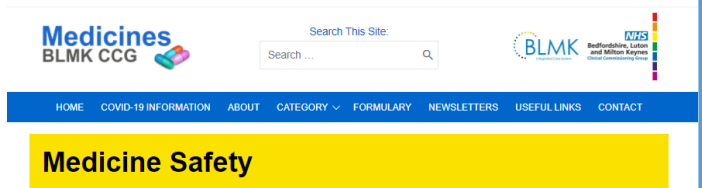


February 2022



New website launch

We recently launched a [new page on the BLMK website for Medicine Safety](#). Watch this space for latest news, projects and updates across BLMK.



COVID medicines delivery unit incidents

There have been a small number of incidents where patients have been issued FP10 prescriptions for COVID antivirals. If a patient approaches the GP practice for treatment please **refer** the patient to the BLMK CMDU service for assessment via blmkccg.cmdu@nhs.net



Reminder—DOACs and mechanical heart valves

Patients with mechanical heart valves should NOT be switched to a DOAC as this can result in thrombosis of the valve. Thrombosis of a prosthetic valve is potentially life threatening as it can result in haemodynamically severe stenosis or regurgitation and acute heart failure.

MHRA Drug Safety Updates:

[Dapagliflozin \(Forxiga\): no longer authorised for treatment of type 1 diabetes mellitus](#)

[Venetoclax \(Venclyxto®\): updated recommendations on tumour lysis syndrome \(TLS\)](#)

[Haloperidol \(Haldol\): reminder of risks when used in elderly patients for the acute treatment of delirium](#)

[Paclitaxel formulations \(conventional and nab-paclitaxel\): caution required due to potential for medication error](#)

[Brolucizumab \(Beovu®\): risk of intraocular inflammation and retinal vascular occlusion increased with short dosing intervals](#)

Medicines Safety Improvement Programme (MedSIP)

The Medicines Safety Improvement Programme (MedSIP) addresses the most important causes of severe harm associated with medicines, most of which have been known about for years but continue to challenge the health and care systems in England.

The key ambitions for MedSIP are as follows:

- ⇒ to reduce medicine administration errors in care homes by 50% by March 2024
- ⇒ to reduce harm from opioid medicines by reducing high dose prescribing (>120mg oral Morphine equivalent), for non-cancer pain by 50%, by March 2024

The MHRA have a **Yellow card mobile app** for reporting suspected adverse reactions to medicines but did you know you can also:

- Create a watch list of medications & receive alerts about them
- View Yellow card data directly on your mobile phone
- Update yellow cards already submitted

