

## Monitoring of Drugs in Primary Care

Different amber drugs require different levels of monitoring. There are three categories of amber drugs that are funded by this local enhanced scheme:

**Band 1** - High intensity blood monitoring required

**Band 2** - Medium / low intensity blood monitoring or other special monitoring required

**Band 3** - Routine monitoring required only

This contract funds two elements of amber drug support. The first element is blood monitoring or other special monitoring of drugs in bands 1 and 2. The second element covers more basic support required for patients receiving drugs in band 3, where there are no special monitoring requirements.

The specific requirements which need to be undertaken by practices delivering this service include:

1. **Band 1** - A shared care drug monitoring service, including frequent blood testing, in respect of the following specified drugs:

Azathioprine (po)  
Ciclosporin (po)  
Leflunomide (po)  
Mercaptopurine (po)  
Methotrexate (po/inj)  
Mycophenolate (po)  
Penicillamine (po)  
Sodium aurothiomalate (inj)  
Sirolimus (po)  
Sulphasalazine (po)  
Tacrolimus (po)

2. **Band 2** - Monitoring, including blood testing, or other special monitoring or other special circumstances, in respect of the following drugs

Atomoxetine (po)  
Degarelix (imp)  
Dexamfetamine (po)  
Denosumab (inj)  
Dronedarone (po)  
Flutamide (po)  
Goserelin (imp)  
Hydroxycarbamide (po)  
Leuprorelin (inj)  
Lisdexamfetamine (po)  
Methylphenidate (po)  
Riluzole (po)  
Somatropin (inj)  
Testosterone (inj)  
Topiramate (po)  
Triptorelin (inj)  
Vigabatrin (po)

Anti-psychotics: note claims should be submitted only where these drugs are prescribed for patients on the QOF Mental Health register (i.e. Read coded as having a history of schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder or other psychoses).

Amisulpiride (po)  
Aripiprazole (po/inj)  
Benperidol (po)  
Chlorpromazine (po)  
Flupentixol (inj)  
Fluphenazine (inj)  
Haloperidol (po)  
Olanzapine (po)  
Pericyazine (po)  
Perphenazine (po)  
Pimozide (po)  
Quetiapine (po)  
Risperidone (po/inj)  
Sulpiride (po)  
Trifluoperazine (po)  
Zuclopenthixol (po)  
Zuclopenthixol Decanoate (inj)

3. **Band 3** - Routine monitoring of the following drugs:

Amiodarone (po)  
Apomorphine (inj)  
Darbepoetin alfa (inj)  
Donepezil (po)  
Epoetin (inj)  
Galantamine (po)  
Hydroxychlorquine sulphate (po)  
Ibandronic acid 50mg (po)  
Lanreotide (inj)  
Memantine (po)  
Octreotide (inj)  
Rivastigmine (po)  
Modafanil (po)