



Patient Group Direction: For the supply of Hydrogen Peroxide 1% cream by Community Pharmacists in Somerset to patients for the 'First line' topical treatment of minor localised impetigo under the Somerset Minor Ailments Scheme (PGD MAS 5 Version 2.1)

Staff involved in the development of this PGD:

	Name	Signature	Date
Physician	Dr Andrew Tresidder Somerset CCG Prescribing and Medicines Management Group Chair		16.5.22
Pharmacist	Hels Bennett Medicines Manager, Somerset CCG		12.05.2022

Name of original authors: Catherine Henley, Medicines Manager Somerset CCG and Dr Robert Baker, Consultant Microbiologist, Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust.

Expiry Date: 31st May 2024

Authorised for use across NHS Somerset CCG by:

Kathy French, Interim Director of Quality and Nursing for NHS Somerset CCG (Acting as Clinical Governance Lead)



Signed..... Date .18.05.2022.....

Date of Implementation: 1st June 2022

Expiry Date: 31st May 2024

TO BE COMPLETED BY PHARMACY AUTHORISING MANAGER:

I,, as authorising manager for
 pharmacy, have read and approved this PGD for use by
 appropriate healthcare professionals employed at my pharmacy. I understand that I am
 responsible for ensuring that pharmacy staff have adequate training to ensure that HYDROGEN
 PEROXIDE 1% (Crystacide®) CREAM is supplied to patients in strict accordance with this PGD

Signed..... Dated.....

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The healthcare professionals named below are authorised to supply Hydrogen Peroxide 1% cream (Crystacide®) as specified under this Patient Group Direction, being employees of (INSERT PHARMACY NAME)

In signing this document, I confirm the following:

- I have read and understood the above mentioned PGD.
- I agree to practice only within the bounds of my own competence and in accordance with my Code of Professional Conduct.
- I have the qualifications required under the staff characteristics detailed in the PGD
- I am competent to operate under this PGD.
- I will provide the service in accordance with the PGD.

NAME <i>(please print)</i>	TITLE	SIGNATURE	AUTHORISING MANAGER <i>(please print)</i>	MANAGER'S SIGNATURE	DATE

- Complete additional pages as necessary.
- Retain original signed pages (1) and (2) with authorising manager.

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N.B. You must be authorised by name, under the current version of this PGD before you attempt to work in accordance with it.

1. Clinical Condition

Definition of condition/situation

Adults and children aged six months and older requiring topical treatment for minor localised impetigo.

Criteria for inclusion

Adults and children aged six months and older where all the following criteria are met:

- Informed consent from patient or person with parental responsibility has been obtained. Consider the ethical and legal implications if the biological parent or the child’s representative is known or suspected of having no parental responsibility for the child
- Patient is registered with a General Practitioner (GP) in the United Kingdom and gives permission to share relevant information with other healthcare professionals and agencies
- Small, isolated lesions are visible
- Treatment of impetigo is required

Exclusion criteria

- Consent not obtained
- Children under the age of six months
- Impetigo near the eyes - hydrogen peroxide is irritant to eyes
- Known or suspected pregnancy*
- Individuals presenting with extensive or long-standing impetigo lesions (systemic treatment is more appropriate)
- Patients who are systemically unwell as a result of their impetigo (systemic treatment is more appropriate)
- Impetigo infections extending to mucous membranes or intranasal areas
- Known hypersensitivity to any component of hydrogen peroxide 1% cream or hypersensitivity following previous administration. See SPC for a full list of excipients.
- Where iodine, permanganates or other oxidising agents are being applied to skin already.
- > 10 lesions are present
- Adults where lesions are >10cm in length or, a total surface area >100 cm²
- Children under 18 years where area to be treated is >2% body surface area

**Hydrogen Peroxide 1% cream can be used during pregnancy, however, differential diagnosis of impetigo may be complicated by pregnancy. Impetigo herpetiformis (IH) can be triggered by pregnancy. Unlike other pregnancy dermatoses, IH can be associated with constitutional symptoms including fever, rigors, arthralgia and complications of secondary infection and sepsis. There is an increased risk of fetal anomalies and stillbirths. Pregnant patients therefore need clinical review and should be referred for diagnosis and management of their infection.*

Caution

- If patient is taking any other medications consult the [British National Formulary \(BNF\)](#) for any potential interactions
- Impetigo close to eyes (avoid cream near eyes); if cream gets into eyes, then rinse out immediately with plenty of clean water.
- Salicylic acid in hydrogen peroxide 1% cream can cause allergic dermatitis
- Propylene glycol in hydrogen peroxide 1% cream can cause skin irritation
- Hydrogen peroxide can bleach fabrics
- Lactation (breast feeding) - Avoid use on chest area to reduce the risk of ingestion. Avoid contact of the infant with treated areas.

Action if excluded

- Further explanation to gain consent, if appropriate.
- If hydrogen peroxide is inappropriate for the patient, consider whether they could be treated with Silver Sulfadiazine 1% Cream instead using PGD MAS 6 for the supply of Silver Sulfadiazine 1% Cream as second line treatment for impetigo.
- Refer to patient's GP or relevant healthcare professional as applicable
- If a Patient Medication Record (PMR) is available, it may be useful to document in patient notes.

Action if patient refuses medication

- Refer to GP if appropriate

2. Characteristics of Staff

Professional qualification to be held by staff working under this Patient Group Direction

Pharmacist registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) and competent to work with this patient group direction (PGD), including familiarity with NICE guidance on PGDs (see references).

Additional requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have completed initial training and/or be familiar with the current service level agreement for Somerset Minor Ailments Service. • Must only use this PGD in conjunction with the Somerset Minor Ailments Service. • Must have access to a current copy of the BNF • Consultation room available for discussion • The individual pharmacist's competence with respect to their practice under this PGD will be assessed by their mentor/manager on a regular basis. • It is the responsibility of the pharmacist to keep up-to-date with their continued professional development, in line with GPhC requirements; • The pharmacist must be alert to changes in Summaries of Product Characteristics, and Drug Safety Updates from MHRA.
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3. Description of Treatment

Name of Medicine	Hydrogen Peroxide 1% (Crystacide®) Cream
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Legal Class	P (Pharmacy Medicine)
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Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store in original packaging to protect from light • Store below 25°C, in a dry place. • Patients must dispose of the tube of cream 28 days after opening, even if it is not empty. Waste medicines and topical preparations should be returned to a pharmacy for safe disposal.
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Method or route of administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topical
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Dose to be used (including criteria for use of differing doses)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply a layer of cream to the affected area.
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Frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three times a day for five days.
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Total dose and number of times drug to be given. Details of supply (if supply made)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One 25g tube. (Labelled in accordance with the <i>Medicines Act 1968</i>, as amended) • Any further supply is outside the scope of this PGD. Patients or carers should be advised to seek medical help if symptoms worsen rapidly or significantly at any time, or have not improved after completing a course of treatment.
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Advice and information to patient/carer including follow-up

- Explain to patient/ carer that NICE guidance recommends hydrogen peroxide cream first line in the treatment impetigo to minimize the use of antibiotic treatment where it is not needed. Explain to patient/carer that hydrogen peroxide cream can bleach fabrics.
- Inform patient/carer that impetigo is very contagious and advise on self-management strategies – see [NHS Choices Impetigo webpage](#) for further information
- Advise the patient/carer on the importance of regular application and course completion (five days)
- The patient/carer should contact a GP or relevant specialist if there is no improvement or a worsening in the affected area after 2-3 days of treatment
- If impetigo has not resolved after 5 days, further medical advice should be sought
- The bacteria that causes the infection live under the crusts so it is important to remove the crusts with warm soapy water before each application
- When hydrogen peroxide cream is used on face, take care to avoid the eyes, nasal mucosa, mouth or lips; if the cream accidentally gets on to the eyes, nasal mucosa, mouth or lips rinse off immediately with plenty of clean water
- In the event of local irritation occurring with hydrogen peroxide cream, treatment should be discontinued and the product should be rinsed off. The patient should seek further medical advice regarding possible alternative therapy
- A dry film may appear on the skin after application; this can easily be washed off with water.
- Patients should be advised to seek urgent medical attention if they develop early symptoms of anaphylaxis such as breathlessness, swelling, and rash
- Concurrent application of other topical medicinal products to the same area of skin has not been studied, and is not recommended
- Children with impetigo should not go to school or nursery until the ointment has been used for at least 48 hours and there are no new blisters or crusts appearing
- Individuals with impetigo who prepare food as part of their job should stay off work for at least one week and until all spots, blisters, and crusts have disappeared and completely healed
- Inform the patient of the possible side-effects and their management (see SPC, current BNF and “Adverse reactions” section below)
- Advise the patient or carer of person to read the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) before using the medicine and that the pharmacy can be contacted if any queries

Adverse effects: Any serious adverse reaction should be documented e.g. in the consent forms, patient's medical record and the GP should also be informed. Unusual /persistent side effects should be followed up with a medical practitioner.

Common reactions:

- A mild sensation of burning may be experienced for a short time after application. Patients/carers should be advised that if they feel that skin remains irritated for a long time or notice any other side effects not listed, they should take advice from their doctor or pharmacist.
- Crystacide® Cream contains salicylic acid, which is a mild irritant and can cause dermatitis.
- Crystacide® Cream also contains propylene glycol which may cause skin irritation.

Any **serious** adverse events that may be attributable to Hydrogen Peroxide 1% Cream should be reported to the MHRA using the yellow card system <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/> and also follow the local incident reporting procedure.

See the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC)

(<https://mhraproductsproduction.blob.core.windows.net/docs/a5b8b4f897908279f4a722ac51313344e9a6f0a2>) and the current edition of the BNF for full details and updates.

Specify method of recording supply /administration including audit trail

It is a legal requirement to keep auditable records of administration and supply of medication via a PGD.

Information entered into a patient clinical record should include:

- Patient's name, address and date of birth
- Consent given
- Indication
- Name strength form and pack size of medication supplied
- Date supplied
- Information and advice given to the patient.
- Signature/name and GPhC number of pharmacist who supplied the medication, and name and address of pharmacy
- Details of any drug interactions experienced
- Details of any adverse reactions experienced
- Any patient decline or reason for exclusion
- Record that medicine supplied via Patient Group Direction

The GP practice should be informed of the consultation and supply of medication.

A computer or manual record of all individuals receiving treatment under this Patient Group Direction should also be kept for audit purposes within each pharmacy. Check with employer which method of recording is to be used.

Data must be stored in accordance with Caldicott guidance and the Data Protection Act.

References used in the development of this PGD:

- SPC Reference for Hydrogen Peroxide 1% cream (Crystacide® cream) <https://mhraproductsproduction.blob.core.windows.net/docs/a5b8b4f897908279f4a722ac51313344e9a6f0a2>
- Current edition of [British National Formulary \(BNF\)](#)
- Hydrogen peroxide – Medicines – Specialist Pharmacy Service <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/medicines/hydrogen-peroxide/>
- Public Health England - Hydrogen Peroxide General Information PHE v1 2009 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/337705/Hydrogen_Peroxide_General_Information_phe_v1.pdf
- General Pharmaceutical Council [standards](#)
- 'National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. Medicines Practice Guidelines, 'Patient Group Directions' last updated March 2017. <https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/MPG2>
- NICE guideline (NG153) Impetigo: Antimicrobial Prescribing Published 26 February 2020 <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng153>
- NICE CKS - Impetigo <https://cks.nice.org.uk/impetigo>
- NHS Choices - Impetigo <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/impetigo/>

Please refer to the summary of product characteristics for full information

This Patient Group Direction is operational from 1st June 2022 and expires 31st May 2024

Version History

Version	Date	Brief Summary of Change	Owner's Name
0.1	21/2/2020	New PGD written and put into CCG Format to reflect NICE recommendation to treat non-bullous impetigo with Hydrogen Peroxide 1% cream first line before topical antibiotic preparations	Catherine Henley
1.0	13/5/2020	Minor amendments after comments from microbiologists and reviewed and approved by the Somerset Prescribing and Medicines Management Group	Catherine Henley
2.0	31/03/2022	PGD reviewed and updated. Lactation moved from Exclusion to Caution section. Information added regarding referring pregnant patients for diagnosis. Minor formatting changes. Approved by Somerset Prescribing & Medicines Management (PAMM) group	Hels Bennett
2.1	12/05/2022	Wording on page 2 revised from ' <i>I agree to administer/supply the above preparation in accordance with this PGD</i> ' to ' <i>I will provide the service in accordance with the PGD</i> '	Hels Bennett