

**South East London Area Prescribing Committee
Formulary recommendation**

Reference	037
Intervention:	Octreotide 50 micrograms/ml solution for injection for the management of chylothorax in adults (Octreotide is a somatostatin analogue).
Date of Decision	July 2015
Date of Issue:	August 2015
Recommendation:	RED – suitable for prescribing and supply by hospital only
Further Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Octreotide 50 micrograms/ml sub-cutaneous injection is accepted for the management of chylothorax in adults with: • A confirmed diagnosis of chylothorax (pleural fluid will demonstrate triglycerides >1.24mmol/L, cholesterol usually low, cholesterol crystals usually absent and chylomicrons will usually be present) AND • Continuous chyle production despite the following conservative management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tube thoracostomy (chest drain) - Dietary changes through a medium chain fatty acid diet or total parenteral nutrition. • Chylothorax is a rare condition and therefore published data on the use of octreotide/somatostatin in this setting are restricted to case reports and case series. • Anecdotal evidence suggests that the use of octreotide may avoid the need for surgery in 50% of patients. • Octreotide is not licensed for use in chylothorax. Patients will need to be informed of this before treatment in line with the organisation's usual consent processes. • Octreotide will be given at a dose of 50 micrograms to 100 micrograms three times a day for up to 14 days. • A database should be set up to record patient numbers treated and outcomes of treatment (including number of repeat courses required and surgery avoided). This information should be shared with the APC in a year from the date of issue of this recommendation.
Shared Care/ Transfer of care required:	N/A
Cost Impact for agreed patient group	<p>It is estimated that there will be approximately 10 patients eligible for treatment with octreotide per year in SEL. If treatment is given at 50mcg to 100mcg three times a day for 14 days, this will cost between £89.71 and £125.58 per patient*. Assuming one course per patient, this will result in a total approximate cost impact across SEL of between £900 and £1,260 per year.</p> <p>*prices taken from July 2015 BNF online and include 20% VAT</p>

Usage Monitoring & Impact Assessment	<p>Acute Trusts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor usage on a 6-monthly basis and report back to APC. • Provide 12 months data to the APC
	<p>CCGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor monthly high cost drugs data submitted by Trusts to the South East CSU (octreotide is a CCG commissioned drug when used in chylothorax).
Evidence reviewed	<p>References (from evidence evaluation)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Up to Date – Management of Chylothorax (last accessed 4/6/15) 2. British Thoracic Society. Pleural Disease Guideline. Thorax 2010 (accessed via https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/document-library/clinical-information/pleural-disease/pleural-disease-guidelines-2010/pleural-disease-guideline/) Last accessed 8/6/15 3. Nair SK et al. Aetiology and management of chylothorax in adults. Eur J Cardio-thoracic Surg. 2007; 32: 362-9 4. Hospira. Summary of Product Characteristics for Octreotide 0.1mg/ ml injection. Last updated Feb 2013. Accessed via http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/20029. Last accessed 8/6/15 5. Kalomenidis I. Octreotide and chylothorax. Curr Opin Pulmonary Med. 2006; 12: 264-7

NOTES:

- a) Area Prescribing Committee recommendations and minutes are available publicly on member CCG websites.
- b) This Area Prescribing Committee recommendation has been made on the cost effectiveness, patient outcome and safety data available at the time. The recommendation will be subject to review if new data becomes available, costs are higher than expected or new NICE guidelines or technology appraisals are issued.
- c) **Not to be used for commercial or marketing purposes. Strictly for use within the NHS.**