NHS
Cheshire and Merseyside

# Area Prescribing Group report

**Date**: Friday 02 October 2026 **Quorate**: Yes

The items in this report are supported by the area prescribing group (APG) and approval by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) is detailed below.

All document links provided for any CMAPG recommendations can be found in the Cheshire and Merseyside formulary which will also be updated to reflect these changes.

**The legacy Cheshire formulary, and the legacy Pan Mersey APC website and formulary are now closed**. Legacy documents are available by using the search function of the Cheshire and Merseyside formulary.

CMAPG governance documents are hosted on the Prescribing section of the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside website.

**Please note there may be items that have been considered by APG but not yet approved by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB. Items will be reported in the month that they are approved.**

## New medicines NICE TAs

| Proposal | Notes | Financial implications | Approval |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nemolizumab for treating moderate to severe prurigo nodularis<br>**RAG designation:** DNP<br>**APG subgroup**: 11 Sep 2026<br>**APG**: 02 Oct 2026 | **Date of NICE TA publication**: 09 Sep 2026<br>**Approval for implementation**: N/A<br>**Deadline for implementation**: N/A<br>A Do Not Prescribe (DNP) RAG has been assigned in the formulary in line with NICE TA1191.<br>NICE does not recommend nemolizumab for treating moderate | N/A | **MOP**: 15 Oct 2026, approved by MOP group. |

| Proposal | Notes | Financial implications | Approval |
|---|---|---|---|
| | to severe prurigo nodularis adults when systemic treatments are suitable. | | |

## New medicines other

| Actioned items for noting | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Proposal** | **Notes** | **Financial implications** | **Approval** |
| Semaglutide injection 7.2mg dose for managing obesity | For noting.<br>A grey RAG designation has been assigned pending publication of the NICE TA | N/A | N/A |
| Remibrutinib tablets for treating chronic spontaneous urticaria | For noting.<br>A grey RAG designation has been assigned pending publication of the NICE TA | N/A | N/A |
| Orforglipron tablets for managing overweight and obesity | For noting.<br>A grey RAG designation has been assigned pending publication of the NICE TA | N/A | N/A |
| Orforglipron tablets for treating type 2 diabetes | For noting.<br>A grey RAG designation has been assigned pending application for use.<br>NICE have confirmed that this indication will not be subject to a NICE TA. | N/A | N/A |

## Formulary and guidelines

| Proposal | Notes | Financial implications | Approval |
|---|---|---|---|
| Topical calcineurin inhibitors tacrolimus 0.1% and 0.03% ointment and pimecrolimus 10g/g cream<br><br>**RAG designation**: amber recommended<br><br>**APG subgroup**: 15 Sept 2026<br><br>**APG**: 02 Oct 2026 | Change of RAG designation from Amber Initiated to Amber Recommended.<br><br>These products meet the C&M definition of Amber Recommended as specialist assessment is required before they are started. However, there is no necessity for stabilisation of the dose and specialist review before primary care can continue to prescribe. | In-year transfer of costs from secondary care to primary care prescribing (6 months) is estimated to be £71,479. | **MOP**: 15 Oct 2026, approved by MOP group. |
| Cheshire and Merseyside Area Prescribing Group biosimilar formulary policy - amendment<br><br>**RAG designation**: N/A<br><br>**APG subgroup**: 15 Sept 2026<br><br>**APG**: 02 Oct 2026 | Policy now states a general message will be added to formulary entries for biologic drugs where biosimilar versions exist stating:<br><br>*Biosimilar versions are available. Prescribe by brand name.*<br><br>*Use the regional contract preferred brand where specified. Otherwise use the least costly product taking account of administration costs, dosage and price per dose.*<br><br>Previous version of policy stated that all biosimilar brands would be individually listed. | N/A | **MOP**: 15 Oct 2026, approved by MOP group. |
| Tirzepatide-GLP1A minor formulary amendment, co-prescribed with insulin. | Removal of wording specifying “in type 2 diabetes” as combination may be used where tirzepatide or GLP-1 agonist used for obesity. | N/A | **MOP**: 15 Oct 2026, noted by MOP group. |

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|---|---|---|---|
| **RAG designation**: Amber initiated<br>**APG subgroup**: 15 Sept 2026<br>**APG**: 02 Oct 2026 | | | |
| **Actioned items for noting** | | | |
| Formoterol fumarate dihydrate (Atimos Modulite) 12micrograms/dose inhaler and Beclometasone dipropionate (Clenil Modulite) 50micrograms/dose and 250 micrograms/dose inhalers. | Inhaler discontinuations, removed from formulary. Alternative brands/ devices available on formulary. | N/A | N/A |

## APG reports

| Proposal | Notes | Financial implications | Approval |
|---|---|---|---|
| NICE TA adherence checklist<br>August 2026 | For noting | N/A | N/A |