

Area Prescribing Group report

Date: Friday 03 July 2026 **Quorate:** Yes

The items in this report are supported by the area prescribing group (APG) and approval by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) is detailed below.

All document links provided for any CMAPG recommendations can be found in the [Cheshire and Merseyside formulary](#) which will also be updated to reflect these changes.

The legacy Cheshire formulary, and the legacy Pan Mersey APC website and formulary are now closed. Legacy documents are available by using the search function of the [Cheshire and Merseyside formulary](#).

CMAPG governance documents are hosted on the [Prescribing](#) section of the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside website.

Please note there may be items that have been considered by APG but not yet approved by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB. Items will be reported in the month that they are approved.

New medicines NICE TAs

Proposal	Notes	Financial implications	Approval
Dupilumab for maintenance treatment of uncontrolled chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with raised blood eosinophils RAG designation: Red APG subgroup: 10 Apr 2026 APG: 01 May 2026	Date of NICE TA publication: 26 Mar 2026 Approval for implementation: 90 days Deadline for implementation: 24 Jun 2026 Red RAG rating, in line with NICE TA1142 . Tariff-excluded drug with patient access scheme discount, for specialist use only.	Forecast current year financial costs are within expected budget setting for biologics for COPD.	ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) Group: 21 May 2026, clinically supported by MOP group. ICB Executive Committee: 02 Jul 2026, COPD biologics approved by ICB Executive Committee.

Proposal	Notes	Financial implications	Approval
	Dupilumab is the first biological treatment option for COPD and targets the eosinophilic phenotype. A delivery plan for implementation has been developed through the COPD Biologics working group. Blueteq form will be required.		
Mepolizumab for maintenance treatment of uncontrolled chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with raised blood eosinophils RAG designation: Red APG subgroup: 12 Jun 2026 APG: 03 Jul 2026	Date of NICE TA publication: 17 Jun 2026 Approval for implementation: 90 days Deadline for implementation: 15 Sep 2026 Red RAG rating, in line with NICE TA1166. Tariff-excluded drug with patient access scheme discount, for specialist use only. Mepolizumab is a further biological treatment option for COPD which targets the eosinophilic phenotype. It is only recommended for adults having triple therapy, whereas dupilumab is also recommended for adults having dual therapy if inhaled corticosteroids are not appropriate. A delivery plan for implementation has been developed through the COPD Biologics working group. Blueteq form will be required.	Forecast current year financial costs are within expected budget setting for biologics for COPD.	ICB Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy (MOP) Group: 03 Jul 2026, approved by MOP Chair's action 03 Jul 2026. ICB Executive Committee: 02 Jul 2026, COPD biologics approved by ICB Executive Committee.