

## Doncaster & Bassetlaw Medicines Formulary

### Section 6.5: Adrenocortical Function Testing and Antidiuretic Hormone Disorders (and Other Hormone-Related Disorders)

#### Tetracosactide 250microgram Injection

Desmopressin 100microgram and 200microgram Tablets

Desmopressin 120microgram Sublingual Tablets

Desmopressin 10microgram/ml Nasal Spray

**Approved by Drug and Therapeutics Committee: January 2022**

**Review Date: January 2025**

#### Prescribing Guidance:

Tetracosactide is used to test adrenocortical function. Failure of the plasma cortisol concentration to rise following administration of a single injection of tetracosactide 250micrograms indicates adrenocortical insufficiency. Plasma cortisol levels are measured prior to administration and afterwards (either half an hour or an hour afterwards, or both). This is known as the short ACTH stimulation (or, more commonly, as the short synacthen) test.

Desmopressin is an analogue of vasopressin used to treat severe diabetes insipidus of central origin and primary nocturnal enuresis. The duration of action is up to 20 hours permitting once, or twice daily dosing

In nocturnal enuresis limit fluid intake to a minimum from 1 hour before taking the drug and for eight hours afterwards.

#### CSM Warning: Hyponatraemic Convulsions with Desmopressin

Patients using desmopressin for primary nocturnal enuresis should be warned to avoid fluid overload (including during swimming) and to stop taking desmopressin during an episode of vomiting or diarrhoea (until fluid balance returns to normal.)

The risk of hyponatraemic convulsions can also be minimised by keeping to the recommended starting doses and by avoiding concomitant use of drugs which increase vasopressin secretion, e.g. tricyclic antidepressants, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, carbamazepine and chlorpromazine

**KEY:** [UL] Unlicensed Preparation; **Drug** – first line choice; **Drug** – hospital only; **Drug** – **Amber** (TLS), **Drug** – **Red** (TLS), see <http://medicinesmanagement.doncasterccg.nhs.uk/>

**Items for Restricted Prescribing:**

The following drugs are for specialist prescribing only:

Clomifene 50mg Tablets

Chorionic Gonadotrophin (Pregnyl) 1500unit and 5000unit Injection

Somatropin or Recombinant Human Growth Hormone (various preparations) – the brand and device prescribed will be led by patient preference. Shared care arrangements are available for the primary care prescribing of growth hormones. These can be found via the [CCG medicines management website](#).