

## Commissioning guidance:

Commissioners may wish to bear the following in mind when considering the commissioning of dequalinium chloride:

- For the treatment of bacterial vaginosis, the recommended first line options are 400 mg twice daily oral metronidazole for 5 to 7 days, 0.75% metronidazole vaginal gel for 5 days or 2% clindamycin vaginal cream for 7 days.
- Dequalinium may be a suitable alternative treatment if:
  - Women cannot tolerate metronidazole or clindamycin, or in other circumstances where those treatments are not suitable e.g. women with inflammatory bowel disease, or antibiotic-associated colitis where clindamycin is contraindicated.
  - In situations where fewer treatments are available due to interactions or allergies, e.g. in pregnancy
  - Where it would be beneficial to avoid use of an antibiotic (according to local specialist opinion, metronidazole resistance and clindamycin resistance is an increasing but under-recognised problem largely because women with BV are not tested for resistance.)

## Strength of the evidence for efficacy

The evidence for efficacy for dequalinium chloride was supplied by one phase 3, non-inferiority trial that compared dequalinium with topical clindamycin 2% vaginal cream for the treatment of bacterial vaginosis. The trial found that dequalinium was non-inferior to clindamycin with similar cure rates achieved at follow-up visits.

*MTRAC considered dequalinium as a product that may be used in primary care.*

## References

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2. Fluomizin 10 mg vaginal tablets. EMC 2017 [www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/1997](http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/1997)
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4. UK National Guideline for the management of Bacterial Vaginosis 2012. BASHH [www.bashhguidelines.org/media/1041/bv-2012.pdf](http://www.bashhguidelines.org/media/1041/bv-2012.pdf)
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6. Bacterial vaginosis. NICE 2018 <https://cks.nice.org.uk/bacterial-vaginosis>
7. Dequalinium (Fluomizin). Scottish Medicines Consortium 2016 [www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/dequalinium-fluomizin-fullsubmission-119416/](http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/dequalinium-fluomizin-fullsubmission-119416/)
8. Dequalinium chloride (Fluomizin®). All Wales Medicines Strategy Group 2016 <http://www.awmsg.org/awmsgonline/app/appraisalinfo/2775>
9. Weissenbacher ER *et al.* A comparison of dequalinium chloride vaginal tablets (Fluomizin(R)) and clindamycin vaginal cream in the treatment of bacterial vaginosis: a single-blind, randomized clinical trial of efficacy and safety. *Gynecol Obstet Invest* 2012; 73(1):8-15.