

**Clinical Expert Summary**  
**Triamcinolone hexacetonide 20 mg/ml suspension for injection**

Triamcinolone hexacetonide for the treatment of juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

**1. Existing guidelines**

Experts referred to the guidelines of the British Paediatric and Adolescent Rheumatology Society and the American College of Rheumatology, which recommend using intra-articular injections of triamcinolone hexacetonide for treating juvenile arthritis. Experts also mentioned two studies that formed the basis of these guideline recommendations.

**2. Disease prevalence/incidence**

It was estimated that approximately 400 children in one clinical expert's catchment area would have idiopathic arthritis, with around 260 children diagnosed and under the care of a consultant. It was expected that 132 injections of triamcinolone hexacetonide would be used per year. One expert said they expected to give approximately 10 injections of triamcinolone hexacetonide every month; six children could be given injections and around one-third of children would have more than one injection. According to one expert, children with arthritis in North Wales are usually treated at the Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool.

**3. Current treatments**

Current treatment options listed included triamcinolone hexacetonide, triamcinolone acetonide, methylprednisolone and hydrocortisone. One expert said they had been using triamcinolone hexacetonide for the past year and that it was currently the predominant treatment in Wales for children with arthritis.

**4. Unmet needs**

An unmet need was highlighted in relation to intra-articular use in children with juvenile idiopathic arthritis. One expert also referred to an unmet need in areas of Wales that do not have a paediatric rheumatology clinic, and said that some children with arthritis are treated by local orthopaedic surgeons or paediatricians.

**5. Knowledge of product in given indication**

It was stated that choice of steroid for joint injection to treat juvenile arthritis depends on rheumatologists' training and experience. One expert said that triamcinolone hexacetonide is their preferred choice for treating juvenile idiopathic arthritis, and that most children with arthritis will receive intra-articular injections of triamcinolone hexacetonide. One expert said that triamcinolone hexacetonide would be "the treatment of choice" because it has demonstrated efficacy and a longer lasting effect than alternative treatments.

It should be noted that the experts involved in compiling this response declared no interests in relation to triamcinolone hexacetonide for the indication under consideration.