# Issue:220

### **Tablet Press**

The prescribing newsletter for GPs, nurses and pharmacy teams NHS Northamptonshire ICB



#### > Change Freestyle Libre 2 to Freestyle Libre 2 plus

Freestyle Libre 2 Plus sensors will be replacing FreeStyle Libre 2 sensors in the coming months and FreeStyle Libre 2 sensors will be discontinued in the UK in August 2025. All patients on Freestyle Libre 2 will need their prescription changed to Freestyle Libre 2 plus. There is no difference in price per year a but each Freestyle Libre 2 Plus sensor has a 15 day wear time so the prescription duration will need to change from 28 days to 30 days. Please consider changing the prescription during routine diabetic reviews for all patients currently using Freestyle Libre 2. Both sensors work with the current Freestyle Libre 2 reader and with the Freestyle Libre Link app. Note - Freestyle Libre 2 plus sensors are classified as GREEN for patients with Type 1 diabetes and Double Red - Prior Approval for patients with Type 2 diabetes. (FreeStyle Libre 3 sensors should only be prescribed following prior approval for patients with Type 1 diabetes using certain insulin pumps).

## Management of unscheduled bleeding on hormone replacement therapy (HRT): Frequently Asked Questions

A list of Frequently Asked Questions has been produced to support healthcare professionals with implementation of this joint guideline on the management of unscheduled bleeding on HRT, some of which relate to areas where there is a paucity of evidence.

- ➤ Urinary tract infection (recurrent): antimicrobial prescribing- guidance (NG112)

  NICE has updated their guidance on prescribing for recurrent UTI with new recommendations for people with recurrent UTI and amended recommendations on referral and seeking specialist advice, choice of antibiotic or antiseptic prophylaxis (methenamine hippurate) and oestrogens to reflect current practice. There is a 3-page visual summary, including a table to support prescribing decisions TARGET are hosting a free webinar on "Managing recurrent UTI and reviewing and reviewing long-term/repeat antibiotic therapy" on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (6:30pm-7:30pm). To register click here
- Increased incidence of Clostridioides difficile (C. diff) infection in England
  The UKHSA has issued a briefing note to alert colleagues that the incidence of C. Diff in England in 2023/24 was 35% higher than in 2018/19. While the causes are likely to be multifactorial, use of broad-spectrum antibiotics is a recognised risk factor. Broad spectrum antibiotics (eg co-amoxiclav, cephalosporins and quinolones) should only be used where narrow spectrum agents are not suitable and in accordance with guidance. Guidance on antibiotics for common infections in primary care is available at the RCGP TARGET website

#### PrescQIPP Podcast

PrescQIPP are providing a new regular podcast, 'Talking Meds' hosted by Jonathan Underhill. Jonathan worked for many years at the National Prescribing Centre (NPC) developing innovative ways of teaching therapeutics, evidence-based medicine and clinical decision making to prescribers and support teams and more recently, at NICE as a consultant clinical adviser in their Medicines Optimisation Team. So far, the following podcasts have been aired:

- > Discussion on effective use of medication reviews.
- > Sensible prescribing in older people.
- > Safely stopping antidepressants.

These highly recommended short podcasts can be accessed via <u>iTunes/Apple Podcasts</u> or <u>Spotify</u>.