



## Berkshire West Area Prescribing Committee Policy Statement

<b>Drug Name</b>	Capsaisin patch (Qutenza®)
<b>Indication under review</b>	Treatment of neuropathic pain
<b>Policy No:</b>	APC 062
<b>Date of Issue/ Date of reissue:</b>	January 2014/ March 2017
<b>Review Date:</b>	March 2020
<b>Policy Statement:</b> Capsaisin patch (Qutenza®) is not recommend in primary care for patients with neuropathic pain however treatment can be initiated and maintained within secondary care.	
<b>Traffic Light Status</b>	<b>Red</b>
<b>Key Points considered:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Drug and should not be used in primary care.</li> <li>• Needs to be initiated and monitored by the Pain Clinic.</li> <li>• Needs clinical supervision by specialised clinical staff who have received training in the safe handling of this patch to minimise contact risk to staff and patients.</li> </ul>	
<b>References:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summary of Product Characteristics for accessed via <a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk/EMC/medicine">http://www.medicines.org.uk/EMC/medicine</a></li> <li>2. Scottish Medicines Consortium report on accessed via <a href="http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/">http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/</a></li> <li>3. Backonja M, Wallace MS, Blonsky ER et al. NGX-4010, a high-concentration capsaicin patch, for the treatment of post-herpetic neuralgia: a randomised, double-blind study. <i>Lancet Neurology</i> 2008;7:1106-12</li> <li>4. Irving GA, Backonja MM, Duntzman E et al. High-concentration capsaicin patch, for the treatment of postherpetic neuralgia. <i>Pain Medicine</i> 2011;12:99-109</li> <li>5. Webster LR, Tark M, Rauck R et al. Effect of duration of postherpetic neuralgia on efficacy analyses in a multicenter, randomized, controlled study of NGX-4010, an 8% capsaicin patch evaluated for the treatment of postherpetic neuralgia. <i>BMC Neurology</i> 2010;92</li> <li>6. Backonja MM, Malan P, Vanhove GF et al. NGX-2010, a high-concentration capsaicin patch, for the treatment of postherpetic neuralgia: A randomized, double-blind, controlled study with an open-label extension.</li> </ol>	
<b>Date taken to APC:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> March 2017
<b>Date Ratified by GP MMC on Behalf of the Board:</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2017

Berkshire West Area Prescribing Policies serve as a guide to clinicians. This does not overrule the clinical or budgetary responsibility of clinicians when considering treatment for individual patients.

<b>Brown</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Amber</b>	<b>Red</b>
These drugs have been reviewed and are not considered a cost effective use of scarce NHS resources	Medicines suitable for routine use. Primary care prescribers take full responsibility for prescribing	Medicines that should be initiated by a specialist and can be continued in primary care under a shared care agreement.	Medicines which should be prescribed by specialists only