

**DH CIRCULAR No. 120/2014**

DH: 3761/2012

8th April 2014

Attention All: Consultants
Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Pharmacy Technicians
Nurses

Re: Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors

Dorzolamide and brinzolamide are topical carbonic anhydrase inhibitors. They are licensed for use in patients resistant to beta-blockers or those in whom beta-blockers are contraindicated. They are used alone or as an adjunct to a topical beta-blocker. Brinzolamide can also be used as an adjunct to a prostaglandin analogue.

Dorzolamide are available as 20mg/mL eye drops. When used as monotherapy, the dose is 1 drop of dorzolamide in the conjunctival sac of the affected eye(s), 3 times daily. When used as adjunctive therapy with an ophthalmic beta-blocker, the dose is 1 drop of dorzolamide in the conjunctival sac of the affected eye(s), 2 times daily. If more than one topical ophthalmic drug is being used, the drugs should be administered at least 10 minutes apart.

Brinzolamide are available as 10mg/mL eye drops. When used as monotherapy or adjunctive therapy, the dose is 1 drop of brinzolamide in the conjunctival sac of the affected eye(s) twice daily. Some patients may have a better response with 1 drop 3 times a day. If more than one topical ophthalmic medicinal product is being used, the medicines must be administered at least 5 minutes apart.

As per Government Formulary List policies, only one preparation of carbonic anhydrase inhibitors eye drops are available at any one time. Currently, dorzolamide 20mg/mL eye drops are available. Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors can be prescribed by Consultant Ophthalmologists.

For your attention, please

Dr. Neville Calleja
A/Chief Medical Officer