

NHS Grampian
Controlled Drugs Team

Oxycodone – NHS Grampian Brand Switch – Frequently Asked Questions – Primary Care

From April/May 2016 NHS Grampian will be recommending Longtec® (oxycodone modified release tablets) and Shortec® (oxycodone immediate release capsules) as the oxycodone brands of choice. This will replace OxyContin® and OxyNorm® brands.

<p>Why is NHS Grampian changing from Oxycontin® & Oxynorm® to Longtec® & Shortec®?</p>	<p>There have been a significant number of incidents recorded across Scotland involving the prescribing, dispensing and administration of oral oxycodone preparations.</p> <p>This is in part due to the similar names of OxyContin® and OxyNorm® and confusion when prescribed generically.</p>
<p>Will this change affect Primary and Secondary care?</p>	<p>Yes – information will be shared with all medical and pharmacy staff across the hospitals and community with Longtec® and Shortec® being recommended as the preferred brands of oxycodone.</p> <p>Scriptswitch will have a recommendation to prescribing the new brands and the NHSG formulary will be updated with this information.</p>
<p>When will I start to notice this change?</p>	<p>This change will be done over a month or so as there will be a cross over period when wards/pharmacy may have both brands in stock. It will depend on usage of oxycodone when you will see the change in your area. Patients will begin to be discharged on the new brands.</p> <p>Community Pharmacies and GP Practices are advised to liaise regarding stocks of Oxycontin®/Oxynorm® and coordinate the change to Longtec®/Shortec® to minimise waste and ensure no disruption in patient supply of medication</p>
<p>Are there any differences between Oxycontin® & Longtec® or Oxynorm® and Shortec®?</p>	<p>No- There is no difference in bioavailability between these brands and the licensed indications are the same.</p> <p>Patients can be safely switched to the new brand without affecting patient care.</p>
<p>How should Longtec® and Shortec®, oxycodone now be prescribed?</p>	<p>It is recommended that these products are prescribed by brand name, i.e. Longtec® modified release tablets and Shortec® capsules.</p> <p>This applies in both the hospital PAR, eIDLs and community GP10s.</p> <p>This should aid in reducing confusion and minimising risks of selection and administration errors.</p>

<p>What formulation, strengths of oxycodone does this affect?</p>	<p>This change only affects solid oral oxycodone products Oxycontin[®] and Oxynorm[®]. Longtec[®] and Shortec[®] are available in the same range of strengths and pack sizes as Oxycontin[®] and Oxynorm[®].</p> <p>This change does not affect oxycodone injection or oxycodone oral liquid or oxycodone oral concentrated liquid.</p>
<p>How should I record the new brands in my care service Controlled Drug Register?</p>	<p>New Controlled Drug Register pages should be set up for each resident on Longtec[®] modified release tablets and Shortec[®] capsules with a separate page for each strength.</p> <p>Pages for Oxycontin[®] and Oxynorm[®] should be closed when there is no stock remaining. The index pages of the Controlled Drug Register should be updated accordingly.</p>
<p>I still have some Oxycontin[®] or Oxynorm[®] can this still be used?</p>	<p>Yes - There is no difference in bioavailability between these brands and the licensed indications are the same. However this would need to be prescribed as the Oxycontin[®] or Oxynorm[®] brand or prescribed generically</p> <p>Community Pharmacies and GP Practices are advised to liaise regarding stocks of Oxycontin[®]/Oxynorm[®] and coordinate the change to Longtec[®]/Shortec[®] to minimise waste and ensure no disruption in patient supply of medication</p>
<p>Who should I contact if I have a query about this change over?</p>	<p>If you have a query about the supply of Longtec[®] or Shortec[®] or the change over please discuss this with practice/HSCP pharmacist or the Controlled Drugs Team, (01224) 556601 – Grampian.cdteam@nhs.net</p>