



Berkshire West Area Prescribing Committee

Drug Name	Quetiapine XL for the
Indication under review	Treatment of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder
Policy No:	APC 063
Date of Issue:	January 2014
Review Date:	January 2017
Policy Statement: Quetiapine XL is not recommended for treating patients diagnosed with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.	
Traffic Light Status	Brown
Key Points considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The patent on quetiapine expired on March 2012 and therefore the cost of immediate release preparations have been significantly reduced.- Both the immediate release preparations and extended release preparations are effective and cost effective treatments for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.- Cost of the extended release product can not be justified when compared with immediate release which is the more cost effective treatment and represents better use of scarce NHS resources.- There is no evidence that a once daily preparation is better than a twice daily preparation from an adherence point of view.	
References: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Summary of Product Characteristics for accessed via http://www.medicines.org.uk/EMC/medicine2. Scottish Medicines Consortium report on accessed via http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/3. NICE http://www.nice.org.uk/nicemedia/pdf/cg001fullguideline.pdf4. MIMS September 20115. BHFT Position Statement on Quetiapine produced by Alistair Raynes6. Möller HJ, Johnson S, Mateva T, Brecher M, Svensson O, Miller F, Meulien D. <i>Int Clin Psychopharmacol.</i> 2008 Mar;23(2):95-105. Evaluation of the feasibility of switching from immediate release quetiapine to extended release quetiapine fumarate in stable outpatients with schizophrenia.7. Kahn RS, Schulz SC, Palazov VD, Reyes EB, Brecher M, Svensson O, Andersson HM, Meulien D <i>J Clin Psychiatry.</i> 2007 Jun;68(6):832-42. Efficacy and tolerability of once-daily extended release quetiapine fumarate in acute schizophrenia: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study.	
Date taken to APC:	8 th January 2014
Date Ratified by MOC on Behalf of the Board:	15 th January 2014