

EFFECTIVE SHARED CARE AGREEMENT OF APOMORPHINE (APO-GO®) FOR THE TREATMENT OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE

RESPONSIBILITIES and ROLES

Specialist clinician responsibilities

- 1 Discuss the benefits and side effects of treatment with the patient.
- 2 Check for possible drug interactions with apomorphine and patients regular medication. Avoid prescribing interacting drugs.
- 3 Assess likelihood of compliance.
- 4 Ensure patient is given sufficient information about their treatment.
- 5 Perform all baseline tests (including FBCs and ECG)
- 6 Initiate and stabilise treatment with apomorphine.
- 7 Supply all ancillary medication associated with the apomorphine challenge test (eg domperidone).
- 8 Supply medication until care is transferred to GP.
- 9 Ask the GP whether he or she is willing to participate in shared care and explain the intention to share care with patient/carer and obtain consent.
- 10 Monitor appropriately as stated on the monitoring requirement.
- 11 Inform GP of the dose and preparation to be prescribed (e.g. pen/ pre-filled syringe/ ampoule), their subsequent equipment/ consumables that are required, any changes in dose, when to stop treatment and when to refer the patient back to specialist.
- 12 Ensure GP has access to blood results for information.
- 13 Monitor for side effects and report adverse events to the MHRA and GP where appropriate.
- 14 Inform GP if patient does not attend specialist appointments and action to be taken.
- 15 Have a mechanism in place to receive rapid referral of a patient from the GP in event of deteriorating clinical condition.
- 16 Ensure that clear backup arrangements exist for GPs to obtain advice and support.

General Practitioner responsibilities

- 1 Reply to the request for shared care as soon as possible.
- 2 Prescribe apomorphine and associated equipment/ consumables at the dose recommended once patient is established on treatment.
- 3 Comply with GP responsibility of the monitoring requirement.
- 4 Ensure compatibility with other concomitant medication.
- 5 Adjust the dose as advised by the specialist.
- 6 Contact the specialist if you suspect the patient is not complying with their medication.
- 7 Check for possible drug interaction when prescribing new medication and avoid prescribing interacting drugs.
- 8 Stop treatment on the advice of the specialist or immediately if an urgent need to stop treatment arises.
- 9 Refer the patient to the specialist if his/her condition deteriorates.
- 10 Report any suspected adverse events to specialist team and any severe adverse events to MHRA.

Patient's / Carer's role	
1	Take apomorphine as recommended by specialist.
2	Report to the specialist or GP if he / she does not have a clear understanding of the treatment.
3	Request repeat prescriptions from the GP at least 5 days before the next supply is needed.
4	Attend scheduled appointments with specialist, GP and for monitoring.
5	Share any concerns in relation to treatment with GP or specialist.
6	Inform specialist or GP of any other medication being taken, including over-the-counter products
7	Inform specialist or GP if you feel you are having problems taking your medication or have stopped taking it.
8	Report any adverse effects to the specialist or GP.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION EFFECTIVE SHARED CARE AGREEMENT

Information on therapeutic indication, dosage, method of administration, side effects and management considerations in special populations can be found in the Summary of Product Characteristics for apomorphine available from www.medicines.org.uk

Monitoring requirements

Monitoring Interval	Full blood count	ECG	Blood Pressure	GP or Specialist clinician
Baseline	✓	✓	✓	Specialist clinician
2 weeks post-initiation		✓		Specialist clinician
Every 3-6 months and with each dose change	✓	✓	✓	Specialist clinician

Additional information which cannot be found in the SPC

Administration equipment requirements

Patients prescribed the APO-go® PEN will receive needles free of charge with the pens.

Patients prescribed the APO-go® PFS and APO-go® AMPOULES will be provided with a pump on-loan, syringes and connectors free of charge. The Specialist will advise the GP of the infusion lines that are to be prescribed, these will usually be Neria lines (Unomedical) which are listed in the drug tariff and available on prescription, however the line length and gauge may vary depending on the needs of the patient. All patients have access to the APO-go® helpline should they have any queries or experience any problems with their equipment.

Antihypertensive and Cardiac Active Medicinal Products

Even when co-administered with domperidone, apomorphine may potentiate the antihypertensive effects of these medicinal products.

It is recommended to avoid the administration of apomorphine with other drugs known to prolong the QT interval.

BACK-UP ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Contact details	Telephone No.	Email address:
Specialist clinician: In hours Dr Carl Mann Out of hours Neurology SpR on-call (via switchboard)	01782 679456 01782 715444	Carl.mann@uhnms.nhs.uk N/A
Clinical Nurse Specialists	01782 679463	parkinsonsdiseasenurses@uhnms.nhs.uk
Hospital Medicines Information Dept	01782 674537	Medicines.Information@uhnms.nhs.uk
Other: Susan Ferguson (senior nurse advisor in APO-go therapy) APO-go Helpline (24/7)	07920513618 08448801327	