

Dear Colleague

As part of the 2019-2020 Prescribing Quality Incentive Scheme, one of the targets is for the nominated practice Prescribing Lead to implement bimonthly prescribing actions within the practice, and to feedback to the Medicines Management Team.

The national antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship competencies for prescribers aim to improve the quality of antimicrobial treatment and stewardship and reduce the risks of inadequate, inappropriate and ill-effects of treatment. NICE states that for most women (who are not pregnant) with no fever or flank pain, a three-day course of antibiotics for an uncomplicated urinary tract infection (UTI) will treat it effectively. This also reduces the amount of unnecessary antibiotics being prescribed. Please find attached NICE/Public Health England antimicrobial prescribing guidance for the management of lower UTI, which details **choice** of antibiotic, **dose** and **duration** of treatment dependent on patient group.

For the final bimonthly action of 2019-2020, please circulate this guidance and information to all prescribers and relevant practice staff, and ensure that prescribing is in accordance with the guidance.

Please confirm by receipt of this email (prescribing.mailbox@nhs.net) by 14th February 2020 that this bimonthly action has been undertaken and that the information has been circulated to all relevant practice staff. Please note that feedback for this action will not be accepted beyond this deadline. Please also be aware that this is the final bimonthly action of 2019-2020 as the September/October 2019 action regarding the prescribing of tadalafil (Cialis) counted for double points.

If you require any further information or advice, please do not hesitate to contact the Medicines Management Team on 01375 365811.

For more detailed information, NICE has produced antimicrobial prescribing guidelines on UTIs and decision aids for lower and recurrent UTI to help healthcare professionals discuss the antimicrobial prescribing options:

<https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/our-programmes/nice-guidance/antimicrobial-prescribing-guidelines>