



# Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/003

## Sancuso® (granisetron) 3.1mg/24 hours transdermal patches

Tier 2 – medium impact\*

Date of issue: 14/01/2021

### Summary

- Sancuso® (granisetron) 3.1mg/24 hours transdermal patches are out of stock until mid-February 2021 (other formulations of granisetron (tablets and injection) are not affected).
- The patches are licensed for the prevention of nausea and vomiting associated with moderately or highly emetogenic chemotherapy, for a planned duration of 3 to 5 consecutive days, where oral anti-emetic administration is complicated by factors making swallowing difficult.
- An alternative 5HT3 antagonist, ondansetron, is available in formulations suitable for patients with swallowing difficulties.
- Specialist importer companies have indicated that unlicensed imports of granisetron 3.1mg/24hours transdermal patches can be sourced.

### Actions Required

Where patients have insufficient supplies of Sancuso® (granisetron) 3.1mg/24hours transdermal patches to last until the re-supply date, clinicians should consider:

- reviewing if patients can swallow tablets and if so, prescribing granisetron tablets.
- prescribing ondansetron melts/lyophilisates/orodispersible film/oral solution/oral syrup (see supporting information below) for patients unable to swallow tablets.
- prescribing unlicensed imports of granisetron transdermal patches if the licensed alternatives listed above are not suitable to meet individual patient need (see supporting information below).

### Supporting information

Table 1: Summary of licensed alternative preparations of Sancuso® (granisetron) 3.1mg/24hours transdermal patches

***Please note, manufacturers and preparations listed below can support an increase in demand.***

Drug name, Strength	Strength	Formulation	Manufacturer
Granisetron	1mg	Tablets	Atnahs (Kytril®)
Granisetron	2mg	Tablets	Atnahs (Kytril®)
Ondansetron	4mg	Orodispersible tablets	Bluefish Pharma Healthcare Pharma Morningside Healthcare Teva
		Orodispersible film	Norgine (Setofilm®)
		Oral lyophilisates	Novartis (Zofran®)
Ondansetron	8mg	Orodispersible tablet	Bluefish Pharma

\*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

			Healthcare Pharma Morningside Healthcare Teva
		Orodispersible film	Norgine (Setofilm®)
		Oral lyophilisates	Novartis (Zofran®)
Ondansetron	4mg/5ml	Syrup	Advanz Pharma ParaPharm Development Crescent

#### Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports:

The following specialist importers have currently confirmed they can source unlicensed imports of granisetron 3.1mg/24hours transdermal patches, lead times vary (please note, there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Alium Medical
- Durbin PLC
- Mawdsley's Unlicensed
- Target Healthcare
- Waymade PLC

Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Please see the links below for further information.

- [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
- [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS)
- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC)
- When prescribing a product that is not licensed in the UK due to a supply issue with the licensed alternative, prescribers must indicate on the FP10 prescription that an unlicensed product is required. This can be done in one of the following two ways:
  - Electronic prescriptions – if the required unlicensed product is shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should select:
    - Granisetron 3.1mg/24hours transdermal patches (imported)
  - Paper prescriptions – where the unlicensed product is not shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should use a paper prescription and annotate with the following wording: “**special order**”.

Please refer to the BNF and SPCs for further information on alternative preparations:

[Granisetron preparations BNF](#)  
[Granisetron preparations SmPC](#)  
[Ondansetron preparations BNF](#)  
[Ondansetron preparations SmPC](#)

## Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist, who will escalate to national teams if required.

<b>REGION</b>	<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Email</b>
<b>East Midlands</b>	Andi Swain	<a href="mailto:andi.swain@nhs.net">andi.swain@nhs.net</a>
<b>East of England</b>	James Kent	<a href="mailto:james.kent@southend.nhs.uk">james.kent@southend.nhs.uk</a>
<b>London</b>	Jackie Eastwood	<a href="mailto:jacqueline.eastwood@lpp.nhs.uk">jacqueline.eastwood@lpp.nhs.uk</a>
<b>North East</b>	David Cook	<a href="mailto:david.cook20@nhs.net">david.cook20@nhs.net</a>
<b>North West</b>	Glenn Harley	<a href="mailto:Glenn.Harley@liverpoolft.nhs.uk">Glenn.Harley@liverpoolft.nhs.uk</a>
<b>South Central</b>	Alison Ashman	<a href="mailto:Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk">Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk</a>
<b>South East Coast</b>	Richard Bateman	<a href="mailto:richard.bateman2@nhs.net">richard.bateman2@nhs.net</a>
<b>South West</b>	Danny Palmer	<a href="mailto:Danny.Palmer@UHBristol.nhs.uk">Danny.Palmer@UHBristol.nhs.uk</a>
<b>West Midlands</b>	Diptyka Hart	<a href="mailto:Diptyka.Hart@uhb.nhs.uk">Diptyka.Hart@uhb.nhs.uk</a>
<b>Yorkshire &amp; Humber</b>	David Allwood	<a href="mailto:davidallwood@nhs.net">davidallwood@nhs.net</a>

**Scotland**

[NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.net](mailto:NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.net)

**Wales**

[MedicinesShortages@gov.wales](mailto:MedicinesShortages@gov.wales)

**Northern Ireland**

[Noel.dunn@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Noel.dunn@northerntrust.hscni.net)

All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team, quoting reference number MSN/2021/003.

Email: [DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk)