Background

In January 2013 a procedure for accessing rarely used antidotes within the Yorkshire and Humber region was issued. The CEM have issued new guidance in December 2013, this paper aims to highlight the changes and hence any modifications that might be required to the procedure.

There are still 3 levels of antidote availability

1. Available immediately in A&E
2. Available to use in 1 hour (within the hospital)
3. Rarely used so available supra-regionally

Each hospital Trust should review the level 1 & 2 antidotes and ensure that there is appropriate availability.

The risk sharing agreement across Y&H should continue as before, apart from in relation to the antidotes highlighted below.

For information and discussion - changes since 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change for local Trusts</th>
<th>Stock Holding Required</th>
<th>Cost Implications (inc VAT)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Viper venom antiserum has been moved from level 2 to level 1. All A&amp;E departments are advised to have it immediately available.</td>
<td>2 amps</td>
<td>£40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fomepizole injection is now the antidote of choice for ethylene glycol or methanol poisoning. It is level 2 so should be available within an hour. It is currently held at 3 holding centres across the region. Should all A&amp;Es stock it?</td>
<td>4 vials x 1.5g in 1.5ml</td>
<td>£3360</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Changes for Y&amp;H sharing agreement</th>
<th>Stock holding</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berlin Blue soluble (Prussian Blue) has been added at level 3 for thallium poisoning.</td>
<td>Based on the NPIS dosing for 70kg patient 5 boxes of 36x500mg caps would be sufficient for 4 days treatment.</td>
<td>£487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimercaprol (BAL) added at</td>
<td>Based on the NPIS dosing</td>
<td>£6240</td>
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level 3 for arsenic poisoning.

for 70kg patient 8 boxes of 50mg/ml -10x 2ml amps would be required.

Glucarpidase added at level 3 for methotrexate poisoning. This is unlicensed and a named patient drug. Clinigen can supply within 24 hours.

4 vials would be needed for the average adult. £44,000*

Recommendations

- Fomepizole becomes the responsibility of individual trusts and is removed from the risk sharing arrangement.
- Berlin Blue soluble and dimercaprol are stocked at Leeds under the risk sharing arrangement.
- Glucarpidase is available from Clinigen within 24 hours but it is very expensive, £44k for 1 patient. This would not be held by any centre in Y & H but would be sourced after discussion with NPIS, as per their instructions, from Clinigen.

The Y&H SOP will be updated to reflect the YCP decision.

Graham Cox, Head of Medicines Information, LTH. Feb 2014.