

Dear Dr XXX

Re: Patient Name Address DOB NHS Number

Your patient has been identified by the heart failure team as a suitable candidate for the new first in class heart failure drug Sacubitril/Valsartan (Entresto®). The prescribing support statement for this drug can be found on the Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee website (<https://www.panmerseyapc.nhs.uk/>).

This drug was launched in December 2015 for adult patients for the treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. A NICE TA was published in April 2016 (<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta388>).

Following a consultation with myself, your patient has agreed to start taking this drug.

Sacubitril/Valsartan (Entresto®) Key Information

This drug is now being used IN PLACE OF (not in addition to) an ACE inhibitor or ARB. Concurrent treatment is contraindicated/not recommended due to the risk of angioedema. Your patient was advised to stop taking their ACE/ARB 48 hours before starting Sacubitril/Valsartan. Please ensure your patient no longer receives this medication. Prescribing records should be updated to reflect the fact that this drug is being prescribed and supplied by the hospital until you are otherwise notified.

The following steps have been taken to ensure a safe transition onto this new drug;

- Your patient was instructed to stop their ACE/ARB on and commence Sacubitril/Valsartan on
- The initiation of this drug is being managed by the heart failure team. Details of patient recruitment can be found on the Cheshire & Merseyside Strategic Clinical Networks (CMSCN) website (http://www.nwscscn.nhs.uk/files/2214/6542/4053/Entresto_recruitment_algorithm.pdf?PDFPATHWAY=PDF).
- A period of stabilisation and optimisation (minimum 3 months) during which all prescribing and monitoring will be **kept within the hospital**, after which I would kindly ask you to continue to prescribe this drug. My team will communicate this with you in writing.
- 3 copies of this letter have been given to your patient (one for themselves, one for you and one for their community pharmacy).
- The patient has been given an alert card to carry with them.
- Please refer to the Sacubitril/Valsartan prescribing support statement and the SPC (<http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/31244>) for key information you will need when prescribing this drug.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact one of the heart failure team

Kind Regards
Dr XXXX
Consultant Cardiologist