

# Enteral feed contract update & ONS (Sip Feeds) change

April 2017



On the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the East Lancashire Health Economy Enteral Feed Contract Provider changed from Nutricia to Fresenius-Kabi. From the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016, East Lancashire Dietetics have been recommending the prescribing of Fresenius-Kabi products for all new patients prescribed nutritional supplements, including both sip feeds and tube feeds.

All patients on tube feeds have now been transferred to a Fresenius-Kabi feed, and from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, tube feeds are now being prescribed from East Lancashire Hospitals Trust. It is advised that in order for GP practices to maintain a complete and up-to-date list of a patient's medication, GP practices are advised to add the tube feed to the patient's electronic medication record under 'Hospital Only'.

**It is now also recommended that patients currently prescribed oral nutritional supplements (ONS) such as sip feeds or powder sachets excluding patients in a care home or actively under dietetic review, who are not prescribed a formulary Fresenius-Kabi product, should be changed to an equivalent Fresenius-Kabi product.** The Medicines Management Team will support GP practices with identifying patients, and providing information on the equivalent Fresenius-Kabi products primarily **Fresubin® Powder extra or Fresubin® 2kcal Mini Drink**. Practices are advised to ensure that any non-formulary sip feeds are discontinued, when initiating the new formulary product.

Sip feed guidelines and Food First Resources are available on [www.elmmb.nhs.uk](http://www.elmmb.nhs.uk). The guidelines provides tools for assessing an individual's nutritional status and advice on appropriate prescribing, use and monitoring of proprietary feeds.

Prescribers are reminded that before initiating a patient on sip feeds, the patient should be screened using the 'Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool' to ensure that they receive the appropriate therapy. Nutritional sip feed drinks are used to supplement the diet of individuals and should only be considered for patients who have been identified as having a score of 1 or more on the Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool 'MUST' and have received first line dietary advice on food choices as per food boosters and the weight has failed to stabilise after 1 month.

**Patients (excluding patients in a care home or actively under dietetic care) currently prescribed non formulary ONS should be changed to an equivalent Fresenius-Kabi product**

**Fresubin® Powder extra is first line powder product after Food Fortification has failed**

**Fresubin® 2kcal Mini Drink is the first line ready to drink product where Fresubin® Powder extra is unsuitable**

For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Team on  
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