

The prescribing of doxazosin modified release is not supported

- Doxazosin is available in both modified release (MR) and immediate release (IR) formulations.
- Both formulations are administered once daily as doxazosin has a long half-life of 22 hours making it suitable for once daily dosing.
- The IR version of doxazosin is significantly more cost effective, and the MR offers no advantage over the IR.

Thurrock CCG and Basildon and Brentwood CCG do not support the prescribing of doxazosin MR/Cardura XL/Doxadura XL or any other modified release products, and it is recommended that MR prescribing is changed to generic IR.

There are a couple of switch options when changing from MR to IR:

- 1) Use the same dose (e.g. 4mg MR to 4mg IR, and 8mg MR to 2 x 4mg IR) - patients experiencing orthostatic hypotension may need a lower dose.
- 2) Use half the dose (e.g. 4mg MR to 2mg IR, and 8mg MR to 4mg IR) - some patients may require a higher dose.

Regardless of the dose chosen, please monitor blood pressure (about 4 weeks after the switch) and adjust the dose if necessary.

Providers commissioned to provide services on behalf of Thurrock CCG and Basildon and Brentwood CCG are reminded that they are required to follow the local joint formulary and prescribing guidance, or relevant Medicines Management agreement.

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