

TRAMACET

Medicines Management Team Advisory Summary

Tramacet® is not included in local pain guidelines and is not a cost-effective intervention, therefore, it is not recommended on the NHS

Introduction

- Tramacet® is a combination product containing Tramadol 37.5mg and Paracetamol 325mg per tablet.
- It is licensed for the symptomatic treatment of moderate to severe pain
- It is available in tablet form (£9.22 /60 tabs) and effervescent tablets (£9.68 /60 effervescent tablets)
- Tramacet® contains lower than therapeutic doses of any of both drugs (Paracetamol 500mg / Tramadol 50mg) thus provides potentially ineffective pain relief at a higher cost
- The cost for full dose treatment (8 doses per day) is around £35 per month

Formulary Status

3Ts

BCAP

ICID

Non-formulary

Recommended Actions & Prescribing Guidance

Review patients currently taking Tramacet and switch to other pain relief options such as:

- Paracetamol "2x500mg QDS" (£5.20/month)
- Paracetamol "2x500mg QDS" + Tramadol 50mg caps "1-2 QDS PRN" (£11.60/month)
- Paracetamol "2x500mg QDS" + Codeine 30mg "1-2 QDS PRN" (£14/month)
- Co-codamol 30/500 "1-2 QDS PRN" (£9/month)

(For frail elderly patients with low bodyweight, a lower maximum dose of paracetamol and opioids should be considered)

Safety: There is no evidence that Tramacet® is more effective or safer than paracetamol 500mg and codeine 30mg (either as individual drugs or combined as co-codamol 30/500)

Wiltshire CCG Cost Impact

In the last 12 months, 2323 prescriptions have been written for Tramacet® at a cost of £35,183

References

1. PresQIPP Bulletin 62 Switching Tramacet® to paracetamol alone or paracetamol and codeine <https://www.prescqipp.info/resources/send/59-tramacet/946-bulletin-62-tramacet>
2. Summary Of Product Characteristics - Tramacet 37.5mg/ 325mg film-coated tablets
3. WCCG Pain Management Documents <https://prescribing.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk/?wpdmdl=286>
4. BNF 70
5. Drug Tariff July 2016