

Prescribing of perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) is not supported

Thurrock CCG, and Basildon and Brentwood CCG do not support the prescribing of perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) as it is not a cost effective option and lacks evidence of superior efficacy, and this position is supported by NHS England.

Perindopril is an ACE inhibitor used in heart failure, hypertension, diabetic nephropathy and prophylaxis of cardiovascular events. Perindopril is available as different salts, perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril erbumine. The perindopril arginine salt version was developed as it is more stable in extremes of climate than the perindopril erbumine salt, which results in a longer shelf-life. However, perindopril arginine has no clinical benefit over generic perindopril erbumine and no difference in safety profile, but is significantly more costly.

Recommendations

- Do not initiate perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) in any new patients.
- Existing patients should have perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) reviewed, with a view to switching to generic perindopril erbumine.
- Potential switch options from perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) to perindopril erbumine:

Current treatment	Switch to
Perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) 2.5mg once daily	Perindopril erbumine 2mg once daily
Perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) 5mg once daily	Perindopril erbumine 4mg once daily
Perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) 10mg once daily	Perindopril erbumine 8mg once daily

- Perindopril arginine/indapamide combination (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) contains perindopril arginine 5mg and indapamide 1.25mg. There is no direct switch from perindopril arginine/indapamide, however, prescribing perindopril erbumine 4mg plus an appropriate diuretic as a separate component is the best option. This provides greater flexibility of dosing. An appropriate diuretic would be indapamide (1.5mg modified release once daily, or 2.5mg immediate release once daily) according to the NICE clinical guideline for hypertension, with appropriate monitoring.

This position is supported by NHS England as part of the items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care.

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.

Position Statement No.	51
Title	Prescribing of perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) is not supported
References	NHS England guidance on 'Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care' (June 2019): https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/items-which-should-not-routinely-be-prescribed-in-primary-care-v2.1.pdf
Acknowledgements	Mid Essex CCG Medicines Management Team
Version	1
Author	Medicines Management Team
Approved by	Basildon and Brentwood CCG: Prescribing Subgroup, Patient Quality and Safety Committee, Board Thurrock CCG: Medicines Management and Safety Group, Patient Quality and Safety Committee, Transformation and Sustainability Committee, Board
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