

# Therapeutics Advisory Group Update – Traffic Light Classifications – April 2024

Please see below for current traffic light classifications

<b>BLACK</b>	<b>Not commissioned. No NHS prescribing in primary or secondary care</b> This category covers those products that are not commissioned and therefore should not be prescribed in primary or secondary care
<b>BLUE</b>	<b>NWICB are committed to fund positive NICE TA treatments. Awaiting clarification of place in pathway and commissioning arrangements. Further guidance will be issued when available. For all other treatments, formulary application and discussion will be required.</b> This category includes new products on the Horizon Scanning list, those medications and devices which have not yet been reviewed, and newly published NICE TAs with ICB-commissioned responsibility.
<b>Double Red</b>	<b>Not recommended for routine use</b> To be used only as a last resort in exceptional circumstances such as transfer of care, patient moving from out of area, or where other treatment or pathway options have been exhausted. Seek advice from Medicines Optimisation Team where appropriate. Some items may require formal approval via the IFR process.
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>Restricted use – Prescribing to remain with the hospital or specialist service. No prescribing in primary care</b> Includes acute and mental health trusts and other specialist commissioning services
<b>AMB</b>	<b>Shared Care Agreement Level 0</b> Prescribe the drug and perform a basic level of monitoring, e.g. annual review / administration
<b>AMB 1</b>	<b>Shared Care Agreement Level 1</b> Prescribe the drug and perform a higher level of monitoring, e.g. 6-monthly
<b>AMB 2</b>	<b>Shared Care Agreement Level 2</b> Prescribe the drug and perform a more intense level of monitoring, e.g. quarterly
<b>AMB 3</b>	<b>Shared Care Agreement Level 3</b> Prescribe the drug and perform significant monitoring including measurements such as height, weight, blood pressure and ECG, e.g. drugs requiring monthly monitoring
<b>ADVICE</b>	<b>Formulary - Specialist advice required from primary or secondary care clinician with relevant expertise prior to primary care initiation</b> Treatment can be initiated in primary care following advice or recommendation from clinician in primary or secondary care with relevant expertise
<b>GREEN</b>	<b>Formulary - Drugs that can be initiated by Prescriber in Primary Care</b> This covers most drugs on the primary care formulary
<b>SWITCH</b>	<b>Not recommended for prescribing. Switch to cost-effective alternative</b> This category will act as a reminder of the cost-effective switches and will be reviewed monthly
<b>NF</b>	<b>Non-formulary</b> Products that don't appear on our current local formularies. To be reviewed regularly
<b>OTC</b>	<b>Available to buy over the counter. Consider self-care</b> Drugs in this category will be available to buy over the counter.
<b>MIXED</b>	<b>Drugs that have more than one traffic light classification</b> The 'mixed' classification will appear in the summary header for drugs that have multiple classifications, although individual traffic lights will be allocated as per specific indication.
<b>YELLOW</b>	<b>Drugs that are commissioned by Public Health England</b> Examples include weight management, nicotine replacement therapy and substance abuse services
<b>DM</b>	<b>Discontinued Medicines</b> This category will be under constant review and updated regularly

