



**PAN MERSEY AREA PRESCRIBING COMMITTEE
PRESCRIBING POLICY STATEMENT
REF: PS44 FINAL
APC BOARD DATE: 27 SEP 2017**



Pan Mersey
Area Prescribing Committee

DEXAMETHASONE intravitreal implant (Ozurdex®)

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The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of DEXAMETHASONE intravitreal implant (Ozurdex®), by ophthalmologists only, for treating non-infectious uveitis in accordance with NICE TA460.

[NICE TA460](#) (26 July 2017) recommends dexamethasone intravitreal implant (Ozurdex®) as an option for treating non-infectious uveitis in the posterior segment of the eye in adults, only if there is:

- > active disease, that is, current inflammation in the eye and
- > worsening vision with a risk of blindness. [1]

Treatment must only be initiated by an ophthalmologist experienced in the management of patients with uveitis. Prescribing, administration and monitoring must be retained in secondary care.

The most commonly reported adverse events after treatment with dexamethasone intravitreal implant are those often seen with ophthalmic steroid treatment or intravitreal injections (elevated intraocular pressure, cataract formation and conjunctival or vitreal haemorrhage respectively). [1] For full details of adverse reactions of dexamethasone, see the [summary of product characteristics](#).

Costing information – NICE do not think that this guidance will have a significant impact on NHS resources (defined as <£9,100 per 100,000 population) because the eligible UK population size is small (estimated at 380 per year for dexamethasone).

Adalimumab

NICE TA 460 also recommends adalimumab for the treatment of non-infectious uveitis in the posterior segment of the eye in adults with inadequate response to corticosteroids. [1] This technology is commissioned by NHS England. [2]

References

- [1] NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance 460: Adalimumab and dexamethasone for treating non-infectious uveitis (Jul 2017). Available online at <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta460>. Last accessed on 27 Jul 2017.
- [2] NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance 460: Adalimumab and dexamethasone for treating non-infectious uveitis, costing report (Jul 2017). Available online at <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta460/resources/resource-impact-statement-4541964157>. Last accessed on 27 Jul 2017.

Note: Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this statement may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy. In this situation, follow locally defined processes.