

The formulary for the Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven CCG Pharmacy First service will be amended on the 27th February 2015. All sugar containing medicines are being removed from the formulary where a Sugar Free (SF) preparation is available.

An updated formulary is available on the back page of this briefing.

Sugar-Free Medicines

The British Dental Association's view is that sugar is not a necessary or active ingredient in liquid medicines. As it is known to cause dental decay, doctors should prescribe sugar-free medicines and pharmacists and health visitors should recommend them.

Sugar is one of the main causes of dental decay. Many people, especially children, take liquid medicines, not realising that over half the spoonful is sugar. Medicine to relieve pain or a tickly cough is often given last thing at night, when the flow of the natural cleaner of the mouth - saliva - is reduced. The sugar-containing medicine remains in contact with the teeth longer. There is no evidence, according to the British Dental Association, that brushing after the medicine will remove the sugar-syrupy medicines from the teeth.

The BNF General Guidance on Prescribing also recommends that sugar-free preparations should be used whenever possible.

What is a sugar-free medicine?

Oral liquid preparations that do not contain *fructose*, *glucose*, or *sucrose* are described as 'sugar-free' in the BNF. Preparations containing hydrogenated glucose syrup, mannitol, maltitol, sorbitol, or xylitol are also marked 'sugar-free' since there is evidence that they do not cause dental caries.

Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven Pharmacy First Formulary

Updated March 2015 (removed non-Sugar Free (SF) medicines where an alternative SF preparation is available.

Reimbursement will only be made at the price listed in the formulary below. This price is based on Drug Tariff, Chemist and Druggist cost price or wholesaler's list price.

Formulary	Reimbursement price (ex VAT)
Beclometasone 50 mcg nasal spray (200 sprays)	2.99
Cetirizine solution 5mg/5ml (200ml) SF	1.93
Cetirizine 10mg tablets (30)	1.04
Chlorphenamine Syrup (150 ml) SF	2.57
Chlorphenamine Tablets 4 mg (30)	1.01
Clotrimazole 500mg pessary (1)	3.26
Clotrimazole cream 1% (20g)	1.29
Ephedrine 0.5% nasal drops (10ml)	1.49
Fluconazole 150 mg Cap (1)	1.10
Ibuprofen suspension 100mg/5ml (100ml) SF	1.37
Ibuprofen tablets 200mg (24)	0.88
Ibuprofen tablets 400mg (24)	0.92
Lidocaine alone or with Cetalkonium /Cetylpyridiniumteething gel (10/15g)	1.45
Loratadine syrup 5mg/5ml (100ml)	1.90
Loratadine 10mg tablets (30)	1.05
Mebendazole suspension (30ml)	5.75
Mebendazole 100mg tablet (1)	1.91
Mebendazole 100mg tablet (4)	4.47
Miconazole 2% cream (30g)	1.82
Paracetamol 500 mg Tablets (32)	0.88
Paracetamol soluble tabs 500mg (24)	2.80
Paracetamol Susp SF 120 mg / 5 ml (100ml) SF	0.75
ParacetamolSusp SF 250 mg / 5 ml (100ml) SF	1.65
Sodium chloride 0.9% nasal drops (10ml)	0.99
NB: This formulary may be amended as the service develops / new products are available. The formulary listed above was the formulary initially agreed with the CCG at the launch of the service. Reference should be made to the up-to-date formulary and costs hosted on www.cpwv.org .	
Pharmacists can supply any brand of product as long as the active ingredients are the same and pack size is at least the size specified above (i.e. larger packs can be supplied).	
The products supplied must not be POM packs and each product must be supplied with a corresponding Patient Information Leaflet.	
If pharmacies cannot get a specific medicine at stated reimbursement price they should inform the point of contact for the service	
It is preferable that sugar free products are supplied. However, where these are not available or the patient specifically requires sugar based medicines these can be supplied.	

The purpose of these updates are to share will all those involved with the Pharmacy First Service information about the service, its evaluation and disseminate useful information.