



This patient group direction (PGD) must only be used by registered health professionals who have been named and authorised by their organisation to practice under it. The most recent and in date final signed version of the PGD should be used.

## Patient Group Direction (PGD)

For the administration or supply of

**Fluorescein (Sodium Fluorescein) 2% single use eye drops**

By registered health care professionals for

**Corneal stain for assessment of ocular surface conditions**

**Throughout the Manx Care and those contracted by the Manx Care where appropriate within practice**

**PGD NUMBER 102**

### 1. Change history

Version number	Change details	Date
1	Original PGD ratified	June 2021
2	Extension to expiry date	March 2024

## 2. Medicines practice guideline 2: *Patient group directions*

Refer to the relevant sections of NICE medicines practice guideline 2: *Patient group directions* as stated in the blank template notes. For further information about PGD signatories, see the NHS and Manx Care [PGD website FAQs](#)

## 3. PGD development

Refer to the [NICE PGD competency framework for people developing PGDs](#)

Job Title & organisation	Name	Signature	Date
Author of the PGD			
Member of the PGD working group			

## 4. PGD authorisation

Refer to the [NICE PGD competency framework for people authorising PGDs](#)

Job Title	Name	Signature	Date
Medical Director			
Chief Pharmacist/ Pharmaceutical Adviser			
Senior Paramedic			
Director of Nursing			
GP Adviser			
Senior Microbiologist (if PGD contains antimicrobials)			

## 5. PGD adoption by the provider

Refer to the NICE PGD competency framework for people authorising PGDs

Job title and organisation	Signature	Date	Applicable or not applicable to area

## 6. Training and competency of registered healthcare professionals, employed or contracted by the Manx Care, GP practice or Hospice

Refer to the NICE PGD competency framework for health professionals using PGDs

	Requirements of registered Healthcare professionals working under the PGD
<b>Qualifications and professional registration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered healthcare professionals, working within or contracted by the Manx Care, GP practice or Hospice who are permitted staff groups outlined within the current PGD policy</li> <li>Pharmacists must be practising in Manx Care authorised premises i.e. contracted pharmacy premises</li> </ul>
<b>Initial training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of current guidelines and the administration of the drug specified in this PGD/BNF and of the inclusion and exclusion criteria</li> <li>Training which enables the practitioner to make a clinical assessment to establish the need for the medication covered by this PGD</li> <li>Local training in the use of PGDs</li> </ul>
<b>Competency assessment</b>	Staff will be assessed on their knowledge of drugs and clinical assessment as part the competency framework for registered health professionals using PGDs
<b>Ongoing training and competency</b>	The registered health care professionals should make sure they are aware of any changes to the recommendations for this medication; it is the responsibility of the registered health care professionals to keep up to date with continuing professional development. PGD updates will be held every two years

## 7. Clinical Conditions

<b>Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies</b>	Corneal stain for assessment of ocular surface conditions
<b>Inclusion criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients over 16 attending requiring a corneal stain for assessment of ocular surface conditions</li> <li>• Any situation judged to require topical application of a stain to detect lesions and foreign bodies in the eye</li> <li>• Fluorescein does not stain a normal cornea but conjunctival abrasions are stained yellow or orange, corneal abrasions or ulcers are stained a bright green and foreign bodies are surrounded by a green ring</li> </ul>
<b>Exclusion criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients presenting with known hypersensitivity to Fluorescein (or any ingredient)</li> <li>• Patients under 16 years</li> <li>• Known hypersensitivity to Fluorescein</li> <li>• Suspected penetrating eye injury</li> <li>• Severe eye emergencies where bleeding is present</li> <li>• Pregnancy</li> <li>• Breast feeding</li> </ul>
<b>Cautions (including any relevant action to be taken)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematic absorption can be reduced by compressing the lacrimal sac at the medial canthus for a minute during and following the instillation of the drops</li> <li>• Discard contents of minim after single use</li> <li>• On instillation an initial burning sensation may be experienced which may last up to 30 seconds</li> <li>• Individuals should be advised not to drive or operate hazardous machinery until normal vision is restored</li> <li>• Remove contact lenses before instillation of eye drop, contact lenses must not be reinserted until the effects of the drops have completely worn off</li> </ul>
<b>Arrangements for referral for medical advice</b>	Patient should be referred to a more experienced clinical practitioner for further assessment
<b>Action to be taken if patient excluded</b>	Patient should be referred to a more experienced clinical practitioner for further assessment
<b>Action to be taken if patient declines treatment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A verbal explanation should be given to the patient on: the need for the medication and any possible effects or potential risks which may occur as a result of refusing treatment</li> <li>• This information must be documented in the patients' health records</li> <li>• Any patient who declines care must have demonstrated capacity to do so</li> <li>• Where appropriate care should be escalated</li> </ul>

## 8. Details of the medicine

<b>Name, form and strength of medicine</b>	Fluorescein 2% Single use Eye drops (Minims)
<b>Legal category</b>	Prescription Only Medicine (POM)
<b>Indicate any <u>off-label use</u> (if relevant)</b>	None
<b>Route/method of administration</b>	Topical – eye drop
<b>Dose and frequency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 drop per procedure which may be repeated after 90 seconds if required</li> </ul>
<b>Quantity to be administered and/or supplied</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient solution should be applied to stain the damaged areas</li> <li>• Excess may be washed away with sterile saline solution</li> </ul>
<b>Maximum or minimum treatment period</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum of 2 doses per procedure each of 1 drop</li> <li>• Fluorescein does not stain a normal cornea. Conjunctival abrasions are stained yellow or orange, corneal abrasions or ulcers are stained bright green and foreign bodies are surrounded by a green ring</li> </ul>
<b>Storage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refrigerate (2-8°C)</li> <li>• The eye drops should not be frozen or exposed to strong light</li> <li>• Discard each single dose unit and any remaining solution in it immediately after use. Do not save unused contents</li> </ul>
<b>Adverse effects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary staining of surrounding tissue</li> <li>• Fluorescein will stain soft contact lenses</li> <li>• Transient blurring of vision on instillation</li> </ul> <p>Very rare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allergy type reactions and anaphylaxis have been reported, and may manifest as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- eye disorders (allergic conjunctivitis, periorbital oedema)</li> <li>- immune system disorders (anaphylactic reactions)</li> <li>- skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders (urticarial, rash)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Records to be kept</b>	The administration of any medication given under a PGD must be recorded within the patient's medical records

## 9. Patient information

<b>Verbal/Written information to be given to patient or carer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verbal information must be given to patients and or carers for all medication being administered under a PGD</li><li>• Where medication is being supplied under a PGD, written patient information leaflet must also be supplied</li><li>• A patient information leaflet is available on request</li><li>• If the patient is receiving any concomitant medication or treatment it is the responsibility of the nurse to ensure that treatment with the drug detailed in this patient group direction is appropriate. If in any doubt advice should be sought and recorded before the drug is administered. (Refer to current BNF)</li><li>• Advise that nasal discharge may be stained for a short period after administration of drops</li><li>• On instillation an initial burning sensation may be experienced which may last up to 30 seconds</li><li>• May cause transient blurring of vision on instillation. Warn patients not to drive or operate hazardous machinery until vision is clear</li><li>• An eye wash may be used to cleanse the eye</li><li>• Contact lens may be worn again the following day, once the stain has worn off, if the condition allows</li><li>• If no improvement within 48hrs, if condition deteriorates, or any unusual symptoms occur the patient should re-attend MIU or contact the GP for further advice</li></ul>
<b>Follow-up advice to be given to patient or carer</b>	If symptoms do not improve or worsen or you become unwell, seek medical advice immediately

## 10. Appendix A

<b>References</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. British National Formulary (BNF) available online: <a href="https://bnf.nice.org.uk">https://bnf.nice.org.uk</a></li><li>2. Nursing and Midwifery (2018) "The code" available online: <a href="https://www.nmc.org.uk">https://www.nmc.org.uk</a></li><li>3. Current Health Care Professions Council standards of practice</li><li>4. General Pharmaceutical Council standards</li><li>5. The General Optical Council</li><li>6. Electronic medicines compendium available online: <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk">https://www.medicines.org.uk</a></li></ol>

## 11. Appendix B

<b>Health professionals agreed to practice</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each registered healthcare professional will hold their own Competency framework which will be signed and agreed by their mentor</li><li>• A mentor is defined within the Manx Care policy as any ward/area managers, sisters, senior nurses, GPs, pharmacists or senior paramedics who has completed the PGD training themselves</li></ul>