



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/011

Colestid[®] (colestipol) orange and plain 5g granules sachets

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 26/2/2021

Summary

- Colestid[®] Orange sachets are out of stock until the end of May 2021.
- Colestid[®] Plain sachets are out of stock with a resupply date to be confirmed.
- Other bile-acid sequestrants remain available.
- Supplies of unlicensed imports of colestipol sachets have been sourced.

Actions Required

For patients with insufficient supplies, clinicians should consider:

- prescribing an alternative bile-acid sequestrant (see UKMi memo for further information); or
- prescribing unlicensed colestipol sachets if alternative medicines are not appropriate. Prescribers should work with pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see supporting information below).

Supporting Information

- Please see the [UKMi memo](#) for further information on prescribing alternative bile-acid sequestrants.
- The following specialist importer(s) have currently confirmed availability of unlicensed colestipol sachets (please note, there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
 - Alium Medical
 - Durbin PLC
 - Target Healthcare Ltd
 - 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
 - [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:
 - Colestid[®] 5g sachets (imported)

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

- 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**”.

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk