

Nicotine replacement therapies to aid smoking cessation

Technology Guidance from the MOH Drug Advisory Committee

Guidance Recommendations

The Ministry of Health's Drug Advisory Committee has recommended:

- ✓ Nicotine 7 mg/ 24 hours, 14 mg/ 24 hours, and 21 mg/ 24 hours transdermal patches (Nicotinell);
- ✓ Nicotine 2 mg and 4 mg chewing gums (Nicorette); and
- ✓ Nicotine 1 mg lozenge (Nicotinell)

to be used as an aid for smoking cessation in patients who are willing to quit and enrolled in a smoking cessation counselling program, with a documented Fagerstrom score of three and above. The smoking cessation counselling programme should include a minimum of three counselling sessions, and counselling should be delivered by a healthcare professional trained in smoking cessation counselling, at an approved setting. Nicotine replacement therapies should not be used in combination with varenicline for smoking cessation.

Funding status

Nicotine 7 mg/ 24 hours, 14 mg/ 24 hours, 21 mg/ 24 hours transdermal patches (Nicotinell), nicotine 2 mg and 4 mg chewing gums (Nicorette) and nicotine 1 mg lozenge (Nicotinell) are recommended for inclusion on the MOH Medication Assistance Fund (MAF) for the abovementioned indication from 1 February 2023.

MAF assistance **does not** apply to any strengths of nicotine transdermal patch (Nicorette) and nicotine chewing gum (Nicotinell).

 Agency for Care Effectiveness - ACE  Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE)

About the Agency

The Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE) was established by the Ministry of Health (Singapore) to drive better decision-making in healthcare through health technology assessment (HTA), clinical guidance, and education.

As the national HTA agency, ACE conducts evaluations to inform government subsidy decisions for treatments, diagnostic tests and vaccines, and produces guidance for public hospitals and institutions in Singapore.

This guidance is based on the evidence available to the MOH Drug Advisory Committee as at 25 August 2022. It is not, and should not be regarded as, a substitute for professional or medical advice. Please seek the advice of a qualified healthcare professional about any medical condition. The responsibility for making decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual patient remains with the healthcare professional.

Find out more about ACE at www.ace-hta.gov.sg/about

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