

Commissioning Statement

Treatment	Hyaluronic Acid and its derivatives
For the treatment of	Osteoarthritis and other joint conditions
Commissioning Position	<p>.....CCG does not routinely commission the peri-articular or intra-articular use of Hyaluronic Acid and its derivatives.</p> <p>North Kirklees CCG/Greater Huddersfield CCG/Wakefield CCG/Calderdale CCG/Bradford City CCG/Bradford Districts CCG</p>
Date effective from2018
Policy to be reviewed by	<p>.....2021</p> <p>[To be reviewed earlier if NICE issues guidance at an earlier date]</p>
Background information	<p>Hyaluronic acid injections are offered for the relief of joint pain however they are not considered to be effective, particularly in osteoarthritis and is included in the NICE Clinical Guideline for Osteoarthritis: Care and management [CG177] as “do not offer” in relation to this treatment [1, 2, 3].</p> <p>Hyaluronic acid is injected intra-articularly to supplement natural hyaluronic acid in the synovial fluid; these injections may reduce pain over 1–6 months, but are also associated with a short-term increase in knee inflammation [2].</p> <p>Evidence for hyaluronic acid is inconsistent in finding statistically significant effects in osteoarthritis. In forming their recommendation the NICE Guideline Development Group felt that “hyaluronic acid products should not be used because, although statistically significant effects were seen, the effects were not considered to be clinically important. Additionally, many studies of preparations licensed in the UK were of low or very low quality” [1].</p> <p>The following products are included within the classification of Hyaluronic acid and it's derivatives;</p> <p><i>Durolane®, Euflexxa®, Fermathron®, Orthovisc®, Ostenil®, Ostenil Plus®, RenehaVis®, Suplasyn®, Synocrom®, Synopsis®, Synvisc®</i> [2].</p>
	<p><u>References</u></p> <p>1. Osteoarthritis: The care and management of osteoarthritis in adults</p>

	<p>National Institute of Health and Care Excellence Clinical Guideline 177, February 2014 https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg177 Accessed: 13.04.2018</p> <p>2. Osteoarthritis and soft-tissue disorders, British National Formulary: https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/bnf/current/PHP78614-arthritis.htm?q=hyaluronic&t=search&ss=text&tot=1&p=1#_hit Accessed: 13.04.2018</p> <p>3. National Institute of Health and Care Excellence 'Do not Do' Recommendation https://www.nice.org.uk/donotdo/do-not-offer-intraarticular-hyaluronan-injections-for-the-management-of-osteoarthritis Accessed: 13.04.2018</p>
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