

Date.....

Dear

Patient name	
Address	
Age	
Discharge date	
Hospital	
Diagnosed condition(s)	
Relevant prescribing recommendations	

Thank you for your recent letter requesting me to continue/initiate prescribing of the above medication. This medicine falls into the amber category of our Traffic Light scheme (see below) and within this area may be prescribed by GPs who are happy to do so under a shared care protocol.

If a shared care protocol exists in your area please forward details. If not please complete the attached template so that roles and responsibilities are clearly defined.

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely

Northamptonshire Traffic Light Scheme

You may be aware that health economies across the UK are providing strategic frameworks within which prescribers are recommended to operate. Decisions are based on assessment of clinical and financial risk, and of existing service provision within the area, as agreed by the Northamptonshire Prescribing Advisory Group (NPAG) and KGH Medicines Management Clinical Committee. In Northamptonshire, as elsewhere, this is called the Traffic Light Scheme.

Further information on the Northamptonshire Traffic Light scheme can be found at http://www.northants.nhs.uk/Top_Menu/Northamptonshire_Teaching_PCT/Left_Menu/DepartmentsFunctions/PrescribingPharmacy/Traffic_LightsSCP/index.jsp

Medicine Classification	Reason	Tick
Red	Specialist only.	
Amber 1	Request by a specialist for transfer of care to the GP must include monitoring and general information and be supported by a Trust-approved shared care protocol if available or, if not, then an interim monitoring guideline.	
Amber 2	Request by a specialist for transfer of care to the GP must include monitoring and general information.	
Double red - restricted list	Not suitable for prescribing in primary or secondary care due to lack of efficacy or good clinical evidence.	
Grey list	Awaiting decision at next NPAG meeting; recommended not to prescribe at present.	

cc Prescribing Team, NHS Northamptonshire, Francis Crick House, Summerhouse Road, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 6BF