

## **Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care: February 2020**

This report has been produced by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Medicine Supply Team. We aim to update this report monthly to provide an update on current primary and secondary care medicine supply issues that we are working on. This information is confidential to the NHS; please do not upload to websites in the public domain. Please do share with relevant colleagues and networks.

Where it has been stated 'a clinical memo from UKMI will be published on the SPS website', this will be found at the following URL: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/category/shortages-discontinuations-and-expiries/>

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**Information provided w/c xx February 2020**

New Issues

Injectables

Aztreonam (Azactam) 1g injection

- Out of stock until early March 2020.
- Azactam 2g injection remains available.
- See the attached DHCP letter from Bristol-Myers Squibb for further information.

Levomepromazine (Nozinan) 25mg/ml injection

- Sanofi are out of stock of Nozinan injection until w/c 24 February 2020.
- Wockhardt have stock of levomepromazine injection and can cover the market until Sanofi are back in stock.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 12 February. See attached for further information.

Lorazepam (Ativan) 4mg/ml injection

- Pfizer have limited supplies of lorazepam 4mg/ml injection so will be restricting orders direct to pharmacies in line with 50% historical demand between now and w/c 2nd March.
- Pfizer anticipate going fully out of stock by 6th March until w/c 16th March 2020.
- Specialist importers can source a limited supply of alternatives of lorazepam 4mg/ml injection; however, the average lead time is 4-6 weeks.
- NOTE: there are insufficient supplies of Diazemuls® to support; please do not use in place of Ativan® injection.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 20 February. See attached for further information.
- UKMi have prepared a Clinical Memo to support the management of this supply issue: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-ativan-lorazepam-injection-4-mg-in-1-ml/>

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Somatropin (Genotropin) 12mg GoQuick/0.6mg MiniQuick/0.8mg MiniQuick

- Pfizer have limited supplies until mid-April 2020.
- For patients who are required to switch their device as a result of this issue, Pfizer will provide device training through your homecare provider at no cost to the Trust. If this is required, inform the homecare company of a change to prescription and the request for patient training. Alternatively, contact [endocrinecare@pfizer.com](mailto:endocrinecare@pfizer.com) for additional support.
- See below for information on other Genotropin preparations and updated DHCP letter attached.

### Verapamil (Securon) 5mg/2ml injection

- Limited supplies of verapamil 5mg/2ml injection are available until end of March 2020.
- Mylan are supplying orders direct to hospitals to manage remaining supplies.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 20 February. See attached for further information.

## Orals

### Amiloride 5mg tablets

- Wockhardt are out of stock until w/c 24 February 2020.
- Accord are out of stock until August 2020.
- Rosemont have stock of amiloride 5mg/5mL liquid available to order as a special.
- If resupply is further delayed, UKMi memo on management options and a medicines supply notification will be issued.

### Penicillamine 125mg and 250mg tablets

- Penicillamine 125mg tablets are out of stock until end March 2020.
- Limited supplies of penicillamine 250mg tablets are available through hospital pharmacies only.
- Further supplies of penicillamine 250mg tablets for primary care can be sourced from end February 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 20 February. See attached for further information.

### Phenytoin (Epanutin) 30mg/5ml oral suspension

- Pfizer will be out of stock of Epanutin oral suspension from w/c 2 March until late June 2020.
- The Canadian brand of phenytoin 30mg/5ml oral suspension - 'Dilantin-30®' - is equivalent to Epanutin® 30mg/5ml oral suspension and supplies are available on an 'unlicensed' basis.
- Different formulations of phenytoin (other than Dilantin® 30mg/5ml oral suspension) are not interchangeable and if patients are switched to anything other than 'Dilantin® (phenytoin) 30mg/5mL oral suspension' careful management of switching and monitoring is required which may require specialist advice, support, or referral.
- A supply disruption alert was issued 25 February. See the link below for further information: <https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102983>

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Salbutamol (Ventolin) 2mg/5ml Syrup

- Out of stock until the end of March 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared on 11 February (attached) with the NHS containing management advice and a UKMi memo is available at the following link:  
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-salbutamol-syrup-2mg-5ml/>

## Ongoing Issues

### Injectables

#### Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs)

- Recent supply issues affecting some brands of AAIs has impacted on all manufacturers, however, there are currently sufficient supplies overall to meet normal UK demand.

#### *Emerade (Bausch & Lomb UK Ltd)*

- On 28 November, the MHRA issued a Class 2 pharmacy level recall for all strengths of Emerade devices following reports from the manufacturer, Bausch & Lomb UK Limited, of Emerade devices that have failed to activate. See link:  
<https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/class-2-medicines-recall-emerade-150-300-and-500-microgram-solution-for-injection-in-pre-filled-syringe-mdr-57-08-19>
- On 29 November, DHSC issued a Supply Disruption Alert (SDA) with advice on how to manage patients affected. See link:  
<https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102938>
- The MHRA can confirm, following discussion with DHSC that Emerade stock held by pharmacies that has been designated for the flu vaccination/emergency use, should not be subject to the recall.
- This stock should have been in accordance with the recommended storage conditions and therefore should not be impacted by the temperature issues that have been highlighted in the alert.
- When renewing the adrenaline in your anaphylaxis kits (once Emerade/AAI devices have expired/been used), all staff are alerted to please stock ampoules (see adrenaline 1:1000 ampoules below).

#### *Jext (ALK-Abello Ltd)*

- Jext 150 microgram and 300mcg devices are currently available.
- Specific batches of UK licensed Jext 150 micrograms and 300 micrograms have received MHRA approval for extended use by four months beyond the labelled expiry date.
- Clinicians should check with patients requesting new Jext 150 micrograms and 300 micrograms to establish if they currently hold one of the batches that can be used beyond the listed expiry. If one of the listed batches is held, further supplies should be delayed until the extended expiry date, counselling the patient on the extended expiry.
- Please see the link for further information: <https://jext.co.uk/>

#### *EpiPen/EpiPen Junior (Mylan)*

- Prescription validation has been lifted for EpiPen Junior devices on 10 February 2020.
- There are limited supplies of EpiPen 300mcg until 26 February 2020.
- Supplies of EpiPen 300mcg are available via a prescription validation process.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- Community Pharmacies can place orders for up to a maximum of two EpiPen's per prescription. Trusts place orders via Mylan's customer service team.
- Hospitals should request EpiPen's from the Mylan customer services team ([mguk\\_customer.services@mylan.co.uk](mailto:mguk_customer.services@mylan.co.uk); +44 (0) 1707 853 100) with information including the number of the pens required, the reason for need and their Alliance Healthcare account number.
- Specific batches of EpiPen 300 micrograms have received MHRA approval for extended use by four months beyond the labelled expiry date.
- Clinicians should check with patients requesting new EpiPen 300 micrograms to establish if they currently hold one of the batches that can be used beyond the listed expiry. If one of the listed batches is held, further supplies should be delayed until the extended expiry date, counselling the patient on the extended expiry.
- Please see the link for further information: <http://www.epipen.co.uk/>

### *Adrenaline 1:1000 ampoules for anaphylaxis kits*

- Adrenaline 1:1000 ampoules are currently available in sufficient quantities to meet normal demand.
- Some healthcare professionals may be holding an AAI in preference to adrenaline ampoules, to treat anaphylactic reactions; this should not be necessary.
- All healthcare professionals providing services where anaphylaxis treatment may be required, including but not exclusive to flu vaccination services, should have the competency to draw up and administer intramuscular adrenaline from ampoules with a normal syringe and needle.
- During the current shortage, please use ampoules and not auto-injectors to replenish anaphylaxis kits. Remember to include the relevant dosing charts, syringes and needles.
- The [Green Book](#) and [Resuscitation Council](#) guidance provides additional advice to healthcare professionals on the use of adrenaline in response to anaphylaxis. Pharmacists providing vaccination services may also wish to refer to [PSNC FAQs](#). There is an expectation that healthcare professionals should use adrenaline ampoules in preference to Emerade or other AAIs.

### Calcium Chloride 10mmol/10ml and 5mmol/5ml injection and Calcium Chloride 10% Pre-Filled Syringes

- Calcium chloride 10mmol/10ml injection is out of stock until late March 2020.
- Calcium chloride 5mmol/5ml injection are currently in stock in small quantities.
- Calcium chloride 10% (6.8mmol in 10ml) pre-filled syringes are also out of stock until late March.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS containing management advice and a UKMi memo is available at the following link: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-calcium-chloride-injection-10-millimoles-in-10-ml-and-5millimoles-in-5ml-ampoules/>
- Calcium gluconate 10% injection is available.

### Crisantaspase (Erwinase) injection

- Porton Biopharma, the manufacturer of Erwinase, have had ongoing manufacturing issues affecting this product for the past 1-2 years with intermittent supply issues expected until mid-2020.
- Jazz Pharmaceuticals distributes Erwinase and supplies are currently available.
- Jazz Pharmaceuticals works closely with the clinical networks and supplies are prioritised on a patient need basis in conjunction with the treating clinicians.

### Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injection

- Accord are out of stock until March 2020 due to ongoing issues at their manufacturing plant in Europe.
- Wockhardt have insufficient stock to cover full forecasted demand in both primary and secondary care and a further issue has recently been identified.

#### COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- Additional supply and clinical management advice will be issued as a Supply Disruption Alert w/c 24th February.

#### Epirubicin 10mg/50mg/100mg solution for injection

- There may be intermittent short-term supply issues from February 2020 until April 2020.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 14 January (shared previously) which provides further information.

#### Midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules

- Hameln are currently out of stock until end March 2020.
- Accord are currently back in stock.
- Midazolam 10mg in 2ml ampoules remain available from both Hameln and Accord.
- Review local protocols, ensure that all those affected are aware of this issue and that consideration is given to mitigating the risks associated with switching to a different volume of midazolam (5mg/ml) ampoule presentation.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 5 December (shared previously) which provides further information.

#### Mitomycin 2mg/10mg/20mg injection and mitomycin 40mg intravesical solution (Mitomycin-C)

- Kyowa Kirin are out of stock due to quality control release and manufacturing delays with no date for resupply.
- Please see the below links to the recent Supply Disruption Alerts (SDA) and an MHRA Class 2 recall for all unexpired Kyowa Kirin LTD Mitomycin-C products for further information:  
Latest update:  
<https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102921>  
MHRA Class 2 recall:  
<https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewAndAcknowledgment/viewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102920>
- Supplies of Medac mitomycin 40mg intravesical kits are available with more stock expected to be available in the coming months.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

#### Oily Phenol 5% (almond oil) injection

- Martindale, sole suppliers, are out of stock until May 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

#### Procyclidine 10mg/2ml injection

- Accord, sole supplier, are out of stock until March 2020.
- Consider sharing remaining stock locally with the support of your regional procurement lead.
- Unlicensed imports of procyclidine are not available.
- An alternative injectable anticholinergic agent, benztropine mesilate (unlicensed), is available from pharmaceutical importers.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 5 November (shared previously) which provides further information.

#### Sodium thiosulfate 12.5g/50ml solution for injection vials

- Hope Pharmaceuticals, sole supplier, are currently experiencing a long term out of stock.

#### COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- UK licensed *Nithiodote*, also by Hope Pharmaceuticals, contains 1 vial of sodium thiosulfate 12.5g/50ml and 1 vial of sodium nitrite 300mg/10ml and is available to order at no extra cost.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

#### Somatropin (Genotropin) 5.3mg/12mg refill cartridges

- Pfizer are out of stock of 12mg refill cartridges until mid-April 2020.
- Pfizer have limited supplies of 5.3mg refill cartridges until w/c 24 February 2020.
- See the attached DHCP letter from Pfizer for further information.

#### Tetracosactide 1mg depot injection

- Mallinckrodt, sole suppliers will be out of stock until the second half of 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

#### Urokinase (Syner-KINASE) injection

- Syner-Med are currently in stock of all strengths of Syner-KINASE injection.
- Supply restrictions will likely remain in place until mid-2020.
- Details of suggested alternative products, if required, can be found in the UKMi memo below: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-urokinase-injection-syner-kinase-10000-iu-25000-iu-and-100000-iu-powder-for-solution-for-injection-or-infusion/>
- Additional information for the product Taurolock (shared previously). To place orders for this product, contact [customerservice@kimal.co.uk](mailto:customerservice@kimal.co.uk) and copy [louise.kelly@kimal.co.uk](mailto:louise.kelly@kimal.co.uk)

## Orals

#### Adcal D3 dissolve 1500mg/400IU effervescent tablets

- Kyowa Kirin are currently out of stock and unable to confirm a resupply date.
- Alternative calcium/colecalciferol preparations remain available.

#### Carbamazepine (Carbagen) various preparations

- Carbamazepine is considered a Category 1 anti-epileptic drug and patients should normally be maintained on the same brand, however Mylan (manufacturers of Carbagen) are out of stock of both carbagen 200mg and 400mg immediate and modified release tablets and unable to advise on a resupply date.
- Patients should have been switched to an alternative brand of carbamazepine tablets during this time.
- Novartis, an alternate manufacturer of carbamazepine (Brand: Tegretol) tablets are in stock of all presentations and are able to support additional demand.
- DHSC have worked with NHSE/I and UKMi to develop a clinical memo, which has been produced to support clinicians in prioritising and switching patients: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-carbagen-carbamazepine-tablets/>

#### Clonidine 25microgram tablets

- Accord are out of stock and unable to advise a resupply date.

#### COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- Supplies are currently available from Sandoz. However, where supplies may be limited please refer to the medicine supply notification that has been shared with the NHS on 20 December (shared previously).
- The clinical memo from UK Medicines Information (UKMi) has been published on the SPS website: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-clonidine-25microgram-tablets/>

#### Co-careldopa 25mg/100mg tablets

- Teva, a generic supplier is out of stock and is currently unable to provide a resupply date.
- MSD, the supplier of the brand *Sinemet Plus* can cover supply for the whole market during this time.

#### Co-fluampicil 250mg/250mg capsules

- Crescent are experiencing a long term out of stock.
- Clinicians are advised to prescribe flucloxacillin and ampicillin capsules as separate preparations, considering patients' ability to swallow an increased number of capsules.
- Ampicillin 250mg and 500mg capsules are available from Crescent and Chemidex.
- Ampicillin oral suspensions (125mg/5ml and 250mg/5ml) are also available from Chemidex.

#### Colestipol (Colestid) plain/orange 5g granules

- Intermittent limited supplies of Colestid plain granules are available until mid-2020.
- Intermittent limited supplies of Colestid orange granules are available until August 2020.
- For further information on alternative bile-acid sequestrants, see the UKMi memo: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-bile-acid-sequestrants/>

#### Colestyramine (Questran) Powder for Oral Suspension

- Cheplapharm are out of stock of Questran Powder 4g sachets until 2021.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- Limited supplies of Questran Light are currently available through Alliance Healthcare.
- Mylan have recently launched a generic colestyramine 4g light sachet which is available in wholesalers.

#### Contraceptive products

##### *Sayana Press (Medroxyprogesterone acetate) 104mg injection*

- Pfizer are out of stock of Sayana Press injection with resupply due w/c 2 March 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- Depo-Provera (medroxyprogesterone acetate 150mg) is currently available and able to support the market during this time, should clinicians deem a switch appropriate.
- Refer to letter (shared previously) from Pfizer for further information.
- On 23 October, the MHRA issued a class 2 medicines recall for Sayana Press injection. See the link below for further details: <https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/class-2-medicines-recall-sayana-press-104mg-0-65ml-mdr-055-06-19>

##### *Noriday (norethisterone) 350 micrograms tablet*

- Pfizer are out of stock until w/c 9 March 2020.
- UKMi have advised that there are no exact equivalent preparations in the UK market and clinicians should refer to CKS guidance for advice on alternative POPs: <https://cks.nice.org.uk/contraception-progestogen-only-methods#!scenario>

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### *Norimin (ethinylestradiol/norethisterone) 0.035mg/1mg tablets*

- Pfizer are out of stock and are unable to provide a resupply date.
- UKMi have advised that there are no exact equivalent preparations to Norimin available in the UK market.
- Other ethinylestradiol and norethisterone OCP products should be available.
- Clinicians are advised to refer to CKS guidance for advice COCs:  
<https://cks.nice.org.uk/contraception-combined-hormonal-methods>

### *Zoely (estradiol/nomegestrol) 2.5mg/1.5mg tablets*

- MSD are out of stock due to manufacturing constraints and currently advise a resupply date of 2022.
- UKMi have advised that there are no exact equivalent preparations to Zoely available in the UK market
- Clinicians are advised to refer to CKS guidance for advice COCs:  
<https://cks.nice.org.uk/contraception-combined-hormonal-methods>

### *Diazepam 2mg/5ml oral solution*

- Sandoz, sole supplier is out of stock until the end of February 2020.
- Diazepam 2mg/5ml (sugar-free) oral solution is available from alternative suppliers.

### *Disopyramide 150mg capsules*

- Mylan, sole supplier is out of stock until end March 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- Disopyramide 100mg capsules are available.
- See link below for the Supply Disruption Alert issued 14 June 2019:  
<https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102869>
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 15 November (shared previously) which provides further information.

### *Fluoxetine 20mg dispersible tablets (Olena)*

- Advanz Pharma, sole supplier is currently out of stock; further supplies are expected late February 2020.
- An oral solution, fluoxetine 20mg/5ml, is available from alternative manufacturers.

### *Galantamine 8mg/12mg tablets*

- Teva will be out of stock of their immediate release galantamine preparations (8mg and 12mg) until the end of March 2020.
- Galantamine modified release capsules (8mg, 16mg, 24mg) and galantamine 4mg/ml oral solution are available.
- UKMi guidance for switching preparations below:
  - It is recommended that the same total daily dose of galantamine is administered to patients. Patients switching to the once-daily regimen should take their last dose of galantamine tablets or oral solution in the evening and start prolonged- release capsules once daily the following morning.

### *Histamine (H2) antagonists*

- Famotidine 20mg and 40mg tablets are out of stock until March 2020.

#### COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- Cimetidine 200mg and 800mg tablets are out of stock until March 2020. Medreich are currently in stock of 400mg tablets. Rosemont are currently in stock of 200mg in 5ml oral solution.
- Nizatidine 150mg and 300mg tablets are out of stock. Medreich and Mylan have long term manufacturing issues. Therefore, there is no confirmed resupply date.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 20 December 2019 (shared previously) which provides further information. An MSN update was shared on 20 February 2020.

#### Hormone Replacement Therapy products (HRT)

There are still some ongoing supply issues, please see **Table 2** in the Appendix for a full update on the availability of all HRT products.

##### *Elleste oral HRT Range*

- Mylan, sole supplier of the Elleste range, are out of stock due to manufacturing issues at their contract manufacturing site. Resupply is expected in late 2020.
- See **Table 1** below for equivalent alternatives to the Elleste range.

**Table 1. Equivalent HRT alternatives for the Elleste HRT range**

Brand	Ingredient(s)	Current Availability	Equivalent	Ingredient(s)	Current Availability
Elleste Solo 1mg	estradiol hemihydrate	Out of stock	Progynova 1mg	estradiol hemihydrate	In stock
			Zumenon 1mg		In stock
Elleste Solo 2mg	estradiol hemihydrate	Out of stock	Progynova 2mg	estradiol hemihydrate	In stock
			Zumenon 2mg		In stock
Elleste Duet Conti	estradiol 2mg/ norethisterone 1mg	Out of stock	Klifem	estradiol 2mg/ norethisterone 1mg	In stock
Elleste Duet 1mg	estradiol 1mg/ norethisterone 1mg	Out of stock	NovoFem	estradiol 1mg/ norethisterone 1mg	In stock

##### *Ethinylestradiol 10microgram/50microgram tablets*

- UCB, sole supplier is out of stock due to manufacturing issues and currently unable to advise a resupply date.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

##### *Evorel transdermal patch range*

- On 24 October 2019, Janssen-Cilag divested the Evorel range (Evorel, Evorel Conti and Evorel Sequi) to Theramex UK Ltd.
- Resupply into the UK market will start from mid-February to March 2020. A copy of a more detailed UK stock update issued by Theramex can be found attached.
- UKMi have published guidance to advise on suitable alternatives:  
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-evorel-hormone-replacement-therapy-hrt-patch-range/>
- The British Menopausal Society with the support of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists have published a document advising on HRT preparations and equivalent alternatives, to aid prescribing during this period: <https://thebms.org.uk/2019/11/british-menopause-society-further-update-on-hrt-supply-shortages-26-november-2019/>
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### *Transdermal patch range*

- Teva divested the FemSeven product range to Theramex UK Ltd mid-2018.
- Theramex have confirmed that whilst new manufacturing arrangements are being established, the FemSeven range will be out of stock until end of 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

### *Indivina (estradiol/medroxyprogesterone) 1mg/2.5mg, 1mg/5mg and 2mg/5mg tablets*

- Orion, sole manufacturer is out of stock of all strengths until mid-March 2020 due to manufacturing issues.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

### *Levofloxacin 250mg tablets*

- Accord, sole suppliers are out of stock until March 2020.
- UKMi have confirmed that levofloxacin 500mg tablets can be divided into equal doses to provide a 250mg dose.
- Supplies of levofloxacin 500mg tablets are currently available from Accord and Teva.

### *Methadone (Physeptone) 1mg/ml sugar free oral solution*

- Martindale are out of stock of Physeptone 1mg/ml sugar free oral solution (100ml) until April 2020.
- All other methadone preparations and pack sizes remain available.

### *Metoprolol 50mg and 100mg tablets*

- Aurobindo-Milpharm, the sole supplier in the UK, have a long-term shortage affecting metoprolol 50mg and 100mg tablets; caused by some manufacturers discontinuing the products and others having supply difficulties.
- They currently have limited stock available; supply is likely to be intermittent for several months.
- See the link below for a UKMi memo with input from clinical experts at NHSE/I, which advises on management options:  
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shoratge-of-metoprolol-50mg-and-100mg-tablets/>
- The manufacturer of carvedilol has indicated it would be unable to meet demand if patients were switched to this product. Manufacturers of bisoprolol, atenolol and propranolol have indicated they have capacity to support any additional demand on their products.

### *Mianserin 10mg/30mg tablets*

- Mylan, sole supplier is out of stock of both strengths until June 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- For patients where imports are not appropriate, see previous updates for clinical advice.

### *Moclobemide 150mg and 300mg tablets*

- Mylan is currently out of stock of moclobemide 150mg and 300mg tablets with resupply expected March 2020 and April 2020, respectively.
- Sandoz is in stock of moclobemide 150mg tablets, however, is out of stock of moclobemide 300mg until March 2020.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Nifedipine (Adalat) tablets

- There are ongoing supply issues with the Adalat Retard and LA range from Bayer. Alternative nifedipine presentations continue to remain available from generic suppliers.
- Supplies of nifedipine 5mg and 10mg immediate release soft gel capsules are now available from Relonchem.
- Please refer to the letter (shared previously) from Bayer and the shortages memo from UKMI: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-adalat-nifedipine/>

### Opicapone (Ongentys) 50mg capsules

- There are limited supplies of Ongentys 50mg capsules until w/c 2 March 2020.
- Please see the below link to the Supply Disruption Alert issued on 25 October 2019: <https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102911>

### Paroxetine (Seroxat) 10mg/5ml oral solution

- GSK are out of stock until the end of February 2020.
- Paroxetine tablets remain available and UKMi have advised that tablets can be crushed and mixed with water for administration (off-label use). The crushed tablets are bitter and have a slight local anaesthetic effect.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- Communications have been shared with the NHS on 24 October (shared previously), which provide further information.

### Pethidine 50mg tablets

- Martindale are out of stock end of March 2020.
- Teva can support the full market until Martindale's resupply.

### Phenelzine sulfate (Nardil) 15mg tablets

- Kyowa Kirin, sole supplier is out of stock due to manufacturing delays and is currently unable to advise a resupply date.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary - contact Clinigen, Target, Alium, Mawdsleys, Durbin, WEP Clinical and Waymade for further information.
- Unlicensed imports can be obtained through normal wholesaler routes. If unable to obtain through wholesalers, pharmacists are advised to contact the relevant specialist importers directly.
- UKMi have also published guidance on management including the need for specialist referral to mental health teams if unlicensed supplies of phenelzine sulfate 15mg tablets are deemed unsuitable: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-phenelzine-15mg-tablets-nardil/>

### Phenytoin (Epanutin) 50mg Chewable Infatabs

- Pfizer are out of stock until mid-2020 due to a manufacturing delay.
- Pfizer has obtained approval from the MHRA to import stock of Dilantin (phenytoin) Infatabs from Canada.
- Canadian packs of Dilantin are considered unlicensed in the UK.
- A copy of the DHCP letter has been shared previously.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Phenytoin 100mg capsules

- Accord are expected to be out of stock of phenytoin 100mg capsules until early May 2020 due to a regulatory change at their manufacturing site.
- Flynn Pharma can support the full market during this time.
- As phenytoin is classed as a Category 1 anti-epileptic drug by the MHRA, switching to an alternative formulation requires monitoring and may also require specialist support, advice or referral.
- Please see the below link to the recent Supply Disruption Alert (SDA) issued on 10 January:  
<https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102954>

### Prazosin (Hypovase) 500mcg/1mg tablets

- Hypovase 500mcg tablets are out of stock until mid-March 2020.
- Hypovase 1mg tablets are out of stock until April 2020.
- UKMi have advised: Prazosin (Hypovase) is licensed for the treatment of hypertension and benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH). If stock is depleted, there are other alpha blockers that patients can be switched to:
  - Doxazosin and terazosin are approved for both these indications
  - Tamsulosin and alfuzosin are licensed to treat BPH.
- There are no direct dose conversion data, so treatment should be titrated according to the patient's clinical response.
- Although prazosin is also licensed for treating heart failure and Raynaud's disease (RD), alpha blockers do not feature in heart failure guidelines and prazosin is not considered effective for RD.

### Quinapril 10mg/hydrochlorothiazide 12.5mg (Accuretic) tablets

- Pfizer are currently out of stock until w/c 9 March 2020.
- There are several alternative combination preparations of ACE-Inhibitors with diuretics and UKMi have advised that patients can be safely switched, with clinical supervision.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

### Ranitidine oral preparations

- Ranitidine tablets, effervescent tablets and oral solution are expected to be out of stock until further notice due to global regulatory investigations.
- An updated supply disruption alert with additional guidance on clinical alternatives in paediatrics was issued on 20 December 2019 and is available at [SDA/2019/005-U2](#)

### Trifluoperazine tablets

- There have been ongoing manufacturing issues affecting trifluoperazine 1mg and 5mg tablets causing long term issues with supplies not expected before mid-2020.
- Concordia and Rosemont have trifluoperazine liquid and supplies are available.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

### Tuberculosis medications

- See the table below for a summary of the supply position with tuberculosis medications.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 20 February (attached) which provides further information.

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Product	Supplier	Current stock position	Anticipated re-supply date	Suggested management plan
Rifampicin 150mg capsules	Sanofi	In stock		Some localised out of stocks of Sanofi product as depots await replenishment. Purchase off contract if required to ensure continuity of care for patients.
	Mylan	In stock		
Rifampicin 300mg capsules	Sanofi	In stock		n/a
	Sandoz	In stock		
	Mylan	In stock		
	DrugsRUs	In stock		
Rifampicin 100mg/5ml syrup	Sanofi	In stock		n/a
Ethambutol 100mg tablets	Morningside	In stock		There may be localised out of stocks of Morningside product as the network is replenished and of T&R product until their next resupply date. Purchase off contract if required to ensure continuity of care for patients.
	Thornton & Ross	Low stock	w/c 24 Feb	
	Kent	Out of stock	w/c 2 March	
	Intrapharm	Low stock	Late Feb	
Ethambutol 400mg tablets	Kent	Out of stock	w/c 2 March	There may be localised out of stocks of T&R product as the network is replenished. Purchase off contract if required to ensure continuity of care for patients.
	Thornton & Ross	Out of stock	w/c 10 Feb	
	Intrapharm	Out of stock	Late Feb	
	Morningside	In stock		
Pyrazinamide 500mg tablets	Thornton & Ross	In stock		Purchase off contract if required to ensure continuity of care for patients.
	Macleod's	In stock		
	Morningside	In stock		
Isoniazid 50mg tablets	RPH Pharmaceuticals	In stock		Isoniazid 100mg tablets are available from Morningside: <a href="https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-isoniazid-tablets-50mg/">https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-isoniazid-tablets-50mg/</a> SPS memo on halving 100mg tablets. Unlicensed specially manufactured liquid is available from Ennogen and Rosemont.
Isoniazid 100mg tablets	Morningside	In stock		n/a
Rifinah 150 tablets (rifampicin 150mg/isoniazid 100mg)	Sanofi	In stock		n/a
Rifinah 300 tablets	Sanofi	In stock		Purchase off contract if required to ensure continuity of care for patients.
	DrugsRUs	Limited stock	Late Feb	

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(rifampicin 300mg/isoniazid 150mg)				
Rifater tablets (rifampicin 120mg/pyrazina mide 300mg/isoniazid 50mg)	Sanofi	Out of stock	w/c 24 Feb	Prescribe/dispense as individual ingredients or place orders for imports. Importer companies have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary. Do not use Rifinah products as these presentations cannot meet an increase in demand.
	DrugsRUs (Parallel Import)	Out of stock	TBC	
Voractiv (Rimstar) tablets	Thornton & Ross	Out of stock	March 2020	Prescribe/dispense as individual ingredients or place orders for imports. Importer companies have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary. Do not use Rifater or Rifinah products as these presentations cannot meet an increase in demand.
Cycloserine 250mg capsules	King Pharmaceutical s	Out of stock	TBC	Place orders for imports. Importer companies have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.

Valproic acid (Convulex) 150mg/300mg/500mg capsules

- Pfizer have limited supplies of Convulex capsules remaining due to manufacturing delays.
- Convulex 150mg and 500mg capsules are currently out of stock until w/c 24 February 2020.
- Convulex 300mg capsules are out of stock with no resupply date confirmed.
- Please see the below link to the recent Supply Disruption Alert (SDA) issued on 23 December 2019:  
<https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=102953>

## Others

Fentanyl (Instanyl) 50mcg nasal spray

- Takeda are out of stock of Instanyl 50mcg nasal spray until May 2020.
- Instanyl 100mcg and 200mcg nasal sprays remain available.
- Immediate release fentanyl products are not interchangeable and when considering switching patients from one product to another, patients should not be converted on a microgram per microgram basis from one to another; it is necessary to titrate the new formulation with advice from a specialist.
- UKMi memo on management options below:  
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-actiq-lozenges-and-instanyl-nasal-spray-immediate-release-fentanyl-citrate/>

Fludrocortide 0.0125% cream and ointment

- Typharm Limited cannot release further stock of fludrocortide cream and ointment due to updates to their licences and changes to regulatory standards.
- Resupply is expected by March 2020.
- Fludrocortide 4micrograms/cm<sup>2</sup> tape remains available.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Mesalazine (Salofalk) 500mg/1g suppositories

- Salofalk 500mg suppositories are out of stock until mid-April and 1g suppositories are out of stock until mid-September 2020.
- Pentasa 1g suppositories remain available.
- UKMi memo on management options below:  
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-salofalk-mesalazine-suppositories-500mg-and-1g/>
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 1 November (shared previously) which provides further information.

## Eye drops/treatments

### Cyclopentolate hydrochloride 0.5%/1% Minims (Bausch and Lomb)

- Out of stock until mid-March 2020.
- Further information is available on The Royal College of Ophthalmologists website and a Medicines Supply Notification was shared with the NHS (shared previously) on 20 December 2019, which provides further information.
- Preservative containing supplies of cyclopentolate hydrochloride 0.5% and 1% eye drops (Mydrilate) remain available.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed cyclopentolate 1% minims. Lead times may vary.

### Mydrane 0.2mg/ml + 3.1 mg/ml + 10 mg/ml solution for injection

- Limited supplies until April 2020.
- Phenylephrine Minims and Mydriaset are currently available.

### Sofradex ear/eye drops

- Sanofi are out of stock until end March 2020.
- Alternative preparations for use in the ear/eye remain available.

## Vaccines

**For updates on other vaccine supply positions, please refer to PHE's Vaccine Update Bulletin found at the following address:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/vaccine-update#2019>

### Combined hepatitis A & B (Twinrix)

- Limited supplies of Twinrix Adult singles and packs of 10 are currently available.
- Twinrix paediatric and Ambrix remain available.
- Monovalent hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines also remain available.

### Hepatitis B Vaccines

#### Renal dose

- MSD's renal vaccine HBVAXPRO 40micrograms are still out of stock of until further notice. Please see statement: <http://www.msduk.com/products/vaccines.xhtml>
- GSK's Hepatitis B renal vaccine, Fendrix, is currently available.

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### Adult dose

- MSD are out of stock HBVAXPRO 10mcg vaccine until further notice
- GSK are confident they can support the increased demand during this time.

### Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine

- Limited supplies MMRVAXPRO (MSD) are available for the private market (locally procured stock) until March 2020 respectively due to global increase in demand. GSKs Priorix is available.
- This supply issue does not impact the nationally procured MMR vaccine used for the Public Health England's (PHE) national programme.
- Most of the MMR vaccinations provided in the UK are nationally procured by PHE and delivered as part of a national immunisation programme.

### Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine 23-valent vaccine (PPV23) vials and Pneumovax 23 pre-filled syringes

- MSD, sole supplier of PPV23 vaccine, are currently out of stock of Pneumovax pre-filled syringes and have limited supplies of PPV23 vials. Resupply is expected by May and end of February 2020, respectively.
- Public Health England (PHE) have issued guidance on how available supplies should be managed at this time. This guidance advises the need for the prioritisation of patients considered to be in the high priority clinical risk group. Find full guidance on PHE's Vaccine Update Issue 300 (page 12): [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/844742/PHE\\_11388\\_vaccine\\_update\\_300\\_bug\\_special\\_october2019ppv.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/844742/PHE_11388_vaccine_update_300_bug_special_october2019ppv.pdf)

## Discontinuations

### Fluphenazine decanoate (Modecate) injection (Sanofi)

- Manufacture of Modecate (fluphenazine decanoate) injection has ceased
- Existing stock of Modecate Injection (25 mg/ml) expired in August 2019.
- Existing stock of Modecate Concentrate Injection (100 mg/ml) will expire in August 2020 – stock will not be released after 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- Prescribers should complete arrangements to transfer patients on Modecate to therapeutic alternatives under medical supervision.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

### Haloperidol (Serenace) 500 microgram capsules

- Teva, sole supplier of the capsule formulation has discontinued Serenace capsules.
- Haloperidol 500 microgram tablets are currently available.
- A medicine supply notification has been shared with the NHS on 18 December (shared previously) which provides further information.
- A serious shortage protocol (SSP) is currently in place. See the below link for further information: <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps>

### Ketotifen (Zaditen) 1mg capsules & 1mg/5ml Elixir

- Zaditen 1mg capsules and Zaditen 1mg/5ml have been discontinued.

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- Ketotifen 1mg capsules, tablets and 1mg/5ml oral solution are available from specialist importers; lead times vary.

## Resolved (date resolved)

Acetylcholine chloride (Miochol-E) 20mg powder and solvent for solution (20/01/2020)  
Anusol Ointment (31/1/20)  
Amikacin (Amikin) 100mg/2ml injection (20/02/20)  
Azathioprine 25mg tablets (10/02/20)  
Botulinum toxin type A (Azzalure) 125unit injection (31/01/20)  
Capsaicin (Axsain) 0.075% cream (27/1/20)  
Capsaicin (Zacin) 0.025% cream (31/1/20)  
Eletriptan (Relpax) 20mg tablets (3/2/20)  
Human C1-esterase inhibitor (Berinert) 500IU powder for reconstitution and injection (03/02/20)  
Lansoprazole (Zoton FasTabs) 15mg dispersible tablets (17/02/20)  
Lansoprazole (Zoton FasTabs) 30mg dispersible tablets (7/2/20)  
MMR vaccine (Priorix) (25/1/20)  
Midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules (Accord) (31/01/20)  
Phenylephrine 2.5%/10% Minims eye drops solution (Bausch and Lomb) (14/2/20)  
Quinapril (Accupro) 40mg tablets (Pfizer) (14/2/20)  
Rabies vaccine (Rabipur) (31/1/2020)  
Sandrena (estradiol hemihydrate) 0.5mg gel (31/1/20)  
Somatropin (Genotropin) 5.3mg GoQuick (17/2/20)  
Synphase (ethinylestradiol and norethisterone) tablets (7/2/20)  
Tobramycin 80mg/2ml injection (7/2/20)  
Trifluorothymidine (trifluridine F3T) 1% eye drops (unlicensed special) (11/2/20)  
Vecuronium 10mg powder for solution for injection (Kent) (21/02/20)  
Venlafaxine XL (Efexor) 75mg/150mg capsules (13/2/20)  
Verteporfin (Visudyne) 15mg powder for solution for infusion (21/1/20)

## Appendix

Table 2: HRT availability and anticipated resolution dates

## HRT availability and anticipated resolution dates

Ingredient (s)	Manufacturer	Oestrogen Only			Anticipated resupply date
		Brand	Strength	Current Availability	
		Oral preparations			
Estradiol hemihydrate	Mylan	Elleste Solo	1mg	OOS	End of 2020
			2mg	OOS	
	Mylan	Zumenon	1mg	In stock	
			2mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate	Bayer	Progynova	1mg	In stock	
			2mg	In stock	
Estradiol	Resource Medical UK	Bedol	2mg	Long term OOS	
Conjugated oestrogen	Pfizer	Premarin	300mcg	In stock	
			625mcg	In stock	
			1.25mg	In stock	
Ethinylestradiol	UCB pharma Ltd.	Ethinylestradiol	10mcg	OOS	Resupply date unavailable. Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary
			50mcg	OOS	
			1mg	In stock	
Transdermal patches					
Estradiol	New owner: <u>Theramex</u>	Evorel	25 mcg	OOS	By the end of March 2020. Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary
			50mcg	In Stock	
			75mcg	OOS	
			100mcg	OOS	
Estradiol hemihydrate	Novartis	Estradot	25 mcg	In stock	
			37.5mcg	In stock	
			50mcg	In stock	
			75mcg	In stock	
			100mcg	In stock	
	Merus Labs/Norgine	Estraderm	25 mcg	In stock	
			50mcg	In stock	
			75mcg	In stock	
			100mcg	In stock	
	Theramex	FemSeven Mono	50mcg	Long term OOS	End of 2020 Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary
			75mcg	Long term OOS	
			100mcg	Long term OOS	
Bayer	Progynova TS	50mcg	In stock		

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			100mcg	In stock	
	Mylan	Elleste Solo MX	40mcg	In stock	
			80mcg	In stock	
<b>Topical (Transdermal gels/creams/other delivery systems)</b>					
Estradiol	Besins Healthcare (UK) Ltd	Oestrogel	0.06%	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate	Orion	Sandrena	0.5mg	In stock	
			1mg (28)	In stock	
			1mg (91)	In stock	
	Pfizer	E-string vaginal delivery system	7.5mcg/24hours	In stock	
	Novo Nordisk	Vagifem vaginal tablets	10mcg	In stock	
Estriol	Flynn Pharma	Blissel	50mcg/g	In stock	
	Marlborough Pharma	Estriol cream (generic)	0.01%	In stock	
	Aspen	Ovestin cream	1mg	In stock	
<b>Progestogen only</b>					
Medroxyprogesterone	Resource Medical UK	Climanor	5mg	long term OOS	
Levonorgestrel	Bayer	Mirena Intrauterine device	20mcg/24hrs	In stock	
Progesterone	Besins Healthcare (UK) Ltd	Utrogestan	100mg	In stock	
		Utrogestan	200mg	In stock	
<b>Combined HRTs (Progestogen and oestrogen)</b>					
<b>Continuous combined therapy</b>					
<b>Oral preparations</b>					
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate	Mylan	Elleste Duet Conti	2mg / 1mg	OOS	Mid to end of 2020
	Novo Nordisk	Kliefem	2mg/ 1mg	In stock	
		Kliovance	1mg/ 500mcg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate / dydrogesterone	Mylan	Femoston Conti	500mcg/ 2.5mg	In stock	
			1mg/ 5mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate/medroxyprogesterone	Orion	Indivina	1mg /2.5mg	OOS	Mid-March 2020. Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary.
			2mg/ 5mg	OOS	
			1mg/5mg	OOS	Mid- March 2020. Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary.

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low dose conjugated oestrogen/medroxyprogesterone	Pfizer	Premique	300mcg/1.5mg	In stock	
<b>Transdermal patch</b>					
Estradiol hemihydrate/norethisterone acetate	New Owner: <u>Theramex</u>	Evorel Conti	3.2mg/11.2mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate/levonorgestrel	Theramex	FemSeven Conti	1.5mg/0.525mg	Long term OOS	End of 2020
<b>Sequential combined therapy</b>					
<b>Oral preparations</b>					
Estradiol [X,X] / norethisterone acetate	Resource Medical UK	Clinorette	[2mg, 2mg]/1mg	Long term OOS	
Estradiol/norgestrel	Mylan	Cyclo-progynova	2mg/500mcg	Long term OOS	
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate		Elleste Duet	1mg/ 1mg	OOS	End of 2020.
			2mg/ 1mg	OOS	
Estradiol hemihydrate/dydrogesterone		Femoston	1mg/ 10mg	In stock	
	2mg/10mg		In stock		
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate	Novo Nordisk	Novofem	1mg/ 1mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate [X,X,X]/ norethisterone acetate		Trisequens	[2mg, 2mg, 1mg]/ 1mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate/ medroxyprogesterone acetate	Orion	Tridestra	2mg/20mg	In stock	
<b>Transdermal patch</b>					
a) Estradiol hemihydrate and b) estradiol hemihydrate/norethisterone acetate	New Owner: <u>Theramex</u>	Evorel Sequi	a)3.2mg b) 3.2mg /11.2 mg	OOS	March 2020. Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary
a) 1.5mg of estradiol hemihydrate b) Estradiol hemihydrate /levonorgestrel	Theramex	FemSeven Sequi	a) 1.5mg b) 1.5mg /1.5mg	Long term OOS	End of 2020
<b>Gonadomimetic (s)</b>					
Tibolone 2.5mg	Advanz Pharma	Livial tablets	Tibolone 2.5mg	In stock	
<b>Selective oestrogen receptor modulator</b>					
Ospemifene 60mg tablets	Shionogi	Senshio tablets	Ospemifene 60mg tablets	In stock	
<b>Tissue-selective oestrogen complex</b>					

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Conjugated oestrogen 300mcg/ bazedoxifene 20mg	<b>Pfizer</b>	<b>Duavive</b>	conjugated oestrogen 300mcg/ bazedoxifene 20mg	In stock	
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