**Immunosuppressant Prescribing Update**

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| **Recommendations**All renal patients who require long term immunosuppressants who are under the care of EKHUFT should receive their ongoing prescriptions directly from EKHUFT and there should be no need for GPs to issue prescriptions. |

The drugs involved are:

Ciclosporin

Azathioprine

Tacrolimis

Sirolimus

Mycophenolate

These drugs are prescribed by the renal clinic and supplied to the patient via homecare. The renal physicians carry out all of the necessary monitoring and make any necessary dosage requirements.

It is recommended that the drugs are recorded on the patient’s medication history for information purposes only so that any interactions, etc. are flagged up.

There have been a few incidences of incorrect discharge letters which have been marked “GP to continue”. Please do not issue repeat prescriptions as the patient will also be receiving their medication directly from the Trust. Please refer any such requests back to the Trust.

Other transplant patients (heart, lung, liver) will be under the care of a specialist tertiary centre. Shared care agreements were previously in place but from 2013 the commissioning arrangements for these transplants became the responsibility of NHS England and all funding arrangements sit with NHS England. Therefore any new patients requiring immunosuppressants for a heart, lung or liver transplant should receive prescriptions from the specialist centre. Any patients receiving medication under shared care prior to this however will need to remain with primary care.

Arrangements for patients receiving immunosuppressants for other clinical conditions (rheumatology, etc) are unchanged and are usually under a shared care agreement.