

## EFFECTIVE SHARED CARE AGREEMENT OF SOMATROPIN FOR THE TREATMENT OF GROWTH FAILURE IN CHILDREN RESPONSIBILITIES and ROLES

### Specialist responsibilities

#### Initiation

1. Confirm diagnosis for one of the following:
  - Growth Hormone deficiency
  - Small for Gestational Age (SGA) with subsequent growth failure at 4 years of age or later
  - Short Stature Homeobox gene (SHOX) Deficiency
  - Turner Syndrome (TS)
  - Chronic Renal Insufficiency (CRI)
  - Prader-Wili Syndrome(PWS)
2. Discuss the benefits and side effects of treatment with the patient.
3. Check for possible drug interactions with somatropin and patients regular medication. Avoid prescribing interacting drugs
4. Initiate somatropin and provide prescriptions for at least 3 months or until care is transferred to GP, usually after 3 months.
5. 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.
6. Inform GP of the dose to be prescribed, any changes in dose, when to stop treatment and when to refer the patient back to specialist.
7. Inform GP if patient does not attend specialist appointments and action to be taken.
8. Monitor for side effects and report adverse events to the MHRA and GP where appropriate.
9. Stop growth hormone treatment when indicated and write to the GP to confirm this.
10. Ensure clear backup arrangements exist for GP for advice and support.
11. Monitor the response to treatment and conduct any necessary tests every 3-6 months. See supporting information for monitoring requirements.
12. Write to the GP every 3-6 months advising of any actions required in relation to results of assessments/tests, response to treatment and any dose adjustment required.

### General Practitioner responsibilities

1. Reply to the request for shared care as soon as practical.
2. Prescribe somatropin at the dose recommended once patient is established on treatment at month 4.
3. Make dosage adjustments if requested to by the specialist.
4. Check for possible drug interactions with drug name and patients regular medication. Avoid prescribing interacting drugs
5. Contact the specialist if you suspect the patient is not complying with their medication.
6. Refer patients presenting with limp to the specialist for further investigations.
7. Seek specialist advice if concerned about the patient's condition in between regular reviews.
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 Administers somatropin as recommended by specialist.
- 2 Report to the specialist 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.
- 9 Vary the injection site to prevent lipoatrophy.
- 10 Seek prompt medical advice if patient experiences signs of upper airway obstruction (snoring) or respiratory infections.
- 11 Seek prompt medical advice if patient develops a limp, severe abdominal pain, abnormal curvature of spine and ear pain.
- 12 In Prader-Wili Syndrome monitor weight as instructed by the specialist and seek medical advice if significant weights gain.

**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 Somatropin available from [www.medicines.org.uk](http://www.medicines.org.uk)**

**Monitoring requirements (add in additional requirements if appropriate)**

Monitoring Interval	IGF1	TFT	U&Es	Height Velocity	GP or Consultant
Baseline	✓	✓	✓		Consultant
Every 3-6 months	✓	✓	✓	✓	Consultant
Annually	bone age evaluation				Consultant

**Additional information which cannot be found in the SPC**

**BACK-UP ADVICE AND SUPPORT**

Contact details	Telephone No.	Bleep:	Email address:
<b>Specialists:</b>			
Dr U Kumbattae, Consultant Paediatrician	01782 675281		
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