

## Prescribing of eflornithine (Vaniqa®) cream is not supported

**Thurrock CCG, and Basildon and Brentwood CCG do not support the prescribing of eflornithine (Vaniqa®) 11.5% cream for the treatment of facial hirsutism.**

The treatment of hirsutism is a cosmetic procedure which is of a low clinical priority for funding by Thurrock CCG and Basildon and Brentwood CCG. If hirsutism is mild and does not significantly interfere with the person's quality of life, consider no additional treatment. Hirsutism is not usually associated with any significant medical abnormality.

Eflornithine 11.5% cream (Vaniqa®) offers very little benefit for the management of facial hirsutism. There is limited evidence for efficacy and patient satisfaction with eflornithine.

### Recommendations

- Promote self-funded cosmetic treatments for reduction in hair growth or hair removal (e.g. shaving, plucking, depilatory cream, laser treatment, electrolysis) as the primary options for the majority of people with hirsutism.
- It is important that the patient is properly assessed and underlying causes addressed (such as weight reduction if obese) before pharmacological therapy is considered as hirsutism can result from serious medical conditions or from medication (e.g. ciclosporin, glucocorticoids, minoxidil, phenobarbitone, phenytoin, combined oestrogen-androgen hormone replacement therapy).

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.

<b>Position Statement No.</b>	43
<b>Title</b>	Prescribing of eflornithine (Vaniqa®) cream is not supported
<b>References</b>	PrescQIPP bulletin 117 DROP-List 2015: <a href="https://www.prescqipp.info/media/1272/b117-drop-list-42.pdf">https://www.prescqipp.info/media/1272/b117-drop-list-42.pdf</a>
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