

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

<b>Reference:</b>	<b>080</b>
<b>Intervention:</b>	Estradiol 0.06% (Oestrogel <sup>®</sup> ) and estradiol 0.5mg (Sandrena <sup>®</sup> ) gels - Hormone Replacement Therapies (HRT) for oestrogen deficiency symptoms in postmenopausal women [Estradiol is a form of the female hormone oestrogen]
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	March 2018
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	April 2018
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>GREEN – can be prescribed within agreed criteria for use in primary care</b>
<b>Further Information</b>	<p>Estradiol 0.06% (Oestrogel<sup>®</sup>) and estradiol 0.5mg (Sandrena<sup>®</sup>) gels are accepted as a treatment option for oestrogen deficiency symptoms in postmenopausal women as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oestrogen in gel formulation is intended for use in patients who have experienced adverse formulation reactions from HRT patches such as local irritation.</li> <li>• When choosing oestrogen in a gel formulation, the first choice oestrogen gel is estradiol 0.06% (Oestrogel<sup>®</sup>) 0.75 to 3.0mg oestradiol daily.</li> <li>• Estradiol 0.5mg (Sandrena<sup>®</sup>) 0.5mg to 1.5mg oestradiol daily is the second choice gel.</li> <li>• These are licensed transdermal treatment options for HRT and for treatment of oestrogen deficiency symptoms in postmenopausal women.</li> <li>• Estradiol gel is to be used alone in women without a uterus, or in addition to progestogen in women with an intact uterus.</li> <li>• The active ingredient is 17<math>\beta</math>-estradiol, which is chemically and biologically identical to endogenous human estradiol.</li> <li>• It should be noted that for both preparations, the experience of treating women more than 65 years old is limited.</li> </ul>
<b>Shared Care/ Transfer of care required:</b>	N/A
<b>Cost Impact for agreed patient group</b>	The gels are similar in cost to existing formulary included alternatives i.e. patches; therefore the cost impact is expected to be minimal at a maximum incremental cost (versus patch formulations) of <£2,000 per annum for SE London.

<b>Usage Monitoring &amp; Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Acute Trusts:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor usage and report back to APC when requested.</li> </ul> <b>CCGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor impact data</li> <li>• Exception reports from GPs if inappropriate transfer of prescribing to primary care is requested</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence reviewed</b>	<b>References (extracted from evidence evaluation):</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries: Menopause. Available online at: <a href="https://cks.nice.org.uk/menopause">https://cks.nice.org.uk/menopause</a> (accessed 30/01/18)</li> <li>2. NICE Guidelines: Menopause NG23 Full Guideline. Updated: 12-Nov-2015. Available online at: <a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng23/evidence/full-guideline">https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng23/evidence/full-guideline</a> (accessed 30/01/18)</li> <li>3. Summary of product characteristics Oestrogel Pump Pack Last Updated on eMC 08-Jan-2018 [Besins Healthcare Ltd [online] Available at: <a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/">http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/</a> [Accessed on: 30/01/18]</li> <li>4. Summary of product characteristics Sandrena 0.5mg Gel Last Updated on eMC 27-May-2016 [Orion Pharma UK Limited [online] Available at: <a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/">http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/</a> [Accessed on: 30/01/18]</li> <li>5. Jaervinen A, Nykaenen S, Paasiniemi L. Absorption and bioavailability of oestradiol from a gel, a patch and a tablet. Maturitas 1999 32 p103-113</li> <li>6. Hirvonen E, Cacciatore B, Wahlstroem T et al. Effects of transdermal oestrogen therapy in postmenopausal women: a comparative study of an oestradiol gel and oestradiol delivering patch. British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology 1997 104 (suppl 16) p26-31</li> <li>7. Hirvonen E, Lamberg-Allardt C, Lankinen K et al. Transdermal oestradiol gel in the treatment of the climacterium: a comparison with oral therapy. British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology 1997 104 (suppl 16) 19-25</li> <li>8. British National Formulary: Estradiol. Accessed online via medicines complete. [Accessed on: 31/01/18]</li> </ol>

**NOTES:**

- a) Area Prescribing Committee recommendations and minutes are available publically 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.**