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| **Red**  **Requires Immediate Action** |
| **Amber**  **Requires Action within next 48 hours** |
| **Green**  **No action required - For Information Only** |

**COVID-19 PRIMARY CARE COMMUNICATION**

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| **Date: 24/03/2020** | **Ref: Paracetamol Supply - Warrington CCG Practices** | | **RAG (see key above)** |
| **Summary:** | **Although local supply issues have been reported, we have been assured by manufacturers and wholesalers that there are no manufacturing issues with paracetamol nationally**  **Self-care guidance – Warrington CCG**  The **self-care guidance** does not encourage or recommend the prescribing of paracetamol for conditions where it is more appropriate to purchase the over the counter product. If paracetamol is required to treat a patient’s condition then they should be encouraged to purchase it, however if patients are socially vulnerable, clinicians can use their professional judgement as to whether it is appropriate to prescribe it.  **Advice for Warrington CCG practices (only during period of local supply issues):**  If a patient with an immediate clinical need is **unable to access over the counter supplies from shops or pharmacies,** then a clinician may use their clinical judgement to prescribe paracetamol on a patient by patient basis. Patients should then obtain further supplies over the counter as they become available.  If a patient has no immediate clinical need and wishes to have a stock of paracetamol in the house, they should be advised to purchase from shops or pharmacies when it becomes available.  **Community Pharmacy colleagues are asked to support GP practices by not advising patients to ask their GP for a prescription when they cannot provide over the counter supplies, unless there is an immediate clinical need** | | |
| **Actions required:** | 1. Note the information above | | |
| **Deadline Y/N**  **Deadline Date:** Deadline for actions to be taken | | **Additional Information attached**  **Y/N –** Number of documents attached listed here | |