

Reference: FOI.ICB-2627/036

Subject: Dermatology Prescribing, Referral Waiting Times, and Clinical Evidence Reviews

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>1. Formulary Evidence Base</p> <p>Please provide copies of the most recent cost-effectiveness analyses, clinical reviews, or Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) used to determine the current emollient formulary.</p> <p>If these were produced by an Area Prescribing Committee (APC) on behalf of the ICB, please also provide the relevant minutes where these recommendations were adopted.</p>	<p>The enclosed document (Emollient Comparison) was used as part of the process to review the current emollient formulary.</p> <p>Also enclosed is the extract from the October 2025 Area Prescribing Medicines Optimisation Committee minutes which relates to the emollient formulary. The emollient formulary document links directly to national guidance and MHRA safety information reviewed.</p> <p>Please note that FOI requests and responses are publicly available and therefore personal information has been redacted. The ICB considers the names included in the enclosed document(s) to be personal information and therefore has applied a section 40 (Personal Information) exemption to this information.</p>
<p>2. Clinical Criteria for Ceramide-Based Emollients</p> <p>Please outline the clinical criteria and/or evidence reviews used to determine the inclusion or exclusion of ceramide-based emollients (such as CeraVe or similar) from routine primary care prescribing.</p>	<p>The information for ceramide-based emollients is not held by the ICB.</p>

<p>Please confirm whether considerations such as reduction in flare-ups and subsequent steroid use form part of any cost-effectiveness assessment.</p>	
<p>3. Individual Funding Request (IFR) Data</p> <p>For the last three financial years (2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26 to date), please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total number of Individual Funding Requests (IFRs) submitted for non-formulary emollients or eczema treatments • The number of these requests approved • The number of these requests refused 	<p>No Exceptional Funding Requests (EFR) were identified for non-formulary emollients or eczema treatments over the last three financial years.</p>
<p>4. Dermatology Referral Waiting Times</p> <p>To help understand the interval between primary and secondary care, please provide the average waiting time (in weeks) for a patient to be seen following referral from a GP to a dermatology specialist for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgent referrals • Routine referrals <p>Please provide this data for the most recent 12-month period available.</p>	<p>RTT waiting times are publicly available by provider and commissioner broken down by Treatment Function (such as Dermatology) - but there is no available split between urgent and routine referrals.</p> <p>This dashboard shows the waiting times for the latest month (compared to the previous month and one month earlier): RTT Dashboard - NHS England public data gateway</p> <p>Here, Statistics » Referral to Treatment (RTT) Waiting Times, NHSE published the monthly RTT files. Each month there is an 'Incomplete Commissioner' and 'Incomplete Provider' excel file (and a combined CSV file with all the data for that month) published. Both files contain a column for the 'Average (median) waiting time (in weeks)'</p>

	for each commissioner and provider overall and split by Treatment Function.
<p>5. Evidence Review of Probiotic Interventions</p> <p>Please clarify whether the ICB or its relevant APC has conducted a clinical review or evidence assessment regarding the use of specific probiotic strains for atopic dermatitis, specifically *Lactobacillus rhamnosusSP1 (DSM 22775) or *Lactobacillus reuteriBR03 (DSM 16604).</p> <p>If no such review has been undertaken, please confirm this.</p>	<p>No information held regarding any clinical review or evidence assessment regarding the use of specific probiotic strains for atopic dermatitis.</p>

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 27 May 2026 and has been approved for release by Dr Ananthakrishnan Raghuram, Chief Clinical Leadership and Delivery Officer (Medical) for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.

Key
Current first line
Current second line
New addition to consider

*Prices taken from dm v0 February 2025
All data pulled from ePACT2, up-to November 2024

Emollients as per the current guideline, sorted per section by dm+d price (cheapest to most expensive) with added emollients to consider

-	Emollient	Advice/Criteria	Cost per 500ml/g*	Constituents	Manufacturer	Qty 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Net Ing. Cost 2024/2025 (8 Months)
Greasy Ointment	White soft paraffin 50% / Liquid paraffin 50% ointment	Severe dry skin secondary and/or acute flares secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Low risk of sensitivity.	£ 3.12	LP 50% + WSP 50%	TinOn Pharma	352,550	£ 3,222.40
Ointments	Epimax ointment	Very dry skin or scaly patches requiring softening secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Good for night-time. Do not use on the face.	£ 3.18	LP 40% + YSP 30% Cetomacrogol emulsifying wax, Cetostearyl alcohol, Macrogol cetostearyl ether	Aspera Pharma	2,469,460	£ 17,136.50
	AproDerm ointment	Unique composition in comparison to other ointments.	£ 3.95	WSP 95% + LP 5%	Fortus Health		
	Emulsifying ointment	Very dry skin or scaly patches requiring softening secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Good for night-time. Do not use on the face.	£ 4.15	WSP 50% + EW 30% + LP 20% Cetostearyl alcohol, Sodium lauryl sulfate	Enogen Healthcare	159,000	£ 1,174.57
	Zeroderm ointment	Similar to Epimax ointment, Emulsifying ointment and CetraBen ointment.	£ 4.35	WSP 30% + LP 40% Cetearyl Alcohol, Polysorbate 60	Thornton & Ross		
	Epimax paraffin-free ointment	Alternative ointment where paraffin-free formulation is required. STILL INCREASES FIRE RISK EVEN THOUGH PARAFFIN-FREE. Do not use on the face.	£ 5.11	Polyoxyethylene Hydrogenated Castor Oil 38% Macrogol cetostearyl ether, Medium chain triglycerides, Polypropylene glycol ether, Cetostearyl alcohol, Hydrogenated castor oil, D&C YellowRed	Aspera Pharma	519,500	£ 5,309.29
	CetraBen ointment	Slightly reduced thickness ointment - ONLY FOR USE IF other ointments not appropriate or acceptable and therefore optimal use is restricted.	£ 5.75	WSP 35% + LLP 45% Cetostearyl Alcohol, Polysorbate 60	Thornton & Ross	1,010,850	£ 13,538.16
Creams	Epimax original cream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to Aqueous cream, but no SLS. Do not use on the face.	£ 2.72	WSP 15%, LP 6% Cetostearyl alcohol, Polysorbate 60, Phenoxethanol and Water	Aspera Pharma	17,310,200	£ 96,429.02
	Epimax excera cream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to CetraBen cream.	£ 3.15	WSP 13.2% + LP 10.5% + Glycerol 4.5% + EW Cetostearyl alcohol, Phenoxethanol, Citric acid monohydrate, Trisodium citrate dihydrate, Phenoxethanol	Aspera Pharma	9,927,400	£ 66,624.99
	ZeroAQS emollient cream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to Aqueous cream, but no SLS.	£ 3.30	LP 6% + WSP 15% + Macrogol cetostearyl ether 1.8% Cetostearyl alcohol, Chlorocresol	Thornton & Ross	991,500	£ 6,722.37
	Excocream cream	Similar to Aproderm cream, Zerocream and E45 cream. Pump.	£ 4.99	WSP 14.5% + LLP 12.6% + Lanolin 1% Glycerol monostearate, Citric acid monohydrate, Cetyl alcohol, Sodium hydroxide, Sodium cetostearyl sulfate, Carbomer, Methyl hydroxy benzoate, Propyl hydroxybenzoate and Purified water	Pentan Healthcare		
	Zerocream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to E45 cream.	£ 4.36	LP 12.6% + WSP 14.5% + Anhydrous lanolin 1% Glycerol monostearate, Cetyl alcohol, Sodium cetostearyl sulfate, Citric acid monohydrate, Carbomer, Purified water, Sodium hydroxide, Sodium methyl, Hydroxybenzoate, Sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate, BHT	Thornton & Ross	3,598,350	£ 32,383.41
	Myrbase cream	Similar to CetraBen cream. Pump.	£ 4.70	WSP 13.2% + LP 10.5% Emulsifying Wax (SLS Free), Glycerol, Polysorbate 60, Cetostearyl alcohol, Phenoxethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin, Octadecyl hydrochloride, Citric acid monohydrate, Trisodium citrate dihydrate, Purified water	Pentan Healthcare		
	AproDerm emollient cream	Second line to Epimax emollients - ONLY FOR USE IF a pump container is required for patients with limited dexterity.	£ 4.95	WSP 15% + LP 6% Cetearyl alcohol, Cetesareth20, Aqua, Sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, Phenoxethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin	Fortus Health	92,750	£ 924.25
Gels	Epimax isomol gel	Very light emollient for mild dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to Doublebase gel.	£ 3.15	Isopropyl myristate 15% + LP 15% Glycerol, Carbomer, Polysorbate 20, Triethanolamine, Phenoxethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin and Water	Aspera Pharma	5,137,200	£ 34,928.00
	AproDerm gel	Second line to Epimax isomol - ONLY FOR USE IF a pump container is required for patients with limited dexterity.	£ 3.99	Isopropyl Myristate 15+LP 15% Aqua, Glycerin, Polycrylate-13, Polysorbate, Polysorbate-20, Phenoxethanol, Benzoic acid, Dehydroacetic acid, Ethylhexylglycerin	Fortus Health	79,000	£ 666.18
	Myrbase gel	Similar to Aproderm gel, Zerodouble gel and Doublebase gel. Pump.	£ 4.68	Isopropyl myristate 15% + LP 15% Glycerol, Triethanolamine, Phenoxethanol, C10-C30 Alkyl acrylate cross copolymer, Sorbitan laurate and Purified water	Pentan Healthcare		
	Zerodouble gel	Similar to Aproderm gel, Myrbase gel and Doublebase gel. Pump.	£ 5.21	Isopropyl myristate 15% + LP 15% Glycerol, Acrylate C10-C30 Alkyl acrylate cross polymer, Sorbitan laurate, Triethanolamine, Phenoxethanol, Purified water	Thornton & Ross		
Lotions	QV 5% skin lotion	ONLY FOR USE IF lanolin free lotion is needed. Lighter formulation emollient suitable for application to hairy areas, skin folds, face or scalp.	£ 5.55	Water, Glycerin, Petrolatum, C12-15 Alkyl benzoate, Cetearyl alcohol, Cetesareth-20, Sheareth-2, Dimethicone, Glycerol stearate, Methylparaben, Propylparaben, Dichlorobenzyl alcohol, Polyacrylic acid, Triethanolamine	Ego Pharmaceuticals	173,250	£ 1,922.51
	E45 lotion	Lighter formulation emollient suitable for application to hairy areas, skin folds, face or scalp. Contains lanolin.	£ 6.13	WSP 10% + LLP 4% + Lanolin 3% Benzyl alcohol, Isopropyl palmitate, Hydroxybenzoates (parabens)	Karo Healthcare	323,300	£ 4,061.92
Oatmeals	Epimax oatmeal cream	Useful for skin not tolerant of ointment or urea based products and also on skin with a history of sensitivity. Oatmeal acts as a humectant and is soothing for sensitive skin. Similar to Aveeno cream.	£ 3.16	Avena sativa kernel flour + LP 3.5% + WSP 6.75% Glycerol, Water, Distearoyldimonium chloride, Isopropyl palmitate, Cetostearyl alcohol, Dimethicone, Allantoin, Isopropinol, Octyldecyl alcohol, Phenoxethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin, Sodium chloride, Benzyl alcohol	Aspera Pharma	3,403,800	£ 23,982.66
	Miclaro oat cream	Similar to Aproderm colloidal oatmeal cream, Zeroveen and Aveeno. Pump.	£ 4.28	Avena sativa kernel flour 1% Glycerol, Distearoyldimonium chloride, Isopropyl palmitate, Cetyl alcohol, Liquid paraffin, Dimethicone, Microcrystalline wax, Benzyl alcohol, Allantoin, Dehydroacetic acid, Sodium chloride and Purified water	Pentan Healthcare		
	AproDerm Colloidal Oat cream	Second line to Epimax Oatmeal - ONLY FOR USE IF a pump container is required for patients with limited dexterity or if a paraffin-free cream emollient required.	£ 5.80	Avena Sativa Kernel Flour Purified water, Apricot kernel oil, Glycerin, Sucrose stearate, Cetearyl alcohol, Glycerol stearate SE, Dimethicone, Phenoxethanol, Vitamin F, Ethyl ester, Ethylhexylglycerin, Xanthan gum, Disodium EDTA, Vitamin E	Fortus Health	1,203,900	£ 14,722.06
Antimicrobial	Dermol 500 lotion	Short term ACUTE SCRIPT ONLY. Use to during skin infection only. Should not routinely be prescribed as repeat.	£ 6.52	LP 2.5% + Benzalkonium chloride 0.1% + Chlorhexidine dihydrochloride 0.1% + Isopropyl myristate 2.5% Cetostearyl alcohol, Macrogol cetostearyl ether, Phenoxethanol and Water	Dermal Laboratories	7,018,000	£ 88,980.80
	Dermol cream	Short term ACUTE SCRIPT ONLY. Patients with colonised eczema. Should not routinely be prescribed as repeat.	£ 7.19	LP 10% + Benzalkonium chloride 0.1% + Chlorhexidine dihydrochloride 0.1% + Isopropyl myristate 10% Cetostearyl alcohol, Glycerol, Macrogol cetostearyl ether, Phenoxethanol, Disodium phosphate dodecylhydrate, Sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate and Water	Dermal Laboratories	877,300	£ 12,940.48
Ureas	Balneum Intensive cream	Useful where a keratolytic/humectant is required e.g. hyperkeratosis, ichthyosis, extremely dry and/or fissured skin on hands and feet.	£ 9.07	Urea 5% LP, Ceramide, Aqua, Glycine soya oil, Propylene glycol, Cetearyl alcohol, Isohexadecane, Sodium lactate, Lactic acid, PEG-20 Stearate, Polysorbate 60, Squalane, Stearic acid, Disodium EDTA, Lecithin, Tocopherol, Acetyl palmitate, Hydrogenated palm Glycerides Citrate	Almalt	95,900	£ 2,038.25
	Ultraveen Itch Relief cream	ONLY FOR USE FOR very dry chronic inflammatory dermatological condition with associated significant irritation/itch that has not been responsive to or tolerant of other formulary emollient options.	£ 11.85	LP, Petrolatum, Urea, Dimethicone, Glycerin, Avena sativa kernel flour, Cetearyl alcohol, Glycerol stearate, Acrylates copolymer, Lanolin cera, Phenoxethanol, Polycrylate, Crosspolymer-6, 1,2-Hexanediol, Caprylyl glycol, Cera alba, Benzyl alcohol, Citric acid, Ethylhexylglycerin, Water	Dermatronics	98,500	£ 2,381.10
	Balneum Plus cream	ONLY FOR USE FOR significant idiopathic pruritus. May be used second line for significant pruritus with underlying dry chronic inflammatory dermatological condition not responsive to other urea-based emollients.	£ 14.99	Lauroyl macrogols 3.2% + Urea 5.0% LP Glycerol, Dimethicone, Phenyl dimethylol, Cetyl palmitate, Stearic palmitic acid, Octyldecyl alcohol, Polysorbate, Carbomer, Trometamol, Benzyl alcohol, Water	Almalt	1,041,400	£ 31,495.36
	Hydromol Intensive 10% cream	ONLY FOR USE FOR extreme hyperkeratosis or ichthyosis. May be used second line for extremely dry/fissured skin on hands and feet if not responsive to Balneum Cream.	£ 23.30	Urea 10% WSP, Isopropyl myristate, Maize starch, Glyceryl tribehenate, Palmitic acid, Sorbitan laurate and Polyoxyethylene fatty glyceride	Alliance Pharmaceuticals	16,240	£ 766.64
	Dermatronics Once Heel Balm	ONLY FOR USE FOR diabetic patients at risk from ulceration following the BNSO Dermatronics pathway.	£ 23.85	Urea 25% Lanolin cera, Petrolatum, Glycerin, C12-15 Alkyl benzoate, Cera alba, Dimethicone, Acrylates copolymer, Parfum, Phenoxethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin, Triethanolamine, Water	Dermatronics	523,350	£ 25,134.54
Spray	Emollin aerosol spray	ONLY FOR USE FOR very painful/fragile skin where there is difficulty with 'hands on' application of creams/ointments or where a spray allows self-application negating need for DN/HCP visits.	£ 15.46	LLP, WSP, Hexamethyldisiloxane	CD Medical	450,960	£ 14,524.67
Menthol	Menthoderm 5% cream		£ 16.45		Derma UK		
	Dermacol 5% cream	Useful for immediate itch relief to localised sites in patients with pruritic conditions such as nodular prurigo/generalised or local pruritus. Not to be used extensively due to risk of extreme cold sensation.	£ 19.83	0.5% / 1% / 2% / 5% Menthol LP, Petrolatum, Cetearyl alcohol, Phenoxethanol, Sodium lauryl sulfate, Water	Pern Consumer Products	8,200	£ 347.10
Totals						56,873,660	£ 502,357.23

Key
Current first line
Current second line
New addition to consider

*Prices taken from dm+d February 2025
**Cost comparison consists of: (QxI of said emollient) x (dm+d price of replacement emollient)
GREEN values represent a saving, RED values represents a loss
All data pulled from ePACT2, up-to November 2024

Cost Comparison Against Current 1st Line Choice**

-	Emollient	Advice/Criteria	Cost per 500ml/g*	Manufacturer	QxI 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Net Ing. Cost 2024/2025 (8 Months)	AproDerm ointment	Emulsifying ointment	Zeroderm ointment	Epimax paraffin-free ointment	Cetraben ointment
Ointments	Epimax ointment	Very dry skin or scaly patches requiring softening secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Good for night-time. Do not use on the face.	£ 3.19	Aspire Pharma	2,469,460	£ 17,136.50	£ 2,372.23	£ 3,360.02	£ 4,347.80	£ 8,101.38	£ 11,262.29
	AproDerm ointment	Unique composition in comparison to other ointments.	£ 3.95	Fontus Health				£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	Emulsifying ointment	Very dry skin or scaly patches requiring softening secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Good for night-time. Do not use on the face.	£ 4.15	Ennogen Healthcare	159,000	£ 1,174.57	£ 81.53		£ 208.73	£ 450.41	£ 653.93
	Zeroderm ointment	Similar to Epimax ointment, Emulsifying ointment and Cetraben ointment.	£ 4.35	Thornton & Ross			£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -
	Epimax paraffin-free ointment	Alternative ointment where paraffin-free formulation is required. STILL INCREASES FIRE RISK EVEN THOUGH PARAFFIN-FREE. Do not use on the face.	£ 5.11	Aspire Pharma	519,500	£ 5,309.29	-£ 1,205.24	-£ 997.44	-£ 789.64		£ 664.96
	Cetraben ointment	Slightly reduced thickness ointment – ONLY FOR USE IF other ointments not appropriate or acceptable and therefore optimal use is restricted.	£ 5.75	Thornton & Ross	1,010,850	£ 13,538.16	-£ 5,552.45	-£ 5,148.11	-£ 4,743.77	-£ 3,207.27	
Total						£ 37,158.52	-£ 4,303.92	-£ 2,785.53	-£ 976.87	£ 5,344.52	£ 12,581.18

Key
Current first line
Current second line
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GREEN values represent a saving, RED values represents a loss
All data pulled from ePACT2, up-to November 2024

Cost Comparison Against Current 1st Line Choice**

-	Emollient	Advice/Criteria	Cost per 500ml/g*	Manufacturer	Qxl 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Net Ing. Cost 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Epimax excetra cream	ZeroAQS emollient cream	Exocream cream	Zerocream	Myribase cream	AproDerm emollient cream
Creams	Epimax original cream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to Aqueous cream, but no SLS. Do not use on the face.	£ 2.72	Aspire Pharma	17,310,200	£ 96,429.02	£ 12,625.24	£ 20,934.14	£ 41,706.38	£ 54,515.92	£ 69,402.70	£ 74,941.96
	Epimax excetra cream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to Cetraben cream.	£ 3.15	Aspire Pharma	9,927,400	£ 66,624.99		£ 682.78	£ 12,595.66	£ 19,941.94	£ 28,479.50	£ 31,656.27
	ZeroAQS emollient cream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to Aqueous cream, but no SLS.	£ 3.39	Thornton & Ross	991,500	£ 6,722.37	-£ 475.92		£ 1,189.80	£ 1,923.51	£ 2,776.20	£ 3,093.48
	Exocream cream	Similar to Aproderm cream, Zerocream and E45 cream. Pump.	£ 3.99	Penlan Healthcare			£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ -
	Zerocream	Mild to moderate dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition. Similar to E45 cream.	£ 4.36	Thornton & Ross	3,598,350	£ 32,383.41	-£ 9,713.81	-£ 7,986.60	-£ 3,668.58		£ 2,088.78	£ 3,240.26
	Myribase cream	Similar to Cetraben cream. Pump.	£ 4.79	Penlan Healthcare			£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ -
	AproDerm emollient cream	Second line to Epimax emollients - ONLY FOR USE IF a pump container is required for patients with limited dexterity.	£ 4.95	Fontus Health	92,750	£ 924.25	-£ 339.93	-£ 295.41	-£ 184.11	-£ 115.47	-£ 35.71	
Totals						£ 203,084.04	£ 2,095.59	£ 13,334.92	£ 51,639.16	£ 76,265.90	£ 102,711.48	£ 112,931.97

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All data pulled from ePACT2, up-to November 2024

Cost Comparison Against Current 1st Line Choice**

-	Emollient	Advice/Criteria	Cost per 500ml/g*	Manufacturer	Qxl 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Net Ing. Cost 2024/2025 (8 Months)	AproDerm gel	Myribase gel	Zerodouble gel
Gels	Epimax isomol gel	Very light emollient for mild dry skin secondary to a diagnosed dermatological condition . Similar to Doublebase gel.	£ 3.14	Aspire Pharma	5,137,200	£ 34,928.00	£ 6,066.86	£ 12,950.70	£ 18,601.62
	AproDerm gel	Second line to Epimax Isomol - ONLY FOR USE IF a pump container is required for patients with limited dexterity.	£ 3.99	Fontus Health	79,000	£ 666.18		£ 70.10	£ 157.00
	Myribase gel	Similar to Aproderm gel, Zerodouble gel and Doublebase gel. Pump .	£ 4.66	Penlan Healthcare			£ -	£ -	£ -
	Zerodouble gel	Similar to Aproderm gel, Myribase gel and Doublebase gel. Pump .	£ 5.21	Thornton & Ross			£ -	£ -	£ -
Totals						£ 35,594.18	£ 6,066.86	£ 13,020.80	£ 18,758.62

Key
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All data pulled from ePACT2, up-to November 2024

Cost Comparison Against Current 1st Line Choice**

-	Emollient	Advice/Criteria	Cost per 500ml/g*	Manufacturer	Qxl 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Net Ing. Cost 2024/2025 (8 Months)	QV 5% skin lotion	E45 lotion
Lotions	QV 5% skin lotion	ONLY FOR USE IF lanolin free lotion is needed. Lighter formulation emollient suitable for application to hairy areas, skin folds, face or scalp.	£ 5.55	Ego Pharmaceuticals	173,250	£ 1,922.51		£ 201.54
	E45 lotion	Lighter formulation emollient suitable for application to hairy areas, skin folds, face or scalp. Contains lanolin.	£ 6.13	Karo Healthcare	323,300	£ 4,061.92	-£ 473.29	
Totals						£ 5,984.43	-£ 473.29	£ 201.54

Key
Current first line
Current second line
New addition to consider

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GREEN values represent a saving, RED values represents a loss
All data pulled from ePACT2, up-to November 2024

Cost Comparison Against Current 1st Line Choice**
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-	Emollient	Advice/Criteria	Cost per 500ml/g*	Manufacturer	Qxl 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Net Ing. Cost 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Miclaro oat cream	AproDerm Colloidal Oat cream
Oatmeals	Epimax oatmeal cream	Useful for skin not tolerant of ointment or urea based products and also on skin with a history of sensitivity. Oatmeal acts as a humectant and is soothing for sensitive skin. Similar to Aveeno cream.	£ 3.16	Aspire Pharma	3,403,800	£ 23,982.66	£ 4,881.56	£ 15,501.42
	Miclaro oat cream	Similar to Aproderm colloidal oatmeal cream, Zeroveen and Aveeno. Pump.	£ 4.24	Penlan Healthcare				£ -
	AproDerm Colloidal Oat cream	Second line to Epimax Oatmeal - ONLY FOR USE IF a pump container is required for patients with limited dexterity or if a paraffin-free cream emollient required.	£ 5.80	Fontus Health	1,203,900	£ 14,722.06	-£ 4,512.99	
Totals						£ 38,704.72	£ 368.58	£ 15,501.42

Key
Current first line
Current second line
New addition to consider

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All data pulled from ePACT2, up-to November 2024

							Cost Comparison Against Current 1st Line Choice**			
-	Emollient	Advice/Criteria	Cost per 500ml/g*	Manufacturer	QxI 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Net Ing. Cost 2024/2025 (8 Months)	Ultraveen Itch Relief cream	Balneum Plus cream	Hydromol Intensive 10% cream	Dermatonics Once Heel Balm
Ureas	Balneum Intensiv cream	Useful where a keratolytic/humectant is required e.g. hyperkeratosis, ichthyosis, extremely dry and/or fissured skin on hands and feet.	£ 9.97	Almirall	95,900	£ 2,038.25	£ 234.58	£ 836.83	£ 2,430.69	£ 2,526.59
	Ultraveen Itch Relief cream	ONLY FOR USE FOR very dry chronic inflammatory dermatological condition with associated significant irritation/itch that has not been responsive to or tolerant of other formulary emollient options.	£ 11.85	Dermatonics	98,500	£ 2,381.10		£ 571.93	£ 2,209.00	£ 2,307.50
	Balneum Plus cream	ONLY FOR USE FOR significant idiopathic pruritus. May be used second line for significant pruritus with underlying dry chronic inflammatory dermatological condition not responsive to other urea-based emollients.	£ 14.99	Almirall	1,041,400	£ 31,495.36	-£ 6,814.18		£ 17,033.88	£ 18,075.28
	Hydromol Intensive 10% cream	ONLY FOR USE FOR extreme hyperkeratosis or ichthyosis. May be used second line for extremely dry/fissured skin on hands and feet if not responsive to Balneum Cream.	£ 23.30	Alliance Pharmaceuticals	16,240	£ 766.64	£ 1,157.80	£ 1,667.74		£ 3,098.48
	Dermatonics Once Heel Balm	ONLY FOR USE FOR diabetic patients at risk from ulceration following the BNSSG Dermatonics pathway.	£ 23.80	Dermatonics	523,350	£ 25,134.54	£ 5,873.95	£ 14,090.54	£ 35,835.74	
Totals						£ 61,815.89	£ 452.15	£ 17,167.04	£ 57,509.31	£ 26,007.85

Financial Year	BNF Presentation	Quantity X Items	Net Ingredient Cost
2023/2024	AproDerm Colloidal Oat cream	1466600	17559.24
2023/2024	AproDerm emollient cream	136100	1385.95
2023/2024	AproDerm gel	42800	351.08
2023/2024	Balneum Intensiv cream	117200	2511.15
2023/2024	Balneum Plus cream	1331500	40201.61
2023/2024	Cetralen ointment	1335500	18216.48
2023/2024	Dermacool 5% cream	6200	247.24
2023/2024	Dermatronics Once Heel Balm	708500	33833.46
2023/2024	Dermol 500 lotion	10209500	123330.76
2023/2024	Dermol cream	1271700	17625.14
2023/2024	E45 lotion	489700	5872.37
2023/2024	Emollin aerosol spray	602160	18853.21
2023/2024	Emulsifying ointment	127900	992.74
2023/2024	Epimax excetra cream	15176700	99811.44
2023/2024	Epimax isomol gel	7779400	51352.4
2023/2024	Epimax oatmeal cream	4144000	28093.64
2023/2024	Epimax ointment	2799721	19015.32
2023/2024	Epimax original cream	23353100	127648.59
2023/2024	Epimax paraffin-free ointment	684000	6888.96
2023/2024	Hydromol Intensive 10% cream	25440	1188.88
2023/2024	QV 5% skin lotion	172750	1964.26
2023/2024	Ultraveen Itch Relief cream	96125	2338.2
2023/2024	White soft paraffin 50% / Liquid paraffin 50% ointment	519750	4750.6
2023/2024	ZeroAQS emollient cream	1661600	11265.65
2023/2024	Zerocream	5507800	49627.88
2024/2025 (8 Months)	AproDerm Colloidal Oat cream	1203900	14722.06
2024/2025 (8 Months)	AproDerm emollient cream	92750	924.25
2024/2025 (8 Months)	AproDerm gel	79000	666.18
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Balneum Intensiv cream	95900	2038.25
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Balneum Plus cream	1041400	31495.36
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Cetralen ointment	1010850	13538.16
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Dermacool 5% cream	8200	347.1
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Dermatronics Once Heel Balm	523350	25134.54
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Dermol 500 lotion	7018000	88980.8
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Dermol cream	877300	12940.48
2024/2025 (8 Months)	E45 lotion	323300	4061.92
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Emollin aerosol spray	450960	14524.67
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Emulsifying ointment	159000	1174.57
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Epimax excetra cream	9927400	66624.99
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Epimax isomol gel	5137200	34928
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Epimax oatmeal cream	3403800	23982.66
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Epimax ointment	2469460	17136.5
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Epimax original cream	17310200	96429.02
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Epimax paraffin-free ointment	519500	5309.29
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Hydromol Intensive 10% cream	16240	766.64
2024/2025 (8 Months)	QV 5% skin lotion	173250	1922.51
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Ultraveen Itch Relief cream	98500	2381.1
2024/2025 (8 Months)	White soft paraffin 50% / Liquid paraffin 50% ointment	352550	3222.4
2024/2025 (8 Months)	ZeroAQS emollient cream	991500	6722.37
2024/2025 (8 Months)	Zerocream	3598350	32383.41

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		79765746	684926.25

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		56881860	502357.23

BNSSG Area Prescribing Medicines Optimisation Committee (APMOC)

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd October 2025.

Time: 14:00 – 16:30

Location: Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Members		
	Deputy Chief Medical Officer, BNSSG ICB	
	ICS Community Pharmacy Clinical Lead, BNSSG ICB	
	Prescribing Clinical Lead, BNSSG ICB & OneCare	
	Consultant Pharmacist Rheumatology, NBT	
	Principal Medicine Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Director of Pharmacy, UHBW	
	Lead Pharmacist Medicines Optimisation and Physical Health, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership	
	Clinical Pharmacy Manager, UHBW	
	Principle Pharmacist – Pharmacoeconomics, NBT	
	Deputy Chief Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Principal Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Chair, Avon LMC	
In attendance		
	Executive PA, BNSSG, ICB	
	Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
Apologies		
	Chief Pharmacist, Director Medicine Optimisation BNSSG ICB	
	GPN Nurse – BNSSG ICB	
	Chief Medical Officer, BNSSG ICB	
	Head of Medicines Optimisation, Sirona	
	Chief Executive Officer, Community Pharmacy Avon and Wiltshire	
	Clinical Lead for the BNSSG Referral Service	
	GP and Clinical Commissioning Policy Lead BNSSG ICB	
Presenters		
	Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	GP Partner Stoke Gifford and Conygre Medical Centre	
	Consultant Paediatrician ADHD Clinical lead, Sirona	
	Vascular surgeon, NBT	
	Stroke Pharmacist, Sirona	
	specialist cardiology pharmacist, UHBW	

	Consultant in Palliative Medicine, St Peter's Hospice,	
	Lead Anticoagulation and Thrombosis Pharmacist Specialist Pharmacist Anticoagulation / Cardiac, UHBW	

Item		Action
4.2	<p>1st line Emollients/guidance table</p> <p>XX provided a detailed overview of the update and confirmed that the guideline had been updated due to the previous guideline expiring. He explained that previously there had been two documents; one had a full range of emollients and the second was the first line choice of emollients, which were more cost effective. The proposal asked for the 1st Line emollient guideline to be removed, so there would only be one guideline which contains the full level of detail. He confirmed that the changes had been minor and that the wording the warning on the bottom of page 1 regarding the MHRA regarding the epimax ointment and the link to possible harm to patients if it got into their eyes. He highlighted that epimax was the cheapest Emollient and explained that next cheapest product would be more than £4000 per year more expensive.</p> <p>XX felt that it would be down to patient choice and that parents needed to be informed of the risks of using epimax and that it couldn't be removed as an option for children for use elsewhere on the body.</p> <p>XX felt that that a coordinated approach would be required across the system between the dermatologists at UHBW and Bristol Children's Hospital and felt that it needed to be shared with the relevant Teams at the two Hospitals. XX stated he could help link in with colleagues from UHBW regarding any questions which may be asked. XX asked if the Community dermatology service was included in this as well which XX confirmed they had.</p> <p>Action: XX to link in with colleagues from UBHW if needed for paediatrics.</p> <p>XX felt that caution would be required when speaking to patients' parents regarding the usage of the possible risk of utilising various Emollients and that it couldn't be removed as an option for children for use elsewhere on the body.</p> <p>XX felt that the caution would be required the wording of the first paragraph in relation to the first paragraph. XX confirmed he shared these thoughts too but explained that the Chief Pharmacist was happy with the wording.</p> <p>The paediatrics team at acute trust need to review before the group can approved for this guideline to check the detail for children.</p>	XX