

Prescribing of Pigmanorm® cream for the treatment of melasma

Thurrock CCG and Basildon and Brentwood CCG do not support the prescribing of Pigmanorm® cream (hydroquinone 5% w/w, hydrocortisone 1% w/w and tretinoin 0.1% w/w) for the treatment of melasma.

Melasma, also called 'chloasma' and 'pregnancy mask', is a common skin condition of adults in which light to dark brown or greyish patches of pigmentation develop mainly on facial skin affecting the cheeks, forehead, upper lip, nose and chin, usually in a symmetrical manner. The neck and the forearms can also be affected. It is more common in women, especially pregnant women, and people with darker skin-types who live in sunny climates. However, it can also affect men (10% of patients) and any race. Melasma usually becomes more noticeable in the summer and improves during the winter months.

Pigmanorm® cream (hydroquinone 5% w/w, hydrocortisone 1% w/w and tretinoin 0.1% w/w) is licensed in Germany for melanin-related hyperpigmentation (melasma) or hyperpigmentation following inflammation.

There is insufficient evidence to support the use of Pigmanorm® cream for melasma. This product is not licensed in the UK and would be supplied as a special in the community.

Azelaic acid and retinoid creams may also be used to treat melasma, however, these are also **not** recommended for prescribing.

Skin camouflage creams and powders, for covering and concealing, are not recommended for prescribing for the indication of melasma.

Thurrock CCG and Basildon and Brentwood CCG recommend that treatments for melasma are cosmetic and therefore not recommended for prescribing on the NHS.

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.	22
Title	Prescribing of Pigmanorm cream for the treatment of melasma
References	British Association of Dermatology (BAD) melasma patient information leaflet, February 2015 http://www.bad.org.uk/for-the-public/patient-information-leaflets/melasma/?showmore=1&returnlink=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bad.org.uk%2Ffor-the-public%2Fpatient-information-leaflets#.WWiqlHmWx13
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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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