



➤ **Tirzepatide not currently available on GP Clinical Systems**

It is understood that tirzepatide Kwipen formulations are not yet mapped on the DM&D and so it is not currently available for selection on GP clinical systems. Potentially tirzepatide could be prescribed by handwriting a prescription, but due to risks involved the secondary care teams are supportive of primary clinicians **not** prescribing it until it is available on their clinical systems.

➤ **[Suspected sepsis: recognition, diagnosis and early management – updated guidance \(NG51\)](#)**

Updated guidance makes new recommendations on risk evaluation & management, covering the population and settings in which the national early warning score (NEWS2) applies. Also includes recommendations on when GPs & ambulances should have mechanisms in place to give antibiotics.

➤ **[Antibiotics for lower respiratory tract infection in children presenting in primary care: ARTIC-PC RCT](#)**

A UK randomised clinical trial in primary care suggests that amoxicillin for uncomplicated lower respiratory tract infection in children aged 1-12 is unlikely to be clinically effective or to reduce health or societal costs. The authors recommend clear safety-netting and better access to information for parents with clear communication about self-management of their child's illness. Healthier Together is a useful resource for self-care and safety netting for pregnant women and parents of young children [Healthier Together](#)

➤ **[New valproate safety measures apply from 31 January](#)**

MHRA highlight that from 31 Jan, new regulatory measures are in place to reduce the harms to the baby if valproate is taken during pregnancy. It must not be started in new patients (male or female) <55yrs unless 2 specialists consider there is no effective or tolerated alternative.

➤ **[MHRA update on new study on risk in children born to men taking valproate](#)**

Results of a study commissioned by the EMA suggest a small increased risk of neurodevelopmental disorders in children fathered by men on valproate in the 3 months prior to conception. The MHRA is analysing the results and will issue any further guidance as soon as possible.

➤ **Reclassification of codeine linctus to a Prescription Only Medicines (POM)**

The MHRA have reclassified codeine linctus to a prescription-only medicine in the interests of public safety. Codeine linctus, which is licensed only for the treatment of dry cough in adults and children aged 12 to 18 years without breathing difficulties, is well-known to be associated with problematic use. Health Care Professionals need to be aware of the change to a prescription-only medicine, and be familiar with the [drug safety alert issued by the MHRA](#). It is advised that if a pharmacy has identified an individual is using codeine linctus in a problematic way, then they should be signposted to their local drug treatment service provider or GP.

➤ **PrescQIPP Clinical Masterclass - Insomnia: getting back to better sleep**

This Clinical Masterclass on 25th March, 1-2pm will be led by Dr Dimitri Gavriloff who runs a non-respiratory sleep disorders clinic at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and is a Research Clinical Psychologist and Clinical Course Tutor in Sleep Medicine at the University of Oxford. In particular he will focus on sleep hygiene and CBTi [Clinical Masterclass registration](#)

This edition is also available on the Primary Care Portal