



North & South Essex Local Medical Committees

Local Enhanced Service - *Zoladex*

1. INTRODUCTION

All practices are expected to provide essential and those additional services they are contracted to provide to all their patients. This enhanced service specification outlines the more specialised services to be provided. The specification of this service is designed to cover the enhanced aspects of clinical care of the patients all of which are beyond the scope of essential services. No part of the specification by commission, omission, or implication defines or redefines essential or additional services.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICE TO BE PROVIDED

The offering of Zoladex in a primary or community care setting for those patients for who Zoladex has been identified as part of their care plan. This to be evidence based and within good practice guidelines to provide

- A clinical service for patients within the PCT based on criteria defined and agreed
- Supporting clinical pathways for patients requiring Zoladex

3. Eligibility to provide the service

Where a PCO believes a doctor carrying out Zoladex implants is not complying with the terms of the contract it should invoke a remedial notice according to the procedure laid out in Regulation. In assessing suitability for the provision of this service, the PCT must ensure the following:

- (i) **satisfactory facilities.** PCOs should be satisfied that the venue for carrying out Zoladex implants have such facilities as is necessary to enable them to provide this procedure properly.

Adequate and appropriate equipment should be available for the doctor to undertake the procedure, and should also include appropriate equipment for resuscitation. National guidance on premises standards has been issued.

- (ii) **nursing support.** Registered nurses can provide care and support to patients undergoing Zoladex implants. Nurses involved in Zoladex insertion procedures should be appropriately trained and competent, taking into consideration their professional accountability and the Nursing and Midwifery Council guidelines on the scope of professional practice
- (iii) **sterilisation and infection control.** It is important that the provision of Zoladex implants is to the highest possible standards, and linked to the following arrangements if applicable:
 - (a) sterile packs from the local CSSD
 - (b) disposable sterile instruments
 - (c) approved sterilisation procedures that comply with national guidelines.
 - (d) annual programme of infection control audit
- (iv) **consent.** In each case the patient should be fully informed of the treatment options and the treatment proposed. The patient should give written consent for the procedure to be carried out and the completed NHS consent form should be filed in the patient's lifelong medical record
- (v) **Audit.** Full records of all procedures should be maintained in such a way that aggregated data and details of individual patients are readily accessible. Possible topics for audit include:
 - (a) clinical outcomes
 - (b) rates of infection
 - (c) removal of implants.
- (vii) **patient monitoring.** The service must ensure that details of the patient's monitoring as part of the PwSI is included in his or her lifelong record.

4. Pricing

In 2004/05 the provision of this local enhanced service will be £41.29 per patient. The number of procedures to be undertaken will be agreed between the provider and the PCT. The prices will be uprated by 3.225% in 2005/06.