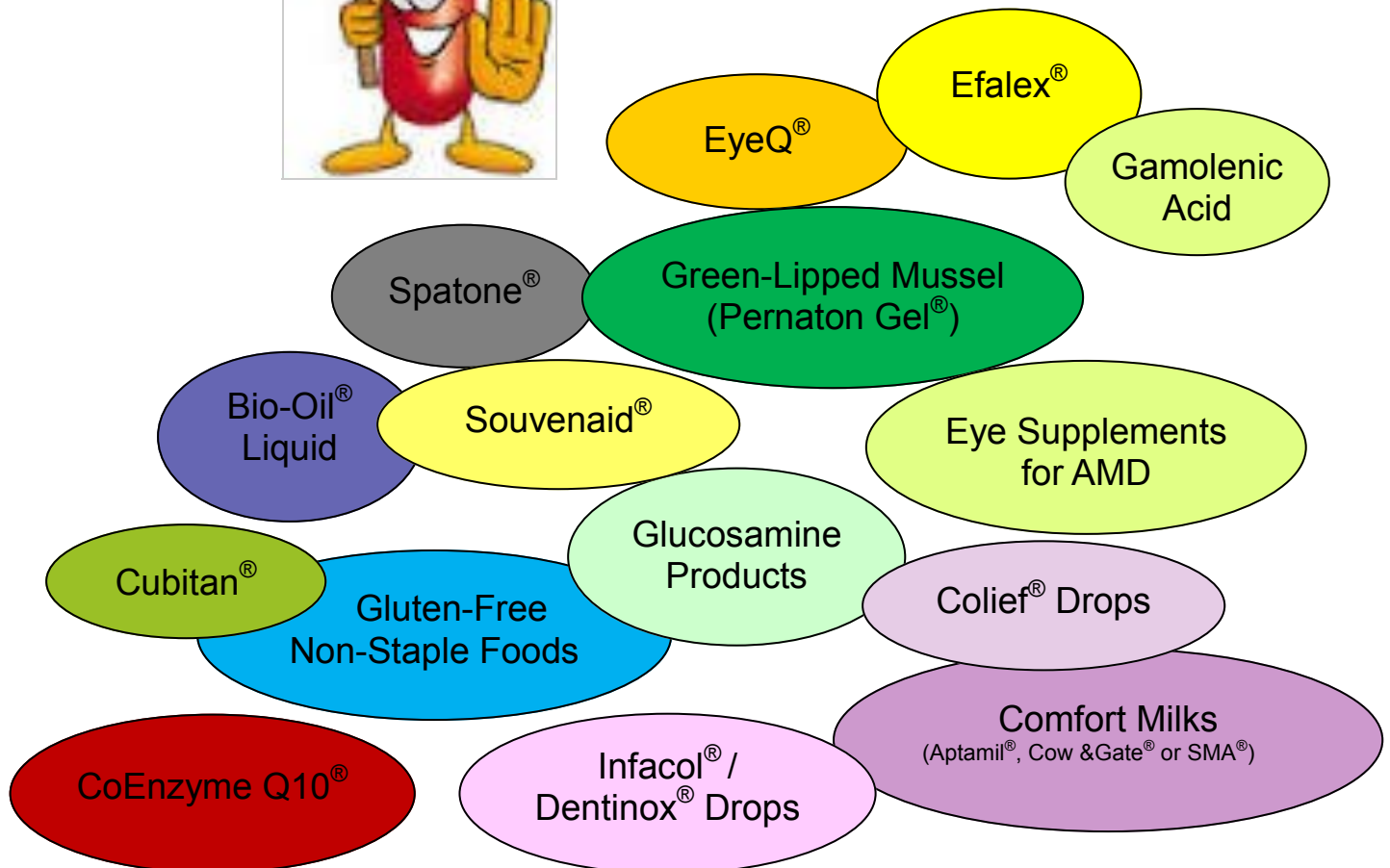




Please Don't Ask!



- The NHS has a limited pot of money.
- Payment for certain items on prescription may be considered a waste of scarce NHS resources that could be better spent on evidence-based treatments.
- In addition to the cost of the product there is much cost associated with producing prescriptions, e.g. GP and practice staff time.
- The Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) does not support prescribing of certain products on HS21 prescription due to lack of proven efficacy or product licence (see examples above).
- Patients should be counselled accordingly and advised that these products may be purchased over the counter as appropriate if desired.
- The HSCB Medicines Management team recognises and appreciates the valuable role that GP practices, community pharmacists and their staff have in supporting this and other initiatives.