

**Position Statement;** The prescribing of doxazosin modified release is not supported.

**Castle Point and Rochford and Southend Clinical Commissioning Groups do not support the prescribing of doxazosin modified release because it is not a cost effective option.**

- Doxazosin is available in both modified release (MR) and immediate release (IR) formulations.
- Both formulations are administered once daily as doxazosin has a long half-life of 22 hours making it suitable for once daily dosing.
- The IR version of doxazosin is significantly more cost effective, and the MR offers no advantage over the IR.

Below are two switching options to consider when changing from MR to IR:

1) Use the same dose (e.g. 4mg MR to 4mg IR, and 8mg MR to 2 x 4mg IR) - patients experiencing orthostatic hypotension may need a lower dose.

2) Use half the dose (e.g. 4mg MR to 2mg IR, and 8mg MR to 4mg IR) - some patients may require a higher dose.

Regardless of the dose chosen, please monitor blood pressure (approximately 4 weeks after the switch) and adjust the dose if necessary.

Providers commissioned to provide services on behalf of Castle Point and Rochford and Southend CCGs are reminded that they are required to follow the Castle Point and Rochford and Southend CCGs formulary and prescribing guidance as detailed in their contract (Medicines Management Service Specification). See Southend and Castle Point and Rochford CCGs websites – Medicines Management for all prescribing guidance.

Adapted from Thurrock CCG Policy Statements.

Approved for use in Castle Point & Rochford and Southend CCGs	Drugs and Therapeutics Committee 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2017
Title	<b>Doxazosin MR v1.0</b>
Reference	PrescQIPP drop list bulletin 117, July 2015