

Policy Statement; Eflornithine (Vaniqa®) cream is non-formulary and prescribing is not supported for routine use for the treatment of facial hirsutism

Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group does not support the prescribing of Eflornithine 11.5% cream (Vaniqa®) for the routine use for the treatment of facial hirsutism

The treatment of hirsutism is a cosmetic procedure which is of a low clinical priority for funding by Mid Essex CCG. If hirsutism is mild and does not significantly interfere with the person's quality of life, consider no additional treatment. Hirsutism is not usually associated with any significant medical abnormality.

Eflornithine 11.5% cream (Vaniqa®) offers very little benefit for the management of facial hirsutism. There is limited evidence for efficacy and patient satisfaction with eflornithine.

Recommendations

- Promote self-funded cosmetic treatments for reduction in hair growth or hair removal (e.g. shaving, plucking, depilatory cream, laser treatment, electrolysis) as the primary options for the majority of persons with hirsutism.
- It is important that the patient is properly assessed and underlying causes addressed (such as weight reduction if obese) before pharmacological therapy is considered as hirsutism can result from serious medical conditions or from medication (e.g. ciclosporin, glucocorticoids, minoxidil, phenobarbitone, phenytoin, combined oestrogen-androgen hormone replacement therapy).

Providers commissioned to provide services on behalf of Mid-Essex CCG are reminded that they are required to follow the Mid-Essex CCG formulary and prescribing guidance as detailed in their contract (Medicines Management Service Specification).

See Mid-Essex CCG website – Medicines Optimisation page for all prescribing guidance.

<http://midessexccg.nhs.uk/your-health-services/medicines-optimisation>

Title	Eflornithine (Vaniqa) Prescribing policy statement
Document reference	EflornithinePOL201606V1.0FINAL
References	PrescQIPP DROP-List. Bulletin 57 available at www.prescgipp.info/droplist Berkshire West Prescribing Committee Policy Statement APC1
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-	New guidance