

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## Technology Appraisals and Guidance Information Services

### Static List Review (SLR) report

<b>Title and TA publication number of static topic:</b>	TA81: Frequency of application of topical corticosteroids for atopic eczema
<b>Final decision:</b>	The guidance will remain on the 'static guidance list'.

<b>1. Publication date:</b>	August 2004.
<b>2. Date added to static list:</b>	December 2007.
<b>3. Date the last searches were run:</b>	June 2007.
<b>4. Current guidance:</b>	<p>1.1 It is recommended that topical corticosteroids for atopic eczema should be prescribed for application only once or twice daily.</p> <p>1.2 It is recommended that where more than one alternative topical corticosteroid is considered clinically appropriate within a potency class, the drug with the lowest acquisition cost should be prescribed, taking into account pack size and frequency of application.</p>
<b>5. Research recommendations from</b>	5.1 The trial literature is dominated by comparisons of differing frequency of use of fluticasone propionate (four trials) and comparisons of mometasone furoate with

<p><b>original guidance:</b></p>	<p>more traditional twice-daily treatment options (three trials).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trials are needed to establish whether once-daily use of the older (twice-daily) products is equivalent to more frequent use.</li> <li>• Trials are also required to establish whether once-daily use of the older twice-daily products is equivalent to the once-daily-only products.</li> <li>• Trials are required for all the potency classes, in particular for mild potency preparations, because no trials examining frequency of application of topical corticosteroids exist for this group.</li> </ul> <p>5.2 Robust trials are required that report quality-of-life data and patient preferences.</p> <p>5.3 Long-term follow-up is required in trials to assess adverse effects such as skin atrophy.</p> <p>5.4 The experts informed the Committee that there was a lack of support for people with the condition and inadequate information about the management of atopic eczema and the risks associated with the use of topical corticosteroids. Research should therefore be conducted to establish the most suitable method of conveying high-quality information to people with atopic eczema.</p>
<p><b>6. Current cost of technology/ technologies:</b></p>	<p>See Appendix 2.</p>
<p><b>7. Changes to the original indication:</b></p>	<p>There have been no licence changes since the previous review proposal which are relevant to this appraisal.</p>
<p><b>8. New relevant trials:</b></p>	<p>No new phase III or IV randomised controlled trials comparing frequency of application of corticosteroids were found.</p>
<p><b>9. Relevant NICE guidance (published</b></p>	<p>Tacrolimus and pimecrolimus for atopic eczema. Technology Appraisal TA 82. Issued:</p>

<p><b>or in progress):</b></p>	<p>August 2004. Static guidance.</p> <p>Alitretinoin for the treatment of severe chronic hand eczema. Technology Appraisal TA177. Issue: August 2009. Static guidance.</p> <p>Atopic eczema in children: Management of atopic eczema in children from birth up to the age of 12 years. Clinical Guideline CG57. Issued: December 2007. This guideline is currently being updated. The expected issue date for the updated guidance is September 2013.</p> <p>Grenz rays therapy for inflammatory skin conditions. Interventional Procedures Guidance IPG236. Issued: November 2007.</p>
<p><b>10. Relevant safety issues:</b></p>	<p>No relevant safety alerts were found.</p>
<p><b>11. Any other additional relevant information or comments:</b></p>	<p>None.</p>
<p><b>12. Technical Lead comments and recommendation:</b></p>	<p>No new evidence relating to the frequency of application of topical corticosteroids for atopic eczema was identified from the literature search carried out for this static list review. The list prices for most of the technologies have either increased or decreased slightly compared to those used in the original guidance TA 81. It is unlikely that these price changes will make any difference to the recommendations in TA 81 which states that “where more than one alternative topical corticosteroid is considered clinically appropriate within a potency class, the drug with the lowest acquisition cost should be prescribed, taking into account pack size and frequency of application”. A review would be unlikely to be considered good use of NHS resources because the recommendations would be unlikely to change. The consultation process will ensure that any additional evidence from stakeholders is considered.</p>

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## Appendix 1 – explanation of options

Options	Consequence	Selected – ‘Yes/No’
The guidance will remain on the ‘static guidance list’	The guidance will remain in place, in its current form, unless NICE becomes aware of substantive information which would make it reconsider. Literature searches are carried out every 5 years to check whether any of the Appraisals on the static list should be flagged for review.	Yes
The decision to review the guidance will be deferred to specify date or trial	NICE will consider whether a review is necessary at the specified date. NICE will actively monitor the evidence available to ascertain when a consideration of a review is more suitable.	No
A full consideration of a review will be carried out through the Review Proposal Process	There is evidence that could warrant a review of the guidance. NICE will schedule a consideration of a review, including a consultation with relevant consultees and commentators.	No
The guidance will be withdrawn	The guidance is no longer relevant and an update of the existing recommendations would not add value to the NHS. NICE will schedule a consideration of a review, including a consultation with relevant consultees and commentators.	No

## Appendix 2 – cost information

BNF chemical name	Manufacturer	Product name (®)	Net cost <sup>1</sup> per 30 g/30 ml for each strength <sup>2</sup> at the time of TA81	Current net cost <sup>3</sup> per 30 g/30 ml for each strength <sup>4</sup> (unless otherwise stated).
<b>Mild</b>				
Hydrocortisone 0.1–1%	Actavis UK	Generic hydrocortisone cream (0.5%, 1%); ointment (0.5%, 1%)	£0.66 (0.5% cream); £0.74 (1% cream)	£2.90 (0.5% cream); £2.32 (1% cream)
	J. M. Loveridge Ltd. Cardinal Health Martindale Products Marlborough Pharmaceuticals Pinewood Healthcare Reckitt Benckiser Amdipharm Teva UK Virtual Generics		£0.65 (0.5% ointment); £0.76 (1% ointment)	£4.90 (0.5% ointment); £2.58 (1% ointment)

<sup>1</sup> BNF 47 – March 2004 edition.

<sup>2</sup> Calculated using the largest pack sizes available. For example, where 100 g is the largest pack size, the cost is calculated using the 100 g price multiplied by 0.3.

<sup>3</sup> BNF online – June 2013 edition.

<sup>4</sup> Calculated as in footnote 2.

	Virtual Specials			
	Dermal	Dioderm cream (0.1%)	£2.69	£2.39
	Astellas	Mildison lipocream (1%)	£2.63	£1.71
Fluocinolone acetonide	Derma UK	Synalar cream: 1 in 10 dilution (0.0025%)	£1.15	£2.75
<b>Moderate</b>				
Betamethasone valerate	GSK	Betnovate-RD cream or ointment (1 in 4 dilution of betnovate cream; ointment) (0.025%).	£1.08	£0.95 (either formulation)
Clobetasone butyrate	GSK	Eumovate cream or ointment (0.05%)	£1.70	£1.63 (either formulation)
Fludroxycortide	Typharm	Haelan cream or ointment (0.0125%); Haelan tape (4 micrograms/cm <sup>2</sup> ).	£1.63	£1.63 £24.95 7.5 cm x 200 cm tape
Alclometasone dipropionate	Teva UK	Modrasone cream (0.05%)	£1.69	£1.61
Fluocinolone	Derma UK	Synalar cream or	£1.22	£2.90 (either formulation)

Acetonide		ointment: 1 in 4 dilution (0.00625%)		
Fluocortolone caproate	Meadow	Ultralanum Plain cream or ointment (0.25%)	£1.77	£1.77 (either formulation)
<b>Potent</b>				
Beclometasone dipropionate		Generic beclometasone dipropionate cream or ointment (0.025%)	£1.74	£68 (either formulation)
Betamethasone valerate	Actavis Manx Healthcare Teva UK Virtual Generics	Generic betamethasone valerate cream or ointment (0.1%)	£1.54 (cream) £1.69 (ointment)	£2.54 (cream) £2.80 (ointment).
Betamethasone valerate	Dermal	Betacap: water-miscible formulation for scalp application (0.1%)	£1.27	£1.13
Betamethasone valerate	Genus	Betesil medicated plasters (2.25 mg)	n/a	£9.92 (4 plasters)
Betamethasone	UCB Pharma	Bettamousse foam for scalp application	£2.25	£2.93

valerate		(0.12%)		
Betamethasone valerate	GSK	Betnovate cream, ointment, lotion or water-miscible formulation for scalp application (0.1%)	£1.31 (cream or ointment) £1.57 (lotion) £1.71 (scalp application)	£1.22 (cream or ointment) £1.37 (lotion) £1.50 (scalp application)
Fluticasone propionate	GSK	Cutivate cream (0.05%); ointment (0.005%).	£4.59	£4.24 (either formulation)
Betamethasone dipropionate	Merck Sharp & Dohme	Diprosone cream, ointment or lotion (0.05%)	£2.05 (cream or ointment) £2.61 (lotion)	£1.84 (cream or ointment) £2.34 (lotion)
Mometasone furoate	Merck Sharp & Dohme	Elocon cream, ointment or scalp lotion (0.1%)	£4.22 (cream or ointment) £4.88 (lotion)	£3.77 (cream) £3.73 (ointment) £4.36 (lotion)
Hydrocortisone butyrate	Astellas	Locoid cream, lipocream, ointment or scalp lotion (0.1%)	£2.27 (cream or ointment) £3.15 (scalp lotion)	£1.48 (cream or ointment) £1.55 (lipocream) £2.05 (scalp lotion)
Hydrocortisone butyrate	Astellas	Locoid Crelo topical emulsion (0.1%)	£2.27	£1.77
Fluocinonide	Derma UK	Metosyn FAPG cream	£4.22 (cream, 25 g)	£4.00

		or ointment (0.05%)	£4.88 (ointment 25 g)	£3.95
Mometasone furoate	s Actavis UK Auden McKenzie Glenmark Generics (Europe) Mylan UK Teva UK Virtual Generics	Generic mometasone furoate ointment (0.1%)	-	£3.68
Diflucortolone valerate	Meadow	Nerisone cream, oily cream or ointment (0.1%)	£1.59 (cream) £2.56 (ointment)	£1.59 (cream or ointment) £2.56 (oily cream)
Fluocinolone acetonide	Derma UK	Synalar cream, ointment or gel (0.025%)	£1.74 (cream or ointment) £2.57 (gel)	£3.53 (cream or ointment) £5.01 (gel)
<b>Very potent</b>				
Clobetasol propionate	Fabre	Clarelux foam for scalp application (0.05%)	-	£3.32
Clobetasol propionate	GSK	Dermovate cream, ointment or scalp application (0.05%)	£2.48 (cream or ointment) £3.27 (scalp application)	£2.37 (cream or ointment) £3.13 (scalp application)

Clobetasol propionate	Galderma	Etrivex shampoo (0.05%)	-	£3.44
Diflucortolone valerate	Meadow	Nerisone Forte oily cream or ointment	£4.18	£4.18