

SHIP8 Clinical Commissioning Groups Priorities Committee

No. 35

Policy Recommendation: **Sequential use and Dose Escalation of Biologic therapy in the Management of Psoriasis**

Date of issue: **June 2018**

The Committee discussed the evidence for the use and dose escalation of biological agents in the management of psoriasis in patients who have either developed intolerances or antibodies or have lost or not gained an adequate response to a standard dose of initial biologic therapy

The committee heard evidence that there was an extensive network in place for consultant dermatologists to share experience and knowledge. There is now increasing experience of dose escalation, especially where the patient's size meant that they were already close to the higher dosing regimen.

The committee accepted the NICE guideline (CG153) that for patients who fail to respond to a second biological drug the clinician should seek advice from colleagues with supra-specialist experience in the use of biological agents.

Dose escalation is supported where there is a clear clinical benefit and is supervised closely by clinicians with specialist experience.

The choice of drug must be as cost effective as possible with lowest total acquisition costs.

Review date – June 2023

Notes:

Whilst the panel recognised the considered expert advice of NICE in their recommendation the panel also had a duty to prioritise spending of a finite resource locally and made a decision which it felt gave the most equitable and effective use of investment.