

Treatment Advice Letter

Attach patient identification Sticker
Title: _____
First name: _____
Surname: _____
Patient's Address: _____

D.o.b: _____

GP's Details:

Name: _____

Practice: _____

Known Allergies: _____

Date: _____

Dear Doctor.

Your patient has been diagnosed with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH) at the Sheffield Pulmonary Vascular Disease Unit and prescribed intravenous iloprost. This will be given as a continuous infusion via a central hickman line.

Iloprost is a prostacyclin analogue. It exerts its' beneficial reduction in pulmonary artery pressure via systemic vasodilation. Iloprost is prescribed in preference to epoprostenol due to its' better stability and Sheffield's long term experience in using it.

The treatment has already been initiated. Training and written information on how to use the syringe driver has been provided. As this is an unlicensed treatment, please refer its' sister drug, epoprostenol's Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) on potential undesirable effects and drug interactions, before prescribing other medications to your patient.

The Iloprost is funded by the NHS England and is prescribed by the Sheffield Pulmonary Vascular Disease Unit. The patient has been supplied with two syringe drivers with full details of who to contact in the event of faults or problems. In addition they have all the necessary ancillaries (e.g. gloves, sharps bins, syringes etc). You should not be asked for prescriptions for this medication as the patient will be delivered all supplies and ancillaries by our Homecare Partners, Healthcare at Home (0870 600 1540) or BUPA Home Healthcare (0845 8888 235).. Their usual repeat medicines should continue as usual. Any changes are noted on the enclosed discharge note.

You are advised where possible, to insert this drug onto GP repeat prescribing systems. There is a useful reminder on how to do this for GP practices on the [intranet](#). However, as these are unlicensed products, any potentially harmful drug interactions will not be highlighted by the clinical computer system.

If you have any queries regarding this or any aspect of their treatment, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0114 271 3259 or neil.hamilton@nhs.net.

Yours Faithfully,

Neil Hamilton
Pulmonary Vascular Disease Unit Pharmacist

sheffield **pulmonary vascular disease** unit



a nationally designated specialist centre