p><b>Omeprazole</b> Dispersible tablets 10 mg, 20 mg, 40 mg</p>	<p><b>Dysphagic patients only</b></p>
<p><a href="#">NICE CG141: Acute upper gastrointestinal bleeding in over 16s: management</a></p>		

<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1 Gastro-intestinal system</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.4 Acute diarrhoea</b>	
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<b>Diarrhoea (adults)</b> See <a href="#">commissioning statement</a> for exceptions	In line with NHS England guidance, GM do not routinely support prescribing for conditions which are self-limiting or amenable to self-care. For further details see <a href="#">GM commissioning statement</a> .
	<b>Rifaximin</b> Tablets 200 mg (Xifaxanta®)  Treatment of traveller’s diarrhoea	<a href="#">Criterion 3 (see RAG list)</a>  <a href="#">GM Travel Abroad policy</a>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.4.1 Adsorbents and bulk-forming drugs – not recommended for use</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.4.2 Antimotility drugs</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Loperamide</b> Capsules 2 mg Oral Syrup SF 1 mg/5 ml	<a href="#">MHRA DSU (2017): Loperamide (Imodium): reports of serious cardiac adverse reactions with high doses of loperamide associated with abuse or misuse</a>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Codeine phosphate</b> Tablets 15 mg, 30 mg, 60 mg	
	<b>Teduglutide</b> Powder for solution for injection: 1.25mg, 5mg	 <a href="#">NICE TA804: Teduglutide for treating short bowel syndrome</a>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.4.3 Enkephalinase inhibitors</b>	
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<b>Racecadotril</b> Granules for oral suspension	<a href="#">Criterion 1 (see RAG list)</a>

<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1 Gastro-intestinal system</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.5 Chronic bowel disorders</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.5.1 Aminosalicylates – needs further discussion</b>	
<p>Available formulations of mesalazine have different licensed indications, strengths and pharmacological properties.</p> <p><b>Mesalazine tablets should be prescribed by brand.</b></p>		
<b>First choice</b>	Mesalazine MR tablets <b>Octasa® MR</b> tablets 400 mg, 800 mg <b>Pentasa® MR</b> tablets 500 mg, 1g	 Following specialist advice
<b>Alternatives</b>	Mesalazine once daily tablets <b>Mezavant® XL</b> tablets 1.2 g  Mesalazine granules <b>Pentasa®</b> granules 1 g, 2 g <b>Salofalk®</b> granules 500 g, 1 g, 1.5 g, 3 g	 Following specialist advice When concordance is an issue  For patients unable to take tablets
<b>Rectal formulations</b>		
	Mesalazine suppositories <b>Pentasa®</b> suppositories 1 g Mesalazine foam enema <b>Asacol®</b> foam enema	 Following specialist advice Preparation choice will depend on site of action required
<p><a href="#">NICE NG129: Crohn's disease: management</a></p> <p><a href="#">NICE NG130: Ulcerative colitis: management</a></p>		
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.5.2 Corticosteroids</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Hydrocortisone</b> Foam enema	For initial treatment or relapse
	<b>Prednisolone</b> Tablets (non-EC) 5 mg	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Prednisolone</b> Enema 20 mg Foam enema 20 mg Suppositories 5 mg	 Following specialist advice



	<p><b>Budesonide</b> Modified-release capsules 3 mg</p>	<p><b>G<sub>n</sub></b> following specialist advice Counselling on the safe use of steroids should be provided by the specialist</p>
	<p><b>Budesonide</b> Orodispersible tablets 1 mg (Jorveza®)</p>	<p><b>G<sub>n</sub></b> following specialist initiation As per NICE TA708; only for inducing remission of eosinophilic oesophagitis in adults (treatment duration of up to 12 weeks) <a href="#">NICE TA708: Budesonide orodispersible tablet for inducing remission of eosinophilic oesophagitis</a></p>
	<p><b>Budesonide</b> Modified-release capsules 4 mg (Kinpeygo®▼)</p>	<p><b>R</b> <a href="#">NICE TA937: Targeted-release budesonide for treating primary IgA nephropathy</a></p>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.5.3 Drugs affecting the immune response</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<p><b>Azathioprine U</b> Tablets 25 mg, 50 mg</p>	<p><b>A</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">Shared care protocol: azathioprine and mercaptopurine for patients within adult services (non-transplant indications)</a></p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p><b>Mercaptopurine U</b> Tablets 50 mg</p>	<p><b>A</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">Shared care protocol: azathioprine and mercaptopurine for patients within adult services (non-transplant indications)</a></p>
	<p><b>Neoral® (ciclosporin) U</b> Capsules 10 mg, 25 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg Oral solution 100 mg/ml <b>MUST be prescribed by BRAND</b></p>	<p><b>A</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">Refer to section 8.2.2</a></p>
	<p><b>Methotrexate U</b> Tablets 2.5mg <b>weekly</b>  Injections – usually subcutaneous 7.5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 25 mg</p>	<p><b>A</b> GI specialist initiated  <b>R</b> May be supplied via homecare  <a href="#">MHRA DSU: Methotrexate once-weekly for autoimmune diseases: new measures to reduce risk of fatal overdose due to inadvertent daily instead of weekly dosing, Sept 2020</a> <a href="#">MHRA DSU: Methotrexate: advise patients to take precautions in the sun to avoid photosensitivity reactions, Aug 2023</a></p>

<b>Cytokine modulators (full product details in section 10.1.3)</b>		
GMMMG <a href="#">High Cost Drug Pathways for Inflammatory Bowel Disease in Adults</a>		
<b>First choice</b>	<p><b>Adalimumab</b>            First choice: Amgevita®            Alternative: Humira®            Injection – subcutaneous            40 mg pre-filled syringe</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated  <a href="#">NICE TA187: Infliximab and adalimumab for Crohn's disease</a>            PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Infliximab (Remicade®, Inflectra®, Remsima®)</b>            Injection - intravenous            100 mg vial             Injection – subcutaneous            120 mg pre-filled pen or syringe</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated  <a href="#">NICE TA187: Infliximab and adalimumab for Crohn's disease</a>            PBR excluded drug   <a href="#">NICE TA329: Infliximab, adalimumab and golimumab for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis after failure of conventional therapy</a></p>
	<p><b>Filgotinib (Jyseleca®▼)</b>            Tablets: 100mg, 200mg</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated  <a href="#">NICE TA792: Filgotinib for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis</a>   <a href="#">MHRA DSU: Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors: new measures to reduce risks of major cardiovascular events, malignancy, venous thromboembolism, serious infections and increased mortality, April 2023</a>            PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Golimumab (Simponi®)</b>            Injection – subcutaneous            50 mg, 100 mg pre-filled pen</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated  <a href="#">NICE TA329: Infliximab, adalimumab and golimumab for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis after failure of conventional therapy</a>            PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Mirikizumab</b>            Injection – subcutaneous            100 mg, 300 mg pre-filled pen</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated  <a href="#">TA925: Mirikizumab for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis</a>            PBR excluded drug</p>


	<p><b>Ozanimod (Zeposia®▼)</b> Hard capsules 0.23 mg, 0.46 mg, 0.92 mg</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">NICE TA828: Ozanimod for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis</a> PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Risankizumab</b> Concentrate for solution for infusion 600 mg Solution for injection in cartridge 360 mg</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">NICE TA888: Risankizumab for previously treated moderately to severely active Crohn's disease</a> PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Tofacitinib (Xeljanz®▼)</b> Tablets 5 mg, 10 mg</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">NICE TA547: Tofacitinib for moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis</a> PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Upadacitinib (Rinvoq®▼)</b> Prolonged-release tablets 15 mg, 30 mg, 45 mg</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">NICE TA856: Upadacitinib for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis</a> <a href="#">NICE TA905: Upadacitinib for previously treated moderately to severely active Crohn's disease</a> <a href="#">MHRA DSU: Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors: new measures to reduce risks of major cardiovascular events, malignancy, venous thromboembolism, serious infections and increased mortality, April 2023</a> PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Ustekinumab (Stelara®)</b> Injection – subcutaneous 45 mg, 90 mg</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">NICE TA456: Ustekinumab for moderately to severely active Crohn's disease after previous treatment</a> <a href="#">NICE TA633: Ustekinumab for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitison</a> PBR excluded drug</p>
	<p><b>Vedolizumab (Entyvio®)</b> Concentrate for intravenous infusion, 300 mg vial  Injection – subcutaneous 108 mg pre-filled pen or syringe</p>	<p><b>R</b> GI specialist initiated <a href="#">NICE TA342: Vedolizumab for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis</a> <a href="#">NICE TA352: Vedolizumab for treating moderately to severely active Crohn's disease after prior therapy</a></p>

		PBR excluded drug
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<b>Darvadstrocel</b> Alofisel®, suspension for injection	<u>Criterion 1 (see RAG list)</u> <u>NICE TA556: Darvadstrocel for treating complex perianal fistulas in Crohn's disease</u>
	<b>VSL#3®</b> <b>Vivomixx®</b> Probiotic food supplements	<u>Criterion 1 (see RAG list)</u>

<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1 Gastro-intestinal system</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.6 Laxatives</b>	
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<p><b>Infrequent constipation (duration less than 2 weeks)</b></p> <p>See <a href="#">commissioning statement</a> for exceptions</p>	<p>In line with NHS England guidance, GM do not routinely support prescribing for conditions which are self-limiting or amenable to self-care. For further details see <a href="#">GM commissioning statement</a>.</p>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.6.1 Bulk-forming laxatives</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<p><b>Ispaghula husk</b></p> <p>Sachets 3.5 g</p>	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p><b>Sterculia</b></p> <p>Normacol® granules 500 g, sachets 7 g</p>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.6.2 Stimulant laxatives</b>	
<p><a href="#">MHRA DSU: Stimulant laxatives (bisacodyl, senna and sennosides, sodium picosulfate) available over-the-counter: new measures to support safe use, August 2020</a></p>		
<b>First choice</b>	<p><b>Bisacodyl</b></p> <p>Tablets e/c 5 mg</p> <p><b>Senna</b></p> <p>Syrup 7.5 mg in 5 ml</p>	Oral
	<p><b>Glycerol</b></p> <p>Suppositories 4 g</p>	Rectal use
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p><b>Docusate sodium</b></p> <p>Capsules 100 mg</p>	
<b>Palliative care only</b>		
	<p><b>Co-danthramer</b></p> <p>Capsules 25/200, 37.5/500</p> <p>Suspension 25/200 in 5 ml, 75/1000 in 5 ml</p>	<a href="#">Restricted to use in terminally ill people</a>
	<p><b>Co-danthrusate</b></p> <p>Capsules 50/60</p> <p>Suspension 50/60 in 5 ml</p>	<a href="#">Restricted to use in terminally ill people</a>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.6.3 Faecal softeners – not recommended for use</b>	

<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.6.4 Osmotic laxatives</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Macrogol</b> Sachets	Choose the most cost-effective option.  <a href="#">MHRA DSU: Polyethylene glycol (PEG) laxatives and starch-based thickeners: potential interactive effect when mixed, leading to an increased risk of aspiration, April 2021</a>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Lactulose</b> Solution	
<b>Rectal use</b>	<b>Phosphate</b> Enema 128 ml	
	<b>Sodium citrate</b> Relaxit® micro-enema 450 mg	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.6.5 Bowel cleansing solutions</b>	
Bowel cleansing solutions are only for use before colonic surgery, colonoscopy or radiological examination to ensure the bowel is free of solid contents. They are not treatments for constipation.		
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Sodium picosulfate with magnesium citrate</b> (Citrafleet®, Picolax®) Oral powder	Should be given by pre-op clinic
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Phosphates (oral)</b> Fleet® phospho-soda Oral solution	Should be given by pre-op clinic
	<b>Macrogols</b> Moviprep® Oral powder	Should be given by pre-op clinic  <a href="#">MHRA DSU: Polyethylene glycol (PEG) laxatives and starch-based thickeners: potential interactive effect when mixed, leading to an increased risk of aspiration, April 2021</a>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.6.6 Peripheral opioid-receptor antagonists</b>	
	<b>Naloxegol ▼</b> Tablets 12.5 mg, 25 mg Only as an option for treating opioid induced constipation in adults whose constipation has not adequately responded to laxatives <a href="#">as per NICE TA345</a>	 following specialist advice  <a href="#">NICE TA345: Naloxegol for treating opioid-induced constipation</a>
	<b>Naldemedine ▼</b> Tablets 200 micrograms	 following specialist initiation

	<p>Only as an option for treating opioid-induced constipation in adults whose constipation has not adequately responded to laxatives alone.</p> <p>Patients with opioid-induced constipation should have their analgesia reviewed prior to initiating naldemedine</p>	<a href="#">NICE TA651: Naldemedine for treating opioid-induced constipation</a>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.6.7 Other drugs used in constipation</b>	
	<p><b>Prucalopride</b> Tablets 1 mg, 2 mg</p>	<p><b>G<sub>n</sub></b> Following specialist initiation <a href="#">NICE TA211: Constipation (women) - prucalopride</a></p>
<b>Grey drugs</b> Items which are listed as Grey are deemed not suitable for routine prescribing but may be suitable for a defined population	<p><b>Linaclotide</b> Capsules 290 micrograms</p> <p>Only for use where optimal or maximum tolerated doses of previous laxatives from different classes have not helped, and constipation has been present for at least 12 months.</p> <p>Review for benefit after 3 months.</p>	<p><b>G<sub>n</sub></b> following specialist initiation  <a href="#">Criterion 1 (see RAG list)</a></p>
<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1 Gastro-intestinal system</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.7 Local preparations for anal and rectal disorders</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.7.1 Soothing haemorrhoidal preparations</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<p><b>Anusol<sup>®</sup></b> Cream, ointment, suppositories</p>	Best value soothing preparations
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p><b>Germoloids<sup>®</sup></b> Cream, ointment suppositories</p>	Best value anaesthetic preparations
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<p><b>Haemorrhoids</b> See <a href="#">commissioning statement</a> for exceptions</p>	<p>In line with NHS England guidance, GM do not routinely support prescribing for conditions which are self-limiting or amenable to self-care. For further details see <a href="#">GM commissioning statement</a>.</p>
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.7.2 Compound haemorrhoidal preparations with corticosteroids</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<p><b>Anusol<sup>®</sup> HC</b> Ointment</p> <p><b>Xyloproct<sup>®</sup></b> Ointment</p>	Best value product
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p><b>Scheriproct<sup>®</sup></b> Suppositories</p>	Best value product

<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.7.3 Rectal sclerosants – not recommended for use</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.7.4 Management of anal fissures</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Glyceryl trinitrate ointment</b> Rectogesic® 0.4% ointment 30 g	Prescribe by brand Do not prescribe other strengths of GTN ointment
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Diltiazem U</b> Anoheal® 2% ointment U	 Following specialist initiation Prescribe by brand, although all preparations are unlicensed

<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1 Gastro-intestinal system</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.8 Stoma care</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	There is a Stoma Advisory Team at most local hospitals that stock and maintain a full range of ostomy products and are available for advice.	
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<b>Stoma appliance deodorants</b> Should not be required if pouch is correctly fitted. No odour should be apparent except when bag is emptied or changed.	<u>Criterion 3 (see RAG list)</u>



<b>BNF chapter</b>	<b>1 Gastro-intestinal system</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>1.9 Drugs affecting intestinal secretions</b>	
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.9.1 Drugs affecting biliary composition and flow</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Ursodeoxycholic acid</b> Ursofalk® capsules 250 mg	<a href="#">NICE CG188: Gallstone disease</a>
<b>Alternative</b>	<b>Obeticholic acid▼</b> Tablets 5 mg, 10 mg	<a href="#">NICE TA443: Obeticholic acid for treating primary biliary cholangitis</a>  Assess the response to obeticholic acid after 12 months. Only continue if there is evidence of clinical benefit.  <a href="#">MHRA DSU (2018): Obeticholic acid (Ocaliva▼): risk of serious liver injury in patients with pre-existing moderate or severe hepatic impairment; reminder to adjust dosing according to liver function monitoring</a>
<b>Additional notes</b> Ursofalk® is included as it is licensed for primary biliary cirrhosis.		
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.9.2 Bile acid sequestrants</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Colestyramine</b> Questran Light® powder 4 g sachet	<b>G<sub>n</sub></b> Following specialist advice
<b>Additional notes</b> Questran light® is more expensive than Questran® but is included as it is more palatable.		
<b>Subsection</b>	<b>1.9.4 Pancreatin</b>	
<b>First choice</b>	<b>Creon®</b> Capsules 10,000, 25,000	<b>G<sub>n</sub></b> Following specialist initiation GI specialist initiated
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
<b>Do Not Prescribe</b>	<b>IQoro</b> Neuromuscular training device for stroke related dysphagia, hiatus hernia and other indications.	<a href="#">Criterion 1 (see RAG list)</a>