



## Policy Statement; Prescribing of sodium oxybate oral solution 500mg/ml is not supported

### **Mid-Essex Clinical Commissioning Group does not support the prescribing of sodium oxybate (Xyrem Oral Solution®) for the management of narcolepsy**

Sodium Oxybate 500mg/ml is licensed for the treatment of narcolepsy with cataplexy in adult patients. It is a central nervous system depressant, which reduces excessive daytime sleepiness and cataplexy in patients with narcolepsy and modifies sleep architecture reducing fragmented night-time sleep. If administered before nocturnal sleep both stages 3 and 4 sleep increases and also sleep latency, whilst the frequency of sleep onset REM periods is reduced.

It is unlikely that sodium oxybate would be considered cost-effective in terms of cost per quality adjusted life year (QALY) when assessed against conventional limits. To date sodium oxybate has been turned down by both SMC and North East Treatment Advisory Group (NETAG). The East of England Priorities Advisory Committee (PAC) has therefore recommended that funding of sodium oxybate in the management of narcolepsy with cataplexy is low priority and **will not be routinely funded**. Any patients currently receiving treatment with sodium oxybate should continue to do so until either they or their clinician consider it appropriate to discontinue.

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).

For any Medicines Optimisation information please refer to the Mid Essex CCG website:

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

Further information on the PAC decision on sodium oxybate can be found below:

Policy Statement – [Sodium Oxybate](#)

Title	Sodium oxybate solution in narcolepsy policy statement
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