

Policy statement: Prescribing of Paracetamol is only recommended for diagnosed medical conditions.

Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (NCCG) *policy statements have been developed to ensure appropriate use of NHS resources and to promote high quality evidence-based, cost-effective prescribing. They support the implementation of the CCG's clinical and financial responsibilities*

Prescribing of paracetamol should be for patients with a diagnosed chronic medical condition related to pain.

Paracetamol is commonly used to relieve mild to moderate pain and reduce temperature (fever). It is available from pharmacies under the minor ailment scheme and to purchase without a prescription. Paracetamol is also available in combination products to treat other conditions such as congested sinuses. Patients who do not pay for their prescriptions can still access the minor ailment scheme without a charge.

Recommendations

- Repeat requests for paracetamol should be reviewed and where appropriate stopped if there is no documented indication for pain relief related to a medical condition.
- Discontinue prescribing of paracetamol if no longer indicated
- Do not prescribe paracetamol for minor ailments
- Patients managed on paracetamol for chronic pain should be reviewed regularly for effective pain control.

Exclusions

- Paracetamol are appropriate for patients with chronic pain such as oestho-arthritis, where it is effective.

Further information: [Click here](#)