

9 December 2004

Clarification of guidance on the use of tacrolimus and pimecrolimus for atopic eczema

In respect of Section 1.5 of the above guidance:

'It is recommended that treatment with tacrolimus or pimecrolimus be initiated only by physicians (including general practitioners) with a special interest and experience in dermatology, and only after careful discussion with the patient about the potential risks and benefits of all appropriate second-line treatment options.'

the Institute confirms that it recommends that pimecrolimus and tacrolimus are initiated only by physicians (including general practitioners) who have achieved specific recognition in the field of eczema care, e.g. have been formally recognised through their Primary Care Trust as having a special interest and experience in dermatology. However, methods of accreditation may vary locally and the guidance does not stipulate that accreditation must necessarily be achieved through the general practitioner with special interest (GPwSI) framework.