NHS Supply Chain

Information for Clinical Choice

Bladder Supports

Support Document

Introduction

Information for Clinical Choice (ICC) has been developed to assist Clinicians in the decision-making process when assessing the suitability of a product by providing a clear illustration and description of the features of a range of similar products supplied through NHS Supply Chain. The criteria provided, in the form of a product matrix and support document, is the result of a product review, conducted by Clinical Specialist, with support from clinical stakeholders from across the NHS.

The aim, alongside delivering savings back into NHS frontline services, is to ensure that clinical choice remains at the forefront of any product switching decision.

Maternity, Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Sexual Health Products – Bladder Supports

Around one in four women are affected by stress urinary incontinence this is leaking urine during physical activities that raise abdominal pressure, such as coughing, sneezing, laughing or exercising.

Causes may include pregnancy and childbirth: vaginal delivery can stretch, tear, or damage the nerves and muscles of the pelvic floor. Menopause: falling oestrogen levels cause the pelvic floor muscles and tissues to become thinner and lose support. Aging: muscles naturally lose strength and elasticity as people get older. Obesity: carrying extra body weight places chronic, increased downward pressure on the bladder and pelvic floor. Pelvic surgeries: procedures like hysterectomy can injure or weaken the surrounding pelvic support structures. Chronic coughing or constipation: long-term strain from conditions like chronic lung disease/smoking or repeated straining opening bowels stresses the pelvic floor.

Some people with stress incontinence may use one to four light-absorbency pads per day, depending on daily activity levels and the frequency of leaks these pads often take 400-500 years to biodegrade.

Intra-vaginal bladder supports aid symptoms of stress urinary incontinence by mechanically lifting and stabilizing the bladder neck, improving the bladder angle, compressing the urethra against the vaginal wall adds structural backing to the urethra. When sudden intra-abdominal pressure occurs (from coughing, sneezing, laughing or exercising), the support prevents the urethra opening, to stop urine leakage. This can reduce or eliminate the use of incontinence pads. Devices are inserted and removed in a similar way to a tampon. Instructions for use, sizing and cleaning are available in the packs.

NHS Supply Chain

Bladder Supports			
Supplier	**B Braun**	**Viveca Biomed Ltd**	**ImediCare**
Brand	Diveen	Contrelle Activgard	Efemia
MPC	3023E Medium 3022E Small 3025E Starter pack	V010003P30 size 1 V010002P30 size 2 V010003P30 size 3 V01SP Starter pack	110107 30mm 110207 35mm 110307 40mm 110409 Starter pack
NPC	FUI85123 Medium FUI85125 Small FUI85124 Starter pack	FUI85308 size 1 FUI85302 size 2 FUI85306 size 3 FUI85307 Starter pack	FUI85266 30mm FUI85267 35mm FUI85265 40mm FUI85264 Starter pack
Description	Mechanical support to the anterior vaginal wall in the area below the bladder neck of women who suffer from stress urinary incontinence or mixed urinary incontinence.	A soft bladder support inserted into the vagina, its unique shape and material offers 5-modes of action, to help prevent leaks caused by stress urinary incontinence immediately.	Intra vaginal reusable device to reduce leakage caused by stress urinary incontinence, by supporting the mid-urethra through the vaginal wall.
Picture			
Supply Route	eDirect	eDirect	eDirect
UOI	2 in starter pack or pack of 15	3 in starter pack and carton of 30	3 in starter pack or pack of 1
Use	Reusable up to 24 hours, may be used twice	Single use up to 16 hours	Reusable up to 16 hours a day for 3 months
Material	Flexible, biocompatible thermoplastic elastomer	Soft bio-synchronised polymer, latex and silicone free	Soft medical grade silicone, completely free of plastic
Sizes	Small and medium	1, 2 and 3	30mm, 35mm and 40mm
Contents of starter pack	2 sizes and applicator	3 sizes	3 sizes
Cleaning	Wash with water and mild, fragrance-free soap.	Not applicable	Boil for 10 mins and allow to air dry or mild soap and water.

Useful links:

https://catalogs.bbraun.com/en-01/p/PRID00009847/diveen?bomUsage=overviewTexts
https://contrelle.com/product-information/
https://efemiahealth.com/pages/healthcare-professionals

References:

If you have any questions, would like further information, or have feedback to share, please contact:

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