

Medicines Management & Pharmacy Services (MMPS)

**Unlicensed use of licensed drugs**  
**Leeds and York Partnership Foundation Trust**

The following drugs are occasionally used outside their licensed indications.

This will always be initiated by a specialist in secondary care.

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Approved unlicensed use</b>	<b>Approved doses</b>	<b>Evidence base/ limitations</b>
SSRI antidepressants	High dose use in obsessive compulsive disorder	Sertraline up to 400mg/day Fluoxetine up to 80mg/day	Small evidence base (Psychotropic Drug Directory 2010)
Carbamazepine	Prophylaxis of bipolar affective disorder  Behavioural disorders in learning disability patients	Within BNF limits  Within BNF limits	Maudsley Prescribing Guidelines 11 <sup>th</sup> edtn 2012  Frith Guidelines 2008
Clonazepam	Akathisia	0.5 – 3mg/day	Maudsley Prescribing Guidelines 11 <sup>th</sup> edtn 2012
Clozapine	Behaviour disorder in learning disability  Refractory bipolar affective disorder	Within BNF limits  Within BNF limits	Frith Guidelines 2008  Maudsley Prescribing Guidelines 11 <sup>th</sup> edtn 2012
Hyoscine hydrobromide	Hypersalivation related to clozapine use	300 micrograms up to three times a day	BNF 64 – Sept 2012
Mirtazapine	Post-traumatic stress disorder	Within BNF limits	NICE guideline CG26 2005
Olanzapine	Autism	Within BNF limits	Frith Guidelines

			2008
Propranolol	Akathisia	10 – 20mg TDS up to 80mg/day	Maudsley Prescribing Guidelines 11 <sup>th</sup> edtn 2012
Risperidone	Challenging behaviours in learning disability	Low dose usually 0.5 – 2mg daily	Frith Guidelines 2008
Valproate	Prophylaxis of bipolar affective disorder	Plasma level of 50mg/l is usually necessary for drug to be effective	Maudsley Prescribing Guidelines 11 <sup>th</sup> edition 2012

For further information: [www.choiceandmedication.org/leedsandyorkpft](http://www.choiceandmedication.org/leedsandyorkpft)

## Provenance

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This information has been prepared by Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Medicines Management and Pharmacy Services