

The background image shows a close-up of a hand holding a white and blue ultrasound probe. In the lower right corner, a clear gel is being applied to a person's skin. The top of the page has a blue and orange decorative bar.

# **Clinical Review**

## **Lubrication & Ultrasound Gels**

**August 2018**

# Contents

1. Introduction.....	4
2. Clinical Context .....	5
2.1 Clinical Definition and Scope.....	5
2.2 Intended Clinical Use .....	5
2.3 Clinical Practice .....	6
2.4 Clinical Impact.....	6
2.5 Other Clinical Considerations.....	7
3. Pathway Methods .....	7
3.1 Intelligence Gathering.....	7
3.1.1. Literature search.....	7
3.1.2. National procurement provider specification .....	8
3.1.3. National and international safety and quality standards.....	11
3.1.4. Product suppliers and manufacturers .....	11
3.1.5. Quality of evidence .....	11
4. NHS Clinical Engagement .....	12
4.1 Clinical Conversations.....	13
4.2 Clinical Questions .....	13
4.3 Clinical Criteria.....	14
4.4 Product Evaluation .....	17
5. Product Assessment Results .....	20
6. Using the Product Assessment Results Matrix .....	20
7. Further Considerations and Recommendations .....	21
7.1 Future recommendations .....	21
7.1.1. Suppliers/ Manufacturers .....	21
7.1.2. NHS Supply Chain .....	21
7.1.3. Clinical Use.....	21
7.2 Barcodes.....	21
8. Disclaimer.....	22
9. Acknowledgements.....	22
10. Authors and NHS Clinical Evaluation Team Information.....	23

## **Guidance for use**

This clinical evaluation report is aimed primarily at the NHS and all those working to support patient care. If you would like to talk through how this report can be used in your setting, please contact the team by emailing:

**[clinical.evaluationteam@nhs.net](mailto:clinical.evaluationteam@nhs.net)**.

Please note that the product assessment results should only be read and used in conjunction with the full text of this clinical review.

## 1. Introduction

The NHS Clinical Evaluation Team was established in April 2016. The team's remit is to add independent clinical review to 'everyday healthcare consumables' used by the NHS.

Everyday healthcare consumables are products that are found in the majority of wards, clinics, health centres, treatment rooms and district nurses' bags across the NHS. The purpose of this report is two-fold: firstly, to provide a clinical assessment of the usability and requirements from the NHS for lubrication and ultrasound gels that are available to the NHS from the national procurement provider and secondly, to provide a clinical statement of desired functions and properties that the clinicians in the NHS require of lubrication and ultrasound gels for use in future procurement activities.

It is clear from the evidence that the lubrication and ultrasound gels featured in this report are everyday healthcare consumables that are found in most clinics or ward settings and would certainly be items included in any stock list to set up a new clinical service. On that basis, the project was approved by the Clinical Reference Board in January 2018 culminating in the production of this report for their approval in August 2018.

Based on the data supplied by NHS Supply Chain, in the NHS, different Trusts are using over 27 million units of ultrasound and lubricating gels annually with a total spend approaching £2 million. There are 94 different product codes in the category supplied via 16 different suppliers. This report covers the range of products available as of March 2018.

It should be noted that ultrasound gels are included in the Nationally Contracted Products (NCP) programme, to identify unwarranted variation in the product range. Suppliers were invited to tender at eAuction, contracts have been awarded for a year. The products evaluated for this report were identified pre NCP contract.

Intelligence about lubrication and ultrasound gels was gathered from a variety of sources to provide background information on the current evidence available to support the way in which the products are designed and clinically evaluated.

Following this, clinical engagement sessions were held with the aim of identifying important clinical criteria for lubrication and ultrasound gels from frontline NHS clinicians. This information was used to develop clinical criteria against which brands available from the national procurement provider were reviewed.

Findings from these clinical reviews have been collated into a product assessment report to allow users to identify products and see how they performed against the agreed clinical criteria.

A more detailed description of the team and our pathway approach can be found in the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team operating manual which can be found on our website at: [www.supplychain.nhs.uk/cet](http://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/cet).

## **2. Clinical Context**

### **2.1 Clinical Definition and Scope**

Lubrication and ultrasound gel is designed to provide comfort to patients during certain clinical procedures. It reduces friction, which can cause heat between surfaces, and discomfort to the patient; by allowing smooth movement.

It ensures that there is continuous contact between the skin and the probe during the ultrasound scan.

This report will focus on lubrication gel and ultrasound gel. It does not include products which are impregnated with gel i.e. ECG electrodes, sheaths or condoms; gels for use in wound care or gels which include anaesthetic or antiseptic agents that require prescription. Products which are designed for personal use in the sexual health framework, under direction of healthcare professionals have also been discounted.

Within the NHS Supply Chain framework there are a vast number of different sizes of gels, contained in bottles, sachets and tubes. The descriptions are variable, the majority state very clearly, that they are for ultrasound use. There is a degree of ambiguity to the description of a number of products, e.g. thick gel, clear gel thick, water soluble etc. Products which state their use in ultrasound have been included in the full evaluation, however, products with less clarity as to their use e.g. gel can be used for surgical interventions, have been evaluated against all the criteria apart from the clinical in use simulated scan element.

The lubricants and gels are categorised into 5 sections within the NHS Supply Chain catalogue

- Lubricant Water Based
- Non Sterile Lubricants and Ultrasound Gels
- Sterile Lubricants
- Ultrasound Gel
- Skin Preparation

Within these 5 groups the gels are used in different clinical settings and are not limited to the section where they are listed.

### **2.2 Intended Clinical Use**

Lubrication and Ultrasound Gel is designed to provide comfort to patients during certain clinical procedures; including internal examination. It reduces friction, which can cause heat between surfaces; and discomfort to the patient. Ultrasound Gel is a conductive medium that provides a bond between the skin and a probe or transducer. It is formulated to act as a coupling agent; it ensures that there is continuous contact between the skin and the probe during the ultrasound scan.

## 2.3 Clinical Practice

Clinical conversation throughout this process has highlighted that lubrication gels are used to perform a number of different functions.

**2.3.1 Ultrasound or sonogram** is a procedure that uses high frequency sound waves to create an image of organs inside the body. Ultrasound can be used to diagnose a condition, monitor an unborn baby or as a guide during certain procedures. The sound waves bounce off the different organs to create echoes. These are detected by the probe and create an image which is displayed on the monitor. Typically an ultrasound scan will take between 15-45 minutes.

There are 3 main types of ultrasound scan:

- External – the probe is moved over the skin
- Internal- the probe is inserted into the body
- Endoscopic- the probe is attached to a long, thin, flexible tube and passed further into the body

**2.3.2 Internal examination**, usually rectal; where a nurse or doctor uses their finger to check for any abnormalities. The gel is used to aid comfort and reduce friction.

**2.3.3 Ophthalmology** uses include treatment of dry eyes for patients, coupling agent for diagnostic contact lenses used in clinic and in theatre to keep the eye moist during surgery.

## 2.4 Clinical Impact

### 2.4.1 Impact on the patient

The small amount of evidence available from patients about gels is anecdotal; often patients report that the residue or stickiness following the procedure is unpleasant.

### 2.4.2 Impact on the clinician

Poorly performing products specifically the dispenser and the means of opening have been reported as frustrating by clinicians. It is apparent that the amount of gel used, particularly for external ultrasound scan, is discretionary. Clinicians have reported that there is no standard operating procedure; if more gel is required it is added during the process. Overwhelmingly clinicians have reported that the type of opening, particularly ease of opening with one hand as important. Repeated use of a bottle to extract gel during a busy scan session can cause repetitive strain and discomfort.

Clinicians have highlighted frustration when opening sterile sachets that the inner plastic can often be difficult to tear. Tube containers often include a protective foil cover underneath the opener which prove hard to remove.

Clinicians stated that accessing some of the products was difficult particularly when wearing gloves. Clearly, if a procedure requires sterility, the use of gloves is

essential. Further conversation about the use of gloves during a non-sterile, non-invasive procedure indicated that clinicians prefer to wear gloves; in many situations it has become custom and practice and is individual preference. In health care there are many occasions when health care workers need to consider whether or not to wear gloves. This can result in confusion about when to use gloves, and can lead to the potential risk of gloves over-use, rather than under use occurring as staff attempt to manage risk by being over cautious. (Tools of the Trade: Guidance for health care staff on glove use and the prevention of contact dermatitis. Royal College of Nursing, 2018).

The decision was taken to evaluate the products with and without gloves to ensure that we captured a true reflection of clinical practice.

## **2.5 Other Clinical Considerations**

Selection of the correct type and size of gel is important and helps to reduce waste. The clinical procedure indicates the type of gel required. Generally, external scans require a non-sterile gel; internal and endoscopic require sterile, single patient use gel, although non-sterile gels are suitable for internal examinations.

## **3. Pathway Methods**

### **3.1 Intelligence Gathering**

In preparation of the criteria, account has been taken of academic and related clinical evidence, known guidance and nationally recognised publications as further described in section 3. Suppliers listed within the national framework were invited to provide clinically relevant evidence of their own. A number of suppliers provided information ranging from information brochures to technical data sheets.

#### **3.1.1. Literature search**

A literature search has been undertaken to establish what current academic knowledge exists on the products for evaluation. It should be noted that the team have not conducted a comprehensive or systematic review of literature. However, the team have interrogated the information to look for common themes which supported the development of the clinical criteria.

Initially, an evidence search was performed across the NICE service: <https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/Search?q=lubrication+ultrasound+gel> ). There were no returns from this search which stated the clinical requirements in the development, design and supply of the products.

The search terms used (see below) generated many returns, however, there was little new information generated of relevance.

Search criteria	Databases searched
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lubrication</li> <li>• Ultrasound gel</li> <li>• Gel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NICE website Evidence search <a href="https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/">https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/</a></li> <li>• Medline, NICE, <a href="https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/">https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/</a></li> <li>• Cochrane, NIHR and Grey Literature.</li> <li>• NICE website journals and databases <a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/evidence-services/journals-and-databases">https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/evidence-services/journals-and-databases</a></li> </ul>
Date Range	Since 2008

### 3.1.2. National procurement provider specification

Prior to the contract being awarded to single suppliers under the NCP programme, the NHS Supply Chain framework listed ultrasound gel and lubrication on two different datasets:

- Sexual Health
- Electrode Gels and related products

The specification has been reviewed to understand what has previously been asked of suppliers. The Electrode Gels and related products framework is divided into 3 lots. Ultrasound gels are included in lot.1, the criteria for standards, directives and legislative requirements for Electrode Gels and related products are shown below.

## Standard /Certification

### **Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC**

All products classified as a Medical Device must have their CE marking clearly evident on the product and/or packaging

### **BS EN ISO 10993-1: October 2009**

Biological evaluation of medical devices. Evaluation and testing within a risk management process

- All products and packaging should be latex free where possible. Any products or packaging containing latex must be clearly labelled as such to inform the user
- Solid gel is defined as having a firm composition, similar to set jelly
- Wet gel has a liquid composition and is more lubricating. It is designed to be used immediately with limited or no preparation.
- Any product that contains phthalates must be indicated on the packaging in accordance with Directive 2007/47/EC (amending Directives 90/385/EEC and 93/42/EEC).
- In accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended) safety data sheets for all products that fall under this Regulation must be provided to NHS Supply Chain
- Gel must have a minimum viscosity of 10,000 Centipose (the dynamic viscosity measurement unit).

The Sexual Health framework is divided into 7 lots. Lubrication and gels are included in lot. 4 & 5, the criteria for standards, directives and legislative requirements for Sexual Health are shown below. Standard /Certification

### **Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC**

All products classified as a Medical Device must have their CE marking clearly evident on the product and/or packaging

All natural rubber products must comply with the requirements of;

**BS EN ISO 4074:2002 or any equivalent standard** Natural latex rubber condoms. Requirements and test methods

- In accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended) safety data sheets for all product lines that fall under these Regulations must be provided to NHS Supply Chain.
- Any product line that contains phthalates must be indicated on the packaging in accordance with Directive 2007/47/EC (amending Directives 90/385/EEC and 93/42/EEC).
- All product lines must be clearly labelled to inform the user whether they contain latex or are latex free.
- During the term of the Framework Agreement NHS Supply Chain must be made aware of any awarded product line that is classed by the MHRA as a Medicinal Product.
- All product line(s) must be delivered to NHS Supply Chain, or in the case of goods delivered via the Direct Route of Supply to the end customer, with a minimum 2 years shelf life.
- Any shelf life limits and/or specific storage conditions (required after opening or reconstituting) for the product must be clearly stated on the product packaging.
- NHS Supply Chain (or any third party appointed at the absolute discretion of NHS Supply Chain) reserves the right to test product lines throughout the term of the Framework Agreement to ensure it complies with the Specification and meets customer requirements provided these have been made known to the supplier. If any product lines are found not to comply with these requirements then NHS Supply Chain reserves the right to:
  - Charge for the cost of testing and any required retesting.
  - Suspend the sale of the affected product line(s).
  - Terminate the Framework Agreement in accordance with the provisions set out therein.

The specification used by NHS Supply Chain provides insufficient detail relating to the clinical criteria relevant for lubrication and ultrasound gel; however these specifications have been considered in the development process of the clinical criteria.

### **3.1.3. National and international safety and quality standards**

Account has also been taken of appropriate international and other standards as they pertain to the devices (e.g. from the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), European Standards (EN) and/or British Standards Institution (BSI). No standards were identified against the search terms.

It is also noted that the Medical Device Directive 93/42/EEC as amended, is currently in transition to the new Medical Device Regulation MDR 2017/745

- All products classified as a Medical Device must have their CE marking clearly evident on the product and/or packaging and meet the requirements set out within the standard(s) related to labelling.

A review of Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) alerts has also been performed. The MHRA website (<https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts>) returned no product alerts relating to this product category against the search terms previously described

### **3.1.4. Product suppliers and manufacturers**

All suppliers listed within the national framework were invited to submit relevant evidence, product information and testing data to help support the review.

A number of suppliers provided a range of information from product brochure through to technical datasheets and evidence of compliance with standards.

### **3.1.5. Quality of evidence**

Hierarchy of evidence

Levels of evidence sometimes referred to as hierarchy of evidence are assigned to studies based on the methodological quality of their design, validity, and applicability to patient care.

The evidence for lubrication and ultrasound gel collected by the methods previously described would be classed as Level 6 or 7.

Hierarchy ranking	Description
Level 1	A systematic review of all relevant randomised controlled trials (RCT) or evidence-based clinical practice guidelines based on systematic reviews of RCT evidence
Level 2	Evidence from at least one well designed RCT
Level 3	Evidence from well-designed controlled trials; non-randomised, quasi experimental
Level 4	Well-designed case control & cohort studies
Level 5	Systematic reviews of descriptive and qualitative studies
Level 6	Evidence from a single, descriptive or qualitative study
Level 7	Evidence from the opinion of authorities and/or reports of expert committees

Figure 1 – Hierarchy ranking: Evidence based practice in nursing & healthcare: a guide to best practice” (B.M. Melnyk & E. Fineout-Overholt; 2005; p10)

## 4. NHS Clinical Engagement

In order to develop a shared vision of what is required from lubrication and ultrasound gels several methods of engagement were used. These events were used to formulate thoughts, ideas and needs from different clinicians familiar with these products; identifying their own expectation(s) of the product for their given patient group, and intended patient outcome, being used in a variety of differing clinical environments.

Mapping exercises were undertaken to determine personnel that should be involved and/or consulted regarding these products. This stage of the report focuses on clinical staff that are:

- a) recognised as subject experts, and/or
- b) recognised regular users of the devices in their clinical practice.

Various methods of engagement were undertaken to ensure these clinical opinions were robust, and validated by peers from around the country, options of engagement included:

- Regional and national face-to-face events with NHS clinical colleagues
- Focussed visits to NHS clinicians regional and national face-to-face events
- Website subscription
- Attendance at NHS Business Services Authority events
- Web-based surveys and e-engagement tools (e.g. email, WebEx, portal based surveys)

## 4.1 Clinical Conversations

To build a broad range of attendees at our events letters were sent inviting Trusts to nominate clinical colleagues to attend a series of regional group events. These were hosted by NHS organisations throughout England to enable the widest possible access for all invited. This ensured to set aside any pre-existing regional variance.

Details of the discussion outcomes were recorded online or in workbook form from the open events, transcribed and then used together with the evidence gathered at the previous project stage to inform a list of clinical criteria against which the product has been tested.

## 4.2 Clinical Questions

The following questions were asked of clinicians at clinical conversations to inform the build of the clinical criteria.

Clinical Conversation Questions
<b>Packaging</b>
Is there anything about the packaging we must consider?
Should this information be on the outer box and/or inner packaging?
<b>Opening</b>
Is there anything specific we must consider about the opening of the product?
<b>Clinical Use</b>
What is your role?
What do you use lubrication gels for in clinical practice?
Do you use them for a specific clinical activity?
How often do you use lubrication gels?
Do you use various sizes?
Is colour important?
If you could design your own lubrication gel, what would be the requirements?
<b>Disposal</b>
Is there anything regarding disposal that we need to consider?

Figure 2- Clinical Conversation questions for lubricating gel

### 4.3 Clinical Criteria

The data received from the NHS clinical conversation events, alongside the information collected from individual experts, was assimilated into a series of clinical criteria.

A clinical criterion is defined for the purposes of this report as a principle or standard by which products may be evaluated. It is a statement which describes the clinician's requirements for the product.

To enhance the readers understanding of this report, and to provide value to the results, a rationale for the defined clinical criteria is shown in figure 3.

CLINICAL CRITERIA	
Packaging	Rationale
The product description, expiry date, CE mark, compatibility with warmers, volume, lot.no. latex free, indication for use & single or multi patient use is displayed on the packaging.	<p>Ease of product identification, reduces errors, and clinical time in identifying correct product for procedure.</p> <p>Preferable on the inner packaging, although clinicians recognise that there is a lot of information and it is not feasible on small sachets or tubes. Important information was identified for the inner pack such as expiry date and indication for use.</p>
Opening	Rationale
<p>Sachets only: The individual packaging has tear /dotted lines which are visible.</p> <p>Tubes &amp; Sachets only: The individual packaging is easy to open when wearing gloves and the gel can be squeezed out effectively using one hand</p> <p>Bottles only : The bottle top/lid is easy to open and the gel can be squeezed out effectively using one hand</p>	<p>Ease of identifying opening (specifically for sachets) actual opening and dispensation of the product reduces the waste of clinical time.</p> <p>Products should be as easy to open and dispense when wearing gloves, as when not wearing gloves</p> <p>Lubrication gels are easily dispensed as required to perform the required task</p>

Clinical Use	Rationale
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the duration of the clinical application	<p>Ease of extraction of the lubrication gel reduces frustration for the clinicians ultimately saving time. Specifically when performing a lot of ultrasound scans, clinicians reported repetitive strain having to tip and squeeze the gel out constantly.</p> <p>Ease of application ensures patient comfort; the scan can be performed in a timely manner without having to reapply the gel.</p> <p>Ease of removal ensures patient comfort; the gel should not leave a sticky residue.</p>
Disposal	Rationale
The lubrication gel packaging can be disposed of simply in the clinical environment in accordance with local guidelines.	<p>Ease of product packaging disposal reduces the potential for poor waste management.</p> <p>Packaging should be recyclable</p>

Figure 3- Defining the clinical criteria for Lubrication gel

The proposed criteria were validated by workshop attendees and all other clinical experts engaged in the development process. In addition, other clinical experts who are likely to add further useful insight were also included, leading to the finalised clinical criteria highlighted in figure 4

CLINICAL CRITERIA
<b>Packaging</b>
<b>Bottles</b>
The product description is displayed on the inner packaging
The product displays the CE mark on the inner packaging
The product volume is displayed on the inner packaging
The product states compatibility with warmers on the inner packaging
The product displays Lot. Number on the inner packaging
The product displays expiry date on the inner packaging
The product displays Latex Free on the inner packaging
The indication for use is found on the inner, outer packaging

## **Tubes & Sachets**

The product description is displayed on the inner & outer packaging

The product displays the CE mark on the inner & outer packaging

The product volume is displayed on the inner & outer packaging

The product states compatibility with warmers on the inner & outer packaging

The product displays Lot. Number on the inner & outer packaging

The product displays expiry date on the inner & outer packaging

The product displays Latex Free on the inner & outer packaging

The product displays sterile or non-sterile on the inner & outer packaging

The product states single or multi patient use on the inner & outer packaging

The indication for use is found on the inner, outer packaging or IFU

## **Opening**

### **Sachets only**

The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable.

The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves

The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves

The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves

The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves

### **Tubes only**

The tube is easy to open wearing gloves

The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves

The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves

The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves

### **Bottles only**

The bottle top/lid is easy to open wearing gloves

The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves

The bottle top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves

The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves

The bottle top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves

The bottle top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves

### **Clinical Use**

**Bottles only:** The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the duration of the clinical application.

**Tubes & Sachets only:** The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the duration of the clinical application.

### **Disposal**

**Packaging to be recyclable:** The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled

Figure 4- Clinical Criteria for Lubrication gel

Clinicians commented that products are often difficult to open/use when wearing gloves, therefore it was agreed to include evaluation of opening with and without gloves.

## **4.4 Product Evaluation**

Evaluation methodologies are defined for each and every clinical criterion. They reflect a simulated clinical environment.

Wherever possible, products were supplied in a 'ward ready' unit of issue as would be found by clinical staff on accessing a store area in their clinical environment. Where this has not been possible it was acknowledged as part of the product assessment results matrix.

The tests were formulated to move through the key aspects of product use using the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team product cycle:

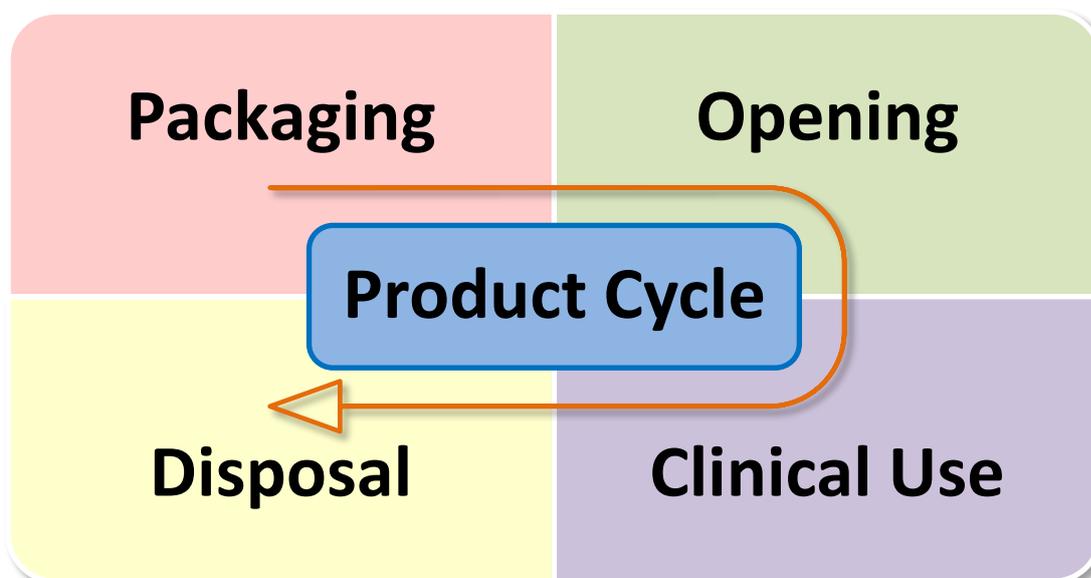


Figure 5 – NHS Clinical Evaluation Team Product Cycle

The evaluation product was ordered and delivered from the NHS distribution centres. Products evaluated have been stored post evaluation for a period of three months after publication of this review.

Practicing NHS clinical staff were invited to review the products in accordance with the developed criteria. It was not possible to 'blind' the evaluations; in the sense that the evaluators were aware of the product brand; however, the product to be evaluated was independently picked in accordance with the product selection criteria and prepared for evaluation by colleagues who were not otherwise involved in the process.

Each clinical evaluator entered data independently and without inter-rater comparison into their own workbook. These were then collated, reviewed and summarised by the clinical specialist lead for the project.

As part of the evaluation preparation, each evaluator was given a more detailed and product specific definition for each of the scores

The defined criteria either prompted a 'yes/no' answer, which has been represented with a ✓/X, or a score was given between 0 and 3, or 0 and 2. These numerical scores across all evaluators were totalled and a mean value determined. This mean value has then been converted into a star rating shown in figure 6.

Score	Meaning
0	This does not meet the criteria
1	This partially meets the criteria
2	This meets the criteria
3	This exceeds the criteria

Figure 6 – NHS Clinical Evaluation Team scoring methods

The mean values convert to a star rating highlighted in figure 7

Point scored		Star value	
0	to 0.99	0	stars
1	to 1.24	1	Star
1.25	to 1.74	1.5	Stars
1.75	to 2.24	2	Stars
2.25	to 2.74	2.5	Stars
2.75	to 3	3	Stars

Figure 7 – conversion of mean scores to star rating

The above scoring mechanisms will not be followed where the criterion identified by the CET cannot reasonably exceed expectations. For example, if the clinical criterion was whether the removal of an adhesive dressing was atraumatic and with the individual patient reporting no pain or skin damage, then it cannot reasonably be expected that a product could exceed that criteria. Therefore, in such circumstances, the relevant criteria will be based on the scoring regime of:

- a. If the criterion is a Yes/No response, the responses will be converted into aggregate percentages and then star ratings as follows:

Percentages (Yes)	Star value
0% to 24.99%	0 star
25% to 49.99%	1 star
50% to 74.99%	1.5 stars
75% to 100%	2 stars

Figure 8 – Percentage scores to star rating

- b. For other subjective criteria, the responses will be converted into mean scores and then star ratings as follows:

Point scored	Star value
0.00 to 0.99	0 star
1.00 to 1.24	1 star
1.24 to 1.74	1.5 stars
1.75 to 2.00	2 stars

Figure 9 – Points scores to star rating

On the basis that clinical evaluators will be providing scores as follows:

- 0 stars – Does not meet the criteria
- 1 star – Partially meets the criteria
- 2 stars – Meets the criteria

All supplemental products used in the evaluation are in use in the NHS and available through the national catalogue (e.g. clinical waste containers, gloves, disposable kidney dishes, wipes).

Evaluators were also encouraged to record comments where they felt it necessary to provide rationale for their scoring and answers.

The results obtained have been validated by the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team moderation committee for consistency of scoring and interpretation. These results are presented in the product assessment reports herein.

## **5. Product Assessment Results**

The following product assessment results pages show the tested clinical criteria listed horizontally on the left-hand side of the page with the tested device found vertically across the top of the matrix. The accompanying photographs were taken during evaluation. These photographs are of sample products provided for evaluation. Lot numbers were recorded and samples have been retained in storage following the completion of evaluation.

The products represented are the range of suppliers and brands available through the NHS national procurement provider's framework as of March 2018.

Results can be seen within the product matrix. Each clinical product has been given a star rating and the evaluator's collated comments are included in the matrix.

## **6. Using the Product Assessment Results Matrix**

The clinical criteria displayed are designed to capture key clinical elements that health professionals may wish to consider when reviewing/selecting products for their own clinical practice. The report is intended as a guidance tool to aid product selection and is not intended to be a universal determination of the clinical effectiveness of any particular product. Each clinical practitioner should therefore make their own assessments taking into account all relevant considerations for their particular situation.

Not all clinical criteria cited in the report will be relevant or important in all environments, *i.e .250ml bottles of non-sterile gel not appropriate for sterile procedure.*

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL Sachets



	ALBERT WAESCHLE	FANNIN (STROUD)	GRAPHIC CONTROLS	HENLEYS MEDICAL SUPPLIES	
BRAND	Parker	Lang Skintact	Konix	Parker	Henley Medical
NPC	FJE6287	FDK399	FPH025	FDK615	FDK634
MPC	90.100.10	TK001	G20CS	HM31	H36125GC
UNIT OF ISSUE	48 in box	48 in box	48 in box	48 in box	100 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Sterile Sachet Clear Blue	Sterile Sachet	Ultrasound & electrical transmission gel	Sterile Sachet Aquasonic Blue	Ultrasound Gel Sachet Clear
PRESENTATION	Sachet	Sachet	Sachet	Sachet	Sachet
PRODUCT SIZE	20ml	20ml	20 mls	20g	25g
STERILE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
SINGLE USE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LID PRESENTATION	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	✓ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✓ (both)	✗ (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✗ (both)
The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.71)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (0.43)*
The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (1.86)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (1.43)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★★ (1.86)	★★★★ (1.86)	★★★★ (1.86)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (1.57)
The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (1.86)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (1.43)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (1.86)	★★★★ (1.86)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (1.57)
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★★ (2.14)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.14)	★★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (outer)	✗ (both)	✓ (inner)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL Sachets



	LTC HEALTHCARE	MED MATTERS LTD	OPTIMUM MEDICAL SOLUTIONS	
BRAND	LTC Healthcare	Parker	OptiLube	Vue
NPC	FPH030	FJE6333	FTM306	FTM338
MPC	BIOHEALTH-5G	Aquasonic100	1120	1156
UNIT OF ISSUE	500 in box	48 in box	150 in pack	30 in pack
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Water Based Lube	Sterile Sachet Blue	Sterile Lube	Sterile Lube
PRESENTATION	Sachet	Sachets	Sachet	Sachet
PRODUCT SIZE	5g	20ml	5g	20ml
STERILE	✓	✓	✓	✓
SINGLE USE	✓	✓	✓	✓
LID PRESENTATION	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	✗ (both)	✓ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	★★ (1.71)*	★★ (2.00)*	★★ (1.57)*	★★ (2.00)*
The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.71)	★★★ (2.00)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (1.71)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)
The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.71)	★★★ (2.00)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (1.71)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	NA	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)	✓ (outer)	✓ (outer)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL Bottles



ALBERT WAESCHLE

CAREFUSION UK 306 LTD  
(NOW VYAIRE)

DJO UK LTD

FANNIN (STROUD)



\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL Bottles



## GRAPHIC CONTROLS LTD

## HENLEYS MEDICAL SUPPLIES LTD



BRAND	Vermed	Graphic Controls	Parker	Parker	Henley Medical
NPC	FDK1051	FDK609	FDK635	FJE6345	FDK613
MPC	G250C	G250IPL	HM32	HM62	H361260GC
UNIT OF ISSUE	12 in box	12 in box	12	12 in box	12 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Clear Gel Bottle	Clear Gel Bottle IPL	Ultrasound Gel 250ml Blue Gel Bottle Aquasonic 100	Aquasonic Clear Ultrasound Gel	Clear Gel
PRESENTATION	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	250ml	260g	250ml	250ml	260g
STERILE	X	X	X	X	X
SINGLE USE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
LID PRESENTATION	Flip	Push/Pull	Flip	Flip	Twist
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	X (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.57)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.00)
The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.57)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.00)
The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*
The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.14)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)	✓ (outer)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL Bottles



BRAND	Henry Schein	Konix	LTC Healthcare	Medgraphics
NPC	FJE6324	FJE6331	FPH033	FDK659
MPC	9000849	101	BIOHEALTHULTRA-250	MG998
UNIT OF ISSUE	Each	100 in box	40 in box	25 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Gel Bottle	Clear Gel Bottle	Squeeze Bottle	Clear Gel Bottle Thick
PRESENTATION	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	250g	250ml	250ml	260ml
STERILE	X	X	X	X
SINGLE USE	NA	NA	NA	NA
LID PRESENTATION	Flip	Push/Pull	Push/Pull	Flip on Spout
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (1.43)	★★★ (2.00)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)
The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (1.43)	★★★ (2.00)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)
The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*	★★★ (2.00)*
The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.17)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (inner)	X (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL Bottles



	MED MATTERS LTD	OPTIMUM MEDICAL SOLUTIONS	PHILIPS HEALTHCARE	TECHMED CHARTS UK LTD	WILLIAMS MEDICAL SUPPLIES
					
BRAND	SonoMed	Vue Ultrasound Gel	Parker	Techmed	Williams Medical Supplies
NPC	FJE6334	FTM302	FJE6302	FJE6392	FPH020
MPC	SkyGEL260c	1157	40483A	GUS260CLE	D5450
UNIT OF ISSUE	24 in box	40 in box	12 in box	50 in box	
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Clear Gel Bottle	Non Sterile Ultrasound Gel	USS Gel Water Soluble	Clear Gel Bottle	Non Sterile Clear
PRESENTATION	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	260ml	250ml	250ml	250ml	250ml
STERILE	X	X	X	X	X
SINGLE USE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
LID PRESENTATION	Flip on Spout	Twist & Pull	Flip on Spout	Integrated	Push/Pull
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)
The product displays latex free	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (1.14)	★ ★ ★ (1.71)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (1.71)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (1.86)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)
The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (1.14)	★ ★ ★ (1.71)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (1.71)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (1.86)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)
The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*
The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*	★ ★ (2.00)*
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	★ ★ ★ (2.14)	★ ★ ★ (1.86)	★ ★ ★ (2.14)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	X (both)	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL Tubes



## GRAPHIC CONTROLS



## LTC HEALTHCARE



## OPTIMUM MEDICAL SOLUTIONS



BRAND	Parker	LTC Healthcare	LTC Healthcare	OptiLube
NPC	FDK596	FPH029	FPH031	FTM294
MPC	102	BIOHEALTH-42G	BIOHEALTH-82G	1121
UNIT OF ISSUE	12 in box	12 in box	12 in box	12 in pack
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Aquasonic 100 Ultrasound Transmission Gel	Tube Water Based Lube	Water Based Lube	Sterile Lube
PRESENTATION	Tube	Tube	Tube	Tube
PRODUCT SIZE	100ml	42g	82g	42g
STERILE	X	✓	✓	✓
SINGLE USE	✓	✓	✓	✓
LID PRESENTATION	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.71)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)
The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.71)
The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.14)	NA	NA	★★★ (1.86)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (outer)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	X (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## ALBERT WAESCHLE LTD



BRAND	Parker	Lessa
NPC	FJE6287	FJE6288
MPC	90.100.10	99.800.20
UNIT OF ISSUE	48 in box	25 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Sterile Sachet Clear Blue	Blue Gel Bottle
PRESENTATION	Sachet	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	20ml	250ml
STERILE	✓	✗
SINGLE USE	✓	NA
LID PRESENTATION	NA	Flip
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	✓ (both)	✗ (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	✓ (both)	✗ (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	★★ (2.00)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (1.86)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	NA	★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	NA	★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (outer)	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



**CAREFUSION UK 306 LTD  
(NOW VYAIR)**



<b>BRAND</b>	<b>Vital Signs</b>
<b>NPC</b>	<b>FDK1006</b>
<b>MPC</b>	<b>2034731-002</b>
<b>UNIT OF ISSUE</b>	<b>4 in a box</b>
<b>PRODUCT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>Clear Gel (Sample sent Electrode Gel, confirmed can be used for USS by supplier)</b>
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Bottle</b>
<b>PRODUCT SIZE</b>	<b>250ml</b>
<b>STERILE</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>SINGLE USE</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>LID PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Flip</b>
<b>NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	✓ (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	☆☆☆ (0.43)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	☆☆☆ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	☆☆☆ (0.43)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	☆☆☆ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	☆☆ (0.86)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	☆☆ (0.86)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	☆☆☆ (1.43)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (inner)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



**DJO UK LTD**



<b>BRAND</b>	<b>Chattanooga LTD</b>
<b>NPC</b>	<b>FJE6294</b>
<b>MPC</b>	<b>4248</b>
<b>UNIT OF ISSUE</b>	<b>24 in box</b>
<b>PRODUCT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>Blue Gel Bottle</b>
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Bottle</b>
<b>PRODUCT SIZE</b>	<b>250ml</b>
<b>STERILE</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>SINGLE USE</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>LID PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Flip</b>
<b>NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (inner)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (inner)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (1.86)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## FANNIN (STROUD)



BRAND	Lang Skintact	Lang Skintact
NPC	FDK399	FDK806
MPC	TK001	58321T
UNIT OF ISSUE	48 in box	24 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Sterile Sachet	Clear Gel Bottle Thick
PRESENTATION	Sachet	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	20ml	250ml
STERILE	✓	✗
SINGLE USE	✓	NA
LID PRESENTATION	NA	Push/Pull
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	✓ (both)	✗ (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	★☆☆ (1.71)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★☆☆ (1.86)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★☆☆ (1.86)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★☆☆ (1.86)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★☆☆ (1.86)	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	★★★☆☆ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	★★★☆☆ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	★★★☆☆ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	★★★☆☆ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (1.86)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (1.86)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	✓
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★★☆☆ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✗ (both)	✓ (outer)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## GRAPHIC CONTROLS LTD



BRAND	Vermed	Graphic Controls	Parker	Konix
NPC	FDK1051	FDK609	FDK596	FPH025
MPC	G250C	G250IPL	102	G20CS
UNIT OF ISSUE	12 in box	12 in box	12 in box	48 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Clear Gel Bottle	Clear Gel Bottle IPL	Aquasonic 100 Ultrasound Transmission Gel	Ultrasound & electrical transmission gel
PRESENTATION	Bottle	Bottle	Tube	Sachet
PRODUCT SIZE	250ml	260g	100ml	20 mls
STERILE	X	X	X	✓
SINGLE USE	NA	NA	✓	✓
LID PRESENTATION	Flip	Push/Pull	NA	NA
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)
The product displays latex free	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	X (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	✓ (inner)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (1.86)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*	NA	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (2.00)	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)	✓ (outer)	✓ (inner)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## HENLEYS MEDICAL SUPPLIES LTD



BRAND	Parker	Parker	Parker	Henley Medical	Henley Medical
NPC	FDK615	FDK635	FJE6345	FDK613	FDK634
MPC	HM31	HM32	HM62	H361260GC	H36125GC
UNIT OF ISSUE	48 in box	12	12 in box	12 in box	100 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Sterile Sachet Aquasonic Blue	Ultrasound Gel 250ml Blue Gel Bottle Aquasonic 100	Aquasonic Clear Ultrasound Gel	Clear Gel	Ultrasound Gel Sachet Clear
PRESENTATION	Sachet	Bottle	Bottle	Bottle	Sachet
PRODUCT SIZE	20g	250ml	250ml	260g	25g
STERILE	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
SINGLE USE	✓	NA	NA	NA	✓
LID PRESENTATION	NA	Flip	Flip	Twist	NA
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (outer)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	✓ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	✓ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (0.43)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (1.43)
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (1.57)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (1.43)
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA	★★★ (1.57)
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.57)	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★★ (2.57)	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (2.00)*	★★★ (1.86)*	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✗ (both)	✓ (outer)	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)	✗ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## HENRY SCHEIN MEDICAL



<b>BRAND</b>	<b>Henry Schein</b>
<b>NPC</b>	<b>FJE6324</b>
<b>MPC</b>	<b>9000849</b>
<b>UNIT OF ISSUE</b>	<b>Each</b>
<b>PRODUCT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>Gel Bottle</b>
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Bottle</b>
<b>PRODUCT SIZE</b>	<b>250g</b>
<b>STERILE</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>SINGLE USE</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>LID PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Flip</b>
<b>NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
The product description is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (inner)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (inner)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (inner)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.14)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (inner)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



IMS EURO LTD



BRAND	Konix
NPC	FJE6331
MPC	101
UNIT OF ISSUE	100 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Clear Gel Bottle
PRESENTATION	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	250ml
STERILE	X
SINGLE USE	NA
LID PRESENTATION	Push/Pull
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.14)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.14)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.17)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	X (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## LTC HEALTHCARE



BRAND	LTC Healthcare	LTC Healthcare	LTC Healthcare	LTC Healthcare
NPC	FPH033	FPH029	FPH030	FPH031
MPC	BIOHEALTHULTRA-250	BIOHEALTH-42G	BIOHEALTH-5G	BIOHEALTH-82G
UNIT OF ISSUE	40 in box	12 in box	500 in box	12 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Squeeze Bottle	Tube Water Based Lube	Water Based Lube	Water Based Lube
PRESENTATION	Bottle	Tube	Sachet	Tube
PRODUCT SIZE	250ml	42g	5g	82g
STERILE	X	✓	✓	✓
SINGLE USE	NA	✓	✓	✓
LID PRESENTATION	Push/Pull	NA	NA	NA
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)	X (both)	✓ (both)	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA	NA	★ ★ (1.71)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA	★ ★ ★ (1.86)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	NA	★ ★ ★ (1.71)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA	★ ★ ★ (1.86)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA	★ ★ ★ (1.71)	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (1.43)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (1.43)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★ ★ (1.86)*	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★ ★ (2.00)*	NA	NA	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.00)
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.14)	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.00)
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.00)
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.14)	NA	★ ★ ★ (2.00)
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★ ★ ★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)	✓ (inner)	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## MEDGRAPHICS



BRAND	Medgraphics
NPC	FDK659
MPC	MG998
UNIT OF ISSUE	25 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Clear Gel Bottle Thick
PRESENTATION	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	260ml
STERILE	X
SINGLE USE	NA
LID PRESENTATION	Flip on Spout
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## MED MATTERS LTD



BRAND	Parker	SonoMed
NPC	FJE6333	FJE6334
MPC	Aquasonic100	SkyGEL260c
UNIT OF ISSUE	48 in box	24 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Sterile Sachet Blue	Clear Gel Bottle
PRESENTATION	Sachets	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	20ml	260ml
STERILE	✓	✗
SINGLE USE	✓	NA
LID PRESENTATION	NA	Flip on Spout
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	✗ (both)	✗ (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	✓ (both)	✗ (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	✓ (both)	✗ (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (1.14)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (1.14)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (inner)	✓ (inner)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## OPTIMUM MEDICAL SOLUTIONS



BRAND	Vue Ultrasound Gel	OptiLube	OptiLube	Vue
NPC	FTM302	FTM294	FTM306	FTM338
MPC	1157	1121	1120	1156
UNIT OF ISSUE	40 in box	12 in pack	150 in pack	30 in pack
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Non Sterile Ultrasound Gel	Sterile Lube	Sterile Lube	Sterile Lube
PRESENTATION	Bottle	Tube	Sachet	Sachet
PRODUCT SIZE	250ml	42g	5g	20ml
STERILE	X	✓	✓	✓
SINGLE USE	NA	✓	✓	✓
LID PRESENTATION	Twist & Pull	NA	NA	NA
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)	X (both)	✓ (both)	✓ (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA	NA	★★★ (1.57)	★★★ (2.00)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (1.71)	★★★ (2.00)
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (1.71)	★★★ (2.00)
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	NA	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (1.71)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (1.71)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	NA	NA	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*	NA	NA	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (1.71)	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (1.71)	NA	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA	★★★ (2.00)	NA	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.86)	★★★ (2.14)	★★★ (2.00)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (both)	X (both)	✓ (outer)	✓ (outer)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

# LUBRICATIONS & ULTRASOUND GEL



## PHILIPS HEALTHCARE



<b>BRAND</b>	<b>Parker</b>
<b>NPC</b>	<b>FJE6302</b>
<b>MPC</b>	<b>40483A</b>
<b>UNIT OF ISSUE</b>	<b>12 in box</b>
<b>PRODUCT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>USS Gel Water Soluble</b>
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Bottle</b>
<b>PRODUCT SIZE</b>	<b>250ml</b>
<b>STERILE</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>SINGLE USE</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>LID PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Flip on Spout</b>
<b>NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
The product description is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (both)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (both)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (both)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (both)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (2.14)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

<b>LUBRICATIONS &amp; ULTRASOUND GEL</b> 	<b>TECHMED CHARTS UK LTD</b> 
BRAND	Techmed
NPC	FJE6392
MPC	GUS260CLE
UNIT OF ISSUE	50 in box
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	Clear Gel Bottle
PRESENTATION	Bottle
PRODUCT SIZE	250ml
STERILE	X
SINGLE USE	NA
LID PRESENTATION	Integrated
NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE	SCORE
The product description is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (inner)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (inner)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (inner)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★★★ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★★★ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★★★ (1.86)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★★★ (1.86)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	X (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

<b>LUBRICATIONS &amp; ULTRASOUND GEL</b> 	<b>WILLIAMS MEDICAL SUPPLIES</b> 
<b>BRAND</b>	Williams Medical Supplies
<b>NPC</b>	FPH020
<b>MPC</b>	D5450
<b>UNIT OF ISSUE</b>	
<b>PRODUCT DESCRIPTION</b>	Non Sterile Clear
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	Bottle
<b>PRODUCT SIZE</b>	250ml
<b>STERILE</b>	X
<b>SINGLE USE</b>	NA
<b>LID PRESENTATION</b>	Push/Pull
<b>NHS CET PRODUCT ASSESSMENT CYCLE</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
The product description is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays the CE mark	✓ (inner)
The product volume is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays compatibility with warmers	X (both)
The product displays the Lot no.	✓ (inner)
The product displays the expiry date	✓ (inner)
The product displays latex free	X (both)
The indication for use is displayed	✓ (inner)
The product displays single or multi patient use	X (both)
(SACHETS) The individual packaging has tear markers or dotted lines which are identifiable	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The individual packaging is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(SACHETS) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
(BOTTLES) The top/ lid is easy to open wearing gloves	★ ★ ☆ (1.71)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	★ ★ ☆ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid is easy to open without wearing gloves	★ ★ ☆ (1.71)
(BOTTLES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	★ ★ ☆ (2.00)
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application wearing gloves	★ ★ (2.00)*
(BOTTLES) The top/lid can be closed following application without wearing gloves	★ ★ (2.00)*
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The tube is easy to open without wearing gloves	NA
(TUBES) The gel can be squeezed out effectively without wearing gloves	NA
The gel is not runny or sticky and remains in place for the clinical application	★ ★ ☆ (2.14)
The inner & outer packaging indicates that it can be recycled	✓ (both)

\*Maximum number of 2 stars attainable

## **7. Further Considerations and Recommendations**

### **7.1 Future recommendations**

#### **7.1.1. Suppliers/ Manufacturers**

Consideration should be taken by suppliers/manufacturers to:

- Clearly identify the clinical use and purpose of the product. It has been noted during the evaluation that there is a lot of variation of name for the same product.
- Improve the opening of products. Accessing tubes because of the foil protector under the lid is often very difficult; similarly tearing the sachets because of the secondary plastic protector is problematic
- Standardisation of the viscosity of the product. NHS Supply Chain contract specification states that the viscosity should be a minimum of 10,000 Centipose (the dynamic viscosity measurement unit). Products range significantly i.e 183,000-280,000 centipose.

#### **7.1.2. NHS Supply Chain**

Consideration should be taken by NHS Supply Chain to:

- Improve the supply chain catalogue listings and descriptions of products

#### **7.1.3. Clinical Use**

Consideration should be taken by clinicians to:

- Take account of the recommendations stated in the Glove Pyramid, RCN guidance: Tools of the Trade, Guidance for health care staff on glove use and the presentation of contact dermatitis. (RCN 2018)

## **7.2 Barcodes**

The CET are aware of the Scan4Safety project and are aligned with the ambitions of the programme, which will deliver significant benefits in terms of patient safety and efficiency, to the NHS. The adoption of standards, driven by Scan4Safety, enables patient, product and location identification and traceability from the supply chain to the patient.

Adoption of these standards has also been shown to improve the quality of care by minimising the risk of human error.

The CET will be considering the inclusion of an evaluation criteria relating to the presence of GS1 compliant barcodes in future reports, as following our clinical conversations we have seen clinical staff asking for it to be included, but further information will be issued by the CET on this to stakeholders in advance.

## **8. Disclaimer**

Reports published by the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team represent general guidance and the team's opinions on products are based on the clinical evaluations undertaken, using the information and clinical criteria generated from extensive stakeholder engagement in line with the team's requirements and evaluation pathway. Reports will be reviewed and updated at the team's discretion as deemed appropriate to reflect any changes.

You should make your own assessment and not take or rely on the opinions expressed by the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team, as contained in the reports, as recommendations or advice to buy or not buy (as the case may be) particular products.

The NHS Clinical Evaluation Team is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the results obtained from the use of the information contained in the reports. The reports are provided 'as is', with no guarantee of completeness, accuracy or timeliness and without representation, warranty, assurance or undertaking of any kind, express or implied, including, but not limited to fitness for a particular purpose.

The NHS Clinical Evaluation Team shall not be liable to you or anyone else for any decision made or action taken in reliance on the information contained in the reports or for any consequential, special or indirect loss.

Reports are accurate at the time of publication, any recommendations or best practice guidance should be checked for updates.

## **9. Acknowledgements**

On behalf of the Clinical Reference Board and the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team, we would like to acknowledge the support, help and advice given by our colleagues across a range of organisations. We would particularly like to thank the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS Business Services Authority and their Communications team along with publishing partners The APS Group and, most importantly, our NHS colleagues who have supported our work.

The team would also like to acknowledge the inspiration of Mandie Sunderland who saw this opportunity and who, through her personal drive and enthusiasm, has ensured that the clinical voice and the need for quality, safety and value throughout the NHS has been heard.

## **10. Authors and NHS Clinical Evaluation Team Information**

**NHS Clinical Specialist Lead author:**

**Shelley Bailey**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**With support from NHS Clinical Evaluation Team colleagues at the Department of Health and Social Care:**

**Dr Naomi Chapman**, Executive Nurse Network Lead

**Simon Hall**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Marc Naughton**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Joanna Hamilton Davies**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Roger Kirkham**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Maya Guerrero**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Colette Longstaffe**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Colin Iverson**, RN, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Dan Lewin**, Physiotherapist, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Suzy Halliday**, RN, Adv Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Wendy Briggs**, Podiatrist, Clinical Specialist Lead

**Department of Health and Social Care, Clinical Evaluation Team colleagues:**

**Elizabeth Wright**, Programme Lead

**Lisa Edwards**, Operational Programme Manager

You can find team member full biographies at: [www.supplychain.nhs.uk/CET](http://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/CET)

**‘Quality, safety and value are at the heart of our work and it’s important that we use our clinical experience to deliver high standards of care while reducing cost and waste in the NHS.’**

Mandie Sunderland  
Chair, Clinical Reference Board  
(Governing body of the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team)

