

## Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care: March 2021

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 [here](#).

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**Information provided: w/c 1 March 2021**

New Issues

Injectables

Human normal Immunoglobulin (Privigen 10% IVIg)

- Due to recent increases in sales and a global decrease in plasma collections there is limited supply of Privigen 10 % IVIg until June 2021.
- There is sufficient Privigen 10% IVIg available to meet the anticipated demand of established patients on long-term therapy.
- Additional volumes of Intratect 10%, an alternative brand of 10% IVIg from Biotest, are available and this product should be prescribed for all new patients requiring long term therapy and any additional demand for acute use of IVIg until June 2021.
- Alternative brands of 10% IVIg cannot support an uplift in volumes unless previously agreed with the supplier.
- An MSN was issued 3 March 2021 (attached).

Tenecteplase (Metalyse) 10,000 units powder and solvent for solution for injection

- Tenecteplase (Metalyse) will be out of stock from mid-March until November 2021 with exact resupply date to be confirmed.
- UKMi have advised that alteplase (Actilyse) can be used as an alternative to tenecteplase.
- All strengths of alteplase (Actilyse) remain available and can support the increase in demand.
- Availability of unlicensed imports of tenecteplase are yet to be confirmed.

Orals

Colestipol (Colestid) plain 5g granules sachets

- Colestid plain sachets are out of stock with a resupply date to be confirmed.
- See below for information on Colestid orange granules.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- UKMi have prepared a [clinical memo](#) containing further information on alternative bile-acid sequestrants.
- An MSN was issued 26 February 2021 (attached).

### Donepezil 10mg orodispersible tablets

- Donepezil 10mg orodispersible tablets are out of stock until early May 2021.
- The brand *Aricept Evess* remains available and can support an uplift in demand.

### Repaglinide 500microgram, 1mg and 2mg tablets

- Generic repaglinide 1mg and 2mg tablets are out of stock until early May 2021.
- Repaglinide 500 microgram tablets remain available but are unable to support any increase in demand.
- Prandin (repaglinide) 500 microgram, 1mg and 2mg tablets remain available but are also unable to support any increase in demand.
- Unlicensed supplies of repaglinide 1mg and 2mg tablets have been sourced. Lead times may vary.
- Prescribers will need to review all affected patients and assess ongoing need for repaglinide. If ongoing treatment is required, consideration should be given to prescribing an alternative glucose lowering medication where unlicensed imports of repaglinide are not appropriate.
- An SDA was issued 4 March 2021 and can be found [here](#)

### Sulfasalazine 500mg tablets

- Salazopyrin 500mg tablets are out of stock until w/c 22 March 2021.
- Supplies from Genesis will be available in wholesalers by w/c 8 March 2021.
- See below for information on sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets.

### Tapentadol (Palexia) 20mg/ml oral solution

- Batches of Palexia 20mg/ml oral suspension have been [recalled](#) due to potential microbial contamination.
- Grunenthal, sole supplier, is unable to confirm a resupply date.
- Palexia 50mg tablets remain available.

## Ongoing Issues

### Injectables

#### Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAs)

- There are currently sufficient supplies of EpiPen and Jext to meet normal UK demand.
- Specific batches of [EpiPen](#) 300microgram have received MHRA approval for extended use by four months beyond the labelled expiry date.
- Clinicians should check with patients requesting these devices 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.
- The advice remains to conserve supplies of AAs for patients who truly need them. All healthcare professionals providing services where anaphylaxis treatment may be required should have the competency to draw up and administer adrenaline from ampoules with a normal syringe and needle.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- We ask that when you renew the adrenaline in your anaphylaxis kits, you alert all your staff to please stock ampoules (ensuring you also include dosing charts, needles and syringes) and not AAI's.
- The [Green Book](#) and [Resus Council guidance](#) provides additional advice to healthcare professionals on the use of adrenaline in response to anaphylaxis.

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

- On [4 March](#), [7 April](#) and [18 May](#) 2020, the MHRA issued a patient level recall for Emerade 150microgram, 300microgram and 500microgram devices, respectively.
- Patients and/or carers should return Emerade 150, 300 and 500microgram auto-injectors to their local pharmacy once they have obtained a prescription for, and been supplied with, an alternative brand.

### Atracurium besilate solution for injection vials and ampoules (all strengths)

- Atracurium 250mg/25ml solution for injection is currently out of stock and there are limited supplies of all other strengths of atracurium injection remaining in the UK supply chain due to the recent increase in demand to support the UK's COVID-19 response.
- Limited supplies of non-UK licensed atracurium 50mg/5ml (Pfizer) are available via Alloga.
- Rocuronium 50mg/5ml is currently available to support the increase in demand.
- Other neuromuscular blocking agents (NMBAs) including cisatracurium and vecuronium also continue to be available. Trusts and hospitals who use these agents should continue to do so.
- An updated [SDA](#) was issued 15 December 2020.

### Bleomycin (Bleo-Kyowa) 15,000I.U. injection

- Bleomycin 15,000I.U. injection is out of stock until at least Q3 2021.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- An updated MSN was issued 15 May 2020 (shared previously).

### Crisantaspase (Erwinase) injection

- The distribution of Erwinase is transitioning from Jazz Pharmaceuticals to Clinigen.
- Further information on Erwinase supplies from Clinigen will be shared as soon as availability is confirmed.
- Until then, UK licensed Erwinase is available from Jazz (as of w/c 1 March 2021).
- Please contact Jazz directly for further information: [customerservices.R1@jazzpharma.com](mailto:customerservices.R1@jazzpharma.com) or 01865 405019

### Diazepam (Diazemuls) 10mg/2ml emulsion for injection

- Accord is out of stock until May 2021.
- NOTE: There are insufficient supplies of lorazepam 4mg/ml (Ativan) injection to support, please do not use in place of Diazemuls.
- An MSN was issued 27 March 2020 (shared previously).
- UKMi have prepared a [clinical memo](#) to support management of this issue.

### Lorazepam (Ativan) 4mg/ml solution for injection

- Lorazepam (Ativan) 4mg/ml solution for injection continues to be out of stock, with no confirmed date of resupply.
- Pfizer have sourced an alternative lorazepam product from Canada in 4mg/ml multi-dose glass vials (DHCP letter shared previously).

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- Canadian lorazepam injection is subject to a monthly allocation limit per organisation to ensure equity of supply.
- The US lorazepam injection 2mg/ml, supplied in Carpuject single dose cartridges which have been covering the Ativan shortage since October 2020, are no longer available to order.
- Importer companies have indicated they can source limited supplies of non-UK licensed lorazepam; strength and lead times vary.
- An updated MSN was issued 2 December 2020 (shared previously).

### Midazolam 10mg in 2ml solution for injection

- There are limited supplies of midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules available until April 2021.
- To conserve stock for paediatric intensive care and palliative care, Adult Critical Care units should use the following presentations for continuous infusion where possible (flumazenil should be readily available in these areas in case reversal is urgently required):
  - midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules
  - midazolam 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials
  - midazolam 50mg/50ml solution for infusion vials
- An MSN was issued 8 February 2021 (shared previously).

### Mitomycin 2mg and 10mg powder for solution for injection/infusion

- Mitomycin 2mg and 10mg vials are out of stock with no date for replenishment.
- Other vial sizes of mitomycin for injection and/or infusion remain available including 20mg from Vygoris Ltd and 40mg from Accord-UK Ltd.
- Mitomycin for intravesical use remains available including 20mg from Vygoris Ltd and 40mg from Medac GmbH.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- An updated MSN was issued 24 December 2020 (shared previously).

### Propofol emulsion for infusion vials and injection

- The 1% 50ml, 1% 100ml and 2% 50ml presentations will face intermittent out of stock periods at regional level, impacting some suppliers.
- Current modelling estimates that a national out of stock of any one presentation or at molecule level is NOT likely. This is due to the decrease in demand and additional deliveries.
- An [SDA](#) was issued 3 February 2021.

### Ranitidine 50mg/2ml injection

- Ranitidine 50mg/2ml injection is out of stock.
- An updated MSN with clinical revisions was issued 16 June 2020 (shared previously).

### Somatropin 0.2mg MiniQuick (Genotropin) device

- Genotropin 0.2mg MiniQuick devices are out of stock until May 2021.
- All other Genotropin lines remain available.

### Tetracosactide 1mg depot injection

- Atnahs Pharma, sole suppliers will be out of stock until May 2021.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- 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 for the 10,000IU and 25,000IU will remain in place until Q2 2021.
- Details of suggested alternative products, if required, can be found in the [UKMi memo](#).
- Additional information for the product Taurolock has been 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)

### Verteporfin (Visudyne) 15mg powder for solution for infusion

- Cheplapharm, sole supplier is out of stock of UK licensed Visudyne until September 2021.
- US Visudyne (considered unlicensed in the UK) is currently being supplied by their distributor, Neon Healthcare, in restricted quantities.
- Please contact Neon Healthcare with any queries: 01920 444 345 or [office@neonhealthcare.com](mailto:office@neonhealthcare.com)
- Specialist importers can also source unlicensed supplies; lead times may vary.

## Orals

### Acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules

- Acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules are out of stock until May 2021.
- Acetazolamide immediate release 250mg tablets and oral suspensions remain available.
- Limited supplies of unlicensed imports of acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules have been sourced.
- UKMi have prepared a [clinical memo](#) containing further information.
- An MSN was issued 8 February 2021 (shared previously).

### Chloral betaine 707mg tablets

- Atnah's, sole supplier, are out of stock until Q2 2021.
- Unlicensed specials are available through Alliance Healthcare using PIP code: 802-0745.

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

- Zentiva, a generic supplier of co-careldopa 25mg/100mg are currently out of stock until May 2021.
- There are sufficient supplies of the brand *Sinemet Plus* and generic co-careldopa 25mg/100mg to cover demand.

### Colestipol (Colestid) orange 5g granules sachets

- Colestid orange sachets are out of stock until the end of May 2021.
- See above for information on Colestid plain granules.
- UKMi have prepared a [clinical memo](#) containing further information on alternative bile-acid sequestrants.

### Colestyramine (Questran) Powder for Oral Suspension

- Cheplapharm are out of stock of Questran Powder 4g sachets until Q3 2021.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- Colestyramine light 4g sugar free sachets remain available.

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- UKMi have prepared a [clinical memo](#) containing further information on alternative bile-acid sequestrants.

Contraceptive products (oral)

- See the table below for a summary of the supply position of oral contraceptive products.
- An updated MSN will be issued shortly.

Product affected	Ingredients	Anticipated resupply date	Management Advice
<b>Brevinor</b>	Ethinylestradiol 35 microgram / Norethisterone 500 microgram tablets	w/c 8 Mar 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market. Other ethinylestradiol and norethisterone OCP products remain available.</li> <li>- Clinicians are advised to refer to <a href="#">Clinical knowledge summaries (CKS) guidance</a> and <a href="#">BNF</a> for further advice.</li> <li>- Unlicensed imports have been sourced; lead times vary.</li> </ul>
<b>Dianette</b>	Ethinylestradiol 35 microgram/ Cyproterone 2 mg tablets	w/c 10 May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equivalent generic alternatives with the same composition remain available from suppliers of the following manufacturers; Strandhaven Ltd, Stragen UK Ltd and Kent Pharma.</li> </ul>
<b>Femodette</b>	Ethinylestradiol 20microgram / Gestodene 75microgram tablets	w/c 3 May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equivalent alternatives with the same composition remain available from suppliers of the following brands: Akizza, Millinette and Sunya.</li> </ul>
<b>Norinyl-1</b>	Mestranol 50microgram / Norethisterone 1mg tablets	w/c 22 Mar 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market (see information below).</li> <li>- Clinicians are advised to refer to <a href="#">CKS guidance</a> and <a href="#">BNF</a> for advice.</li> <li>- Unlicensed imports have been sourced; lead times vary.</li> </ul>
<b>Norgeston</b>	Levonorgestrel 30mg tablets	w/c 31 May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market (see information below).</li> <li>- Clinicians are advised to refer to <a href="#">CKS guidance</a> and <a href="#">BNF</a> for advice.</li> <li>- Unlicensed imports have been sourced; lead times vary.</li> </ul>
<b>Qlaira</b>	Estradiol Valerate / Dienogest (various strengths)	w/c 25 Oct 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market (see information below).</li> <li>- Clinicians are advised to refer to <a href="#">CKS guidance</a> and <a href="#">BNF</a> for advice.</li> </ul>



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<b>Yiznell and Yasmin</b>	Ethinylestradiol 30microgram / Drospirenone 3mg tablets	w/c 15 Mar 2021 w/c 3 May until w/c 5 Jul 2021	- Equivalent alternatives with same composition remain available from suppliers of the following brands: Dretine, Yacella, Ellanite and Lucette.
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Docusate sodium 100mg capsules

- Limited supplies of docusate sodium 100mg capsules are available until June 2021.
- Docusate sodium 50mg/5ml oral solution remains available.
- An MSN was issued 18 December 2020 (shared previously).

Ferrous fumarate 322mg/Folic Acid 0.35mg (Pregaday) tablets

- Recipharm are out of stock with a resupply date to be confirmed.
- Alternative ferrous fumarate and folic acid tablets remain available however there are no other suitable licensed combination products available.
- An MSN was issued on 8 July (shared previously).

Fluoxetine 10mg tablets

- Endo Ventures are out of stock of fluoxetine 10mg tablets until September 2021.
- Fluoxetine 10mg capsules and fluoxetine 20mg/5ml oral solution remain available.
- An MSN was issued 12 March 2020 (shared previously).
- A [serious shortage protocol](#) (SSP) was issued on 12 March 2020.

Fluoxetine 30mg capsules

- Advanz, sole supplier is out of stock with resupply expected end of March 2021.
- Fluoxetine 10mg and 20mg capsules remain available.
- An MSN was issued 21 October 2020 (shared previously).
- A [serious shortage protocol](#) (SSP) was issued on 20 October 2020.

Fluoxetine 40mg capsules

- Advanz, sole supplier of fluoxetine 40mg capsules are out of stock until the end of March 2021.
- Fluoxetine 20mg capsules remain available.
- A [serious shortage protocol](#) (SSP) was issued on 29 January 2021.
- An MSN was issued 8 February 2021 (shared previously).

Haloperidol 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free

- Haloperidol 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free is out of stock with resupply to be confirmed.
- Haloperidol (Haldol) 2 mg/ml oral solution is the only licensed oral solution that can support an uplift in demand.
- Haloperidol 500microgram, 1.5mg, 5mg and 10mg tablets remain available.
- Specials manufacturers have confirmed they can manufacture haloperidol 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free.
- An MSN was issued 28 October 2020 (shared previously)

Histamine (H2) antagonists

- See the table below for a summary of the supply position with oral H2 antagonists.

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- An updated MSN will be issued shortly.

Product	Supplier	Current Stock Position	Anticipated resupply date	Suggested management plan	
<b>Famotidine 20mg tablets</b>	Tillomed	In stock	n/a		
	Teva	Out of stock	May 2021		
<b>Famotidine 40mg tablets</b>	Tillomed	In stock	n/a		
	Teva	Out of stock	May 2021		
<b>Cimetidine 200mg tablets</b>	Ennogen	Out of stock	June 2021		Unlicensed supplies have been sourced
	Medreich	Out of stock	To be confirmed		
<b>Cimetidine 400mg tablets</b>	Ennogen	Out of stock	June 2021		
	Medreich	Out of stock	To be confirmed		
<b>Cimetidine 800mg tablets</b>	Ennogen	Out of stock	June 2021		
	Medreich	Out of stock	To be confirmed		
<b>Cimetidine 200mg/5ml oral solution (sugar free)</b>	Rosemont	Out of stock	April 2021		
<b>Cimetidine (Tagamet) 200mg/5ml syrup</b>	Essential Pharma	In stock	n/a		
<b>Nizatidine 150mg capsules</b>	Viartis (Mylan)	Out of stock	To be confirmed	Unlicensed supplies have been sourced	
	Medreich	Out of stock	To be confirmed		
	Relonchem	Out of stock	w/c 8 Mar 2021		
<b>Nizatidine 300mg capsules</b>	Viartis (Mylan)	Out of stock	To be confirmed		
	Medreich	Out of stock	To be confirmed		
	Relonchem	Out of stock	w/c 8 Mar 2021		

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, have limited supplies of Elleste Duet Conti available with further supplies expected in the coming weeks.
- See **below table** for equivalent alternatives:

**Equivalent HRT alternatives for the affected products in the Elleste HRT range**

Brand	Ingredient(s)	Current Availability	Equivalent	Ingredient(s)	Current Availability
<b>Elleste Duet Conti</b>	estradiol 2mg/ norethisterone 1mg	Limited availability	Kliofem	estradiol 2mg/ norethisterone 1mg	In stock

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### *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.

### *FemSeven 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 Q2 2021 except for FemSeven Conti which is now back in stock.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.

### *Isosorbide mononitrate (Isotard) 50mg modified release tablets*

- Kyowa Kirin sole supplier are out of stock until w/c 15 March 2021.
- Limited emergency stock is available for order through Kyowa Kirin Medical Information: [medinfo@kyowakirin.com](mailto:medinfo@kyowakirin.com).
- Isosorbide mononitrate 50mg modified release capsules remain available.
- If the formulation is switched patients should be reassured that they are receiving the same treatment and to seek advice in the unlikely event of experiencing an increase in side effects, such as headache, or an increase in use of glyceryl trinitrate.

### *Isosorbide Mononitrate (Imdur) 60mg modified release tablets*

- Topridge, sole supplier, are out of stock until April 2021.
- Parallel imports remain available as well as other brands of isosorbide mononitrate 60mg modified release tablets.
- If the brand is switched, reassure patients that they are receiving the same treatment and to seek advice in the unlikely event of experiencing an increase in side effects, such as headache, or an increase in use of glyceryl trinitrate.

### *Ketotifen (Zaditen) 1mg/5ml oral solution*

- Zaditen oral solution is out of stock with resupplies expected by w/c 15 March 2021.
- Zaditen 1mg tablets remain available.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- An MSN was issued on 17 July 2020 (shared previously).

### *Levothyroxine 12.5microgram tablets*

- Levothyroxine 12.5microgram tablets are out of stock until mid-March 2021.
- Levothyroxine 25microgram tablets remain available.
- UKMi have advised levothyroxine tablets have a long half-life and clinicians should consider prescribing one levothyroxine 25microgram tablet on alternate days until levothyroxine 12.5microgram tablets become available.
- A [serious shortage protocol](#) (SSP) was issued on 3 February 2021.
- An MSN was issued 8 February 2021 (shared previously).

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Mianserin 10mg and 30mg tablets

- Mylan, sole supplier is out of stock of mianserin 10mg and 30mg tablets until June 2021 and w/c 15 March 2021, respectively.
- 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 are currently in stock of both strengths of moclobemide (Manerix) 150mg and 300mg tablets.
- Sandoz, are currently out of stock and expect resupply for the 150mg tablet in July 2021 and the 300mg tablet in June 2021.

### Penicillamine 250mg tablets

- Kent Pharmaceuticals are out of stock with a resupply date to be confirmed.
- Mylan have supplies of penicillamine 125mg and 250mg tablets available.

### Phenelzine sulphate (Nardil) 15mg tablets

- Kyowa Kirin, the previous sole supplier, has been out of stock due to manufacturing delays since August 2019.
- In September 2020, Kyowa Kirin advised Nardil had been divested to Neon Healthcare. Resupply date is to be confirmed.
- Specialist importers are sourcing unlicensed imports of the tablets.
- Supplies of phenelzine 15mg capsule specials are also available. Further information can be found in the SDA.
- An [SDA](#) was issued on 25 June 2020 and a subsequent update was issued on the 3 July 2020.

### Phenytoin sodium NRI 100mg capsules

- Accord remains out of stock of phenytoin sodium NRI 100mg capsules with resupply to be confirmed.
- 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.
- An [SDA](#) was issued on 10 January 2020.

### Phillips' Milk of Magnesia 415mg/5ml (magnesium hydroxide) oral suspension

- Omega Pharma are out of stock until October 2021.
- Alternative antacids and laxatives remain available.

### Prazosin (Hypovase) 1mg tablets

- Prazosin (Hypovase) 1mg tablets are out of stock with resupply date to be confirmed.
- Prazosin (Hypovase) 500 microgram tablets are currently available and able to support the full market demand for both strengths.

### Promethazine 25mg tablets

- Teva are out of stock until April 2021.

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- Phenergan (promethazine) 25mg tablets remain available from Sanofi.

### 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 MSN with clinical revisions was issued 12 June 2020 (shared previously).

### Sulfasalazine gastro-resistant 500mg tablets

- Pfizer are out of stock of Salazopyrin-En 500mg tablets until w/c 8 March 2021.
- Supplies from Genesis will be available in wholesalers by w/c 8 March 2021.
- See above for information on sulfasalazine 500mg tablets.
- A [serious shortage protocol](#) (SSP) was issued on 20 October 2020.
- An MSN was issued 21 October 2020 (shared previously).

### Trifluoperazine 1mg/5ml syrup

- Trifluoperazine 1mg/5ml syrup is out of stock until April 2021.
- Trifluoperazine 1mg and 5mg tablets remain available and can support an increase in demand.
- Specials manufacturers have confirmed they can manufacture trifluoperazine 1mg/5ml oral suspension.
- Trifluoperazine 5mg/5ml oral solution remains available and can support an increase in demand.
- An MSN was issued 10 November 2020 (shared previously).

### Tuberculosis medications

- The final MSN for TB oral agents was issued 28 September 2020 (shared previously).
- See table in the MSN for a summary of the supply position with tuberculosis medications.

### Valsartan capsules

- There are ongoing intermittent supplies of valsartan. See the table below for an overview of current availability:

Product	Supplier	Current Stock Position	Anticipated resupply date
<b>Valsartan 40mg capsules</b>	Mylan	In stock	n/a
	Teva	In stock	n/a
	Milpharm	Out of stock	To be confirmed
	Crescent	In stock	n/a
<b>Valsartan 80mg capsules</b>	Mylan	In stock	n/a
	Teva	In stock	n/a
	Milpharm	Out of stock	To be confirmed
	Crescent	In stock	n/a
<b>Valsartan 160mg capsules</b>	Mylan	In stock	n/a
	Teva	In stock	n/a
	Milpharm	Out of stock	To be confirmed
	Crescent	Out of stock	To be confirmed
<b>Valsartan 320mg capsules</b>	Mylan	In stock	n/a

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### Zonisamide 25mg, 50mg and 100mg capsules

- Teva are out of stock of zonisamide 25mg and 50mg capsules with resupply expected mid-April 2021.
- Eisai and Glenmark are in stock and can support an increase in demand.
- Teva have limited supplies of zonisamide 100mg capsules with resupply expected mid-April 2021.
- Eisai and Glenmark are in stock and can support an increase in demand.
- An updated MSN was issued 28 October 2020 (shared previously).

## Other

### Balneum and Balneum Plus Bath Oil

- Balneum and Balneum Plus bath oil are out of stock until April 2021.
- All other Balneum products remain available.

### Chloramphenicol 5% ear drops

- Martindale are out of stock until mid-March 2021.
- Short-dated chloramphenicol 10% ear drops (expiry June 2021) remain available from Martindale.

### Desmopressin (Desmospray) 10micrograms/actuation nasal spray

- Ferring Pharmaceuticals have [recalled](#) Desmospray with resupplies expected Q3 2023.
- Desmopressin 10micrograms/actuation nasal spray remains available from Aspire Pharma Ltd.

### Desmopressin (Octim) 150microgram/actuation nasal spray

- Desmopressin (Octim) 150 micrograms/actuation nasal spray is out of stock until Q3 2023.
- Ferring Pharmaceuticals have [recalled](#) Octim nasal sprays as a precautionary measure due to a lower volume of solution being observed and out of specification results of desmopressin acetate and benzalkonium chloride.
- Desmopressin (Octim) 15 micrograms/ml injection remains available and can be prescribed as an alternative.
- Unlicensed imports of desmopressin 150micrograms per dose nasal spray can be sourced.
- An MSN was issued 2 October 2020 (shared previously).

### Fentanyl (Instanyl) 100 microgram and 200 microgram nasal sprays

- Takeda are out of stock of Instanyl 100microgram and 200microgram nasal sprays with resupply expected in July 2021.
- Instanyl 50microgram nasal spray remains 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 have prepared a [clinical memo](#) containing further information.
- The UK recall notice for Instanyl 100microgram can be found [here](#).

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### Fludroxycortide 0.0125% cream

- Typharm Limited are out of stock with resupply expected late March 2021.
- Fludroxycortide 4micrograms/cm<sup>2</sup> tape remains available.

### Granisetron (Sancuso) 3.1mg/24 hours transdermal patches

- Sancuso 3.1mg/24 hours transdermal patches are out of stock until w/c 22 March 2021 (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 5HT<sub>3</sub> 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.
- An MSN was issued 14 January 2021 (shared previously).

### Metronidazole (Acea) 0.75% gel

- Ferndale Pharmaceuticals are out of stock of Acea 0.75% gel until late March 2021.
- Metrogel 0.75% and Rozex gel 0.75% gel remain available.
- An MSN was issued on 17 July 2020 (shared previously).

### Prednisolone 5mg suppositories

- RPH Pharmaceuticals are out of stock until late March 2021.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- An MSN was issued on 10 June 2020 (shared previously).

### Sodium cromoglycate (Intal) 5mg inhaler

- Sanofi are out of stock until June 2021.
- Parallel imports are available through Alliance or directly from DrugsRUs.

## Eye drops/treatments

### Dorzolamide (Eydecto) 20mg/mL preservative free eye drops

- Aspire, sole suppliers, are out of stock until w/c 25 March 2021.
- Trusopt (dorzolamide 20mg/mL) preservative free single dose units remain available from Santen.
- If the formulation is switched, ensure patients can administer the drops appropriately, with special consideration towards patients with dexterity issues and those already using compliance aids to administer drops using the bottle.

## Vaccines

**For updates on other vaccine supply positions, please refer to PHE's [Vaccine Update Bulletin](#).**

### Hepatitis B Vaccines

#### Adult dose

- MSD are out of stock HBVAXPRO 10microgram vaccine until late March 2021.
- GSK are confident they can support the increased demand during this time.

## Discontinuations

### Aminophylline (Phyllocontin) 225mg and 350mg modified release tablets

- Phyllocontin Continus 225mg and Phyllocontin Forte Continus 350mg modified-release tablets are being discontinued in the UK.
- Remaining supplies of the 225mg strength are expected to be exhausted by 30 March 2021 and the 350mg strength are expected to be exhausted by 5 April 2021.
- Napp Pharmaceuticals report a delay in the arrival of the final batch of the 225mg tablets leading to a short out-of-stock period between 8 March and 17 March 2021. Once this additional batch is exhausted, there will be no further supplies available.
- Prescribers will need to review all affected patients and optimise inhaled therapies. Patients who still require a methylxanthine, will need to be switched to theophylline tablets (Uniphyllin Continus).
- An updated [SDA](#) was issued 16 February 2021.

### Desmopressin (DDAVP) 0.01% w/v intranasal solution

- DDAVP (desmopressin) 0.01% w/v (100micrograms/ml) intranasal solution has been discontinued.
- Supplies of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml nasal spray (10 micrograms per actuation) remain available from Aspire Pharma Ltd and can fully support demand during this time for patients on doses  $\geq 10$  microgram.
- Unlicensed imports of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution can be sourced.
- An MSN was issued 15 October 2020 (shared previously).

### Dinoprostone 5mg/0.5ml extra-amniotic solution ampoules (Prostin E2) (Pfizer)

- Pfizer are discontinuing Prostin E2 (dinoprostone) 5mg/0.5ml extraamniotic solution ampoules from the market.
- Alternate Prostin E2 presentations will remain available.

### Human papillomavirus (Cervarix) vaccine (GSK)

- GSK plans to discontinue Cervarix vaccine (human papillomavirus) with immediate effect.
- The alternate Gardasil product remains available.

### Irbesartan (Aprovel) 75mg film-coated tablets (Sanofi)

- Sanofi are discontinuing Aprovel (irbesartan) 75mg film-coated tablets from the UK market.
- Irbesartan 75mg film-coated tablets remain available from several generic suppliers.

### Methadone (Physeptone) 5mg tablets (Ethypharm)

- Ethypharm are discontinuing the branded Physeptone (methadone) 5mg tablets in March 2021.
- This will be replaced by generic methadone 5mg tablets without any gap in supply.

### Metronidazole 200mg tablets (Flagyl) Sanofi

- Sanofi are discontinuing Flagyl (metronidazole) 200mg tablets from the UK market.



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- Generic metronidazole 200mg tablets remain available from other suppliers.

Morphine (MST Continus) 20mg, 30mg, 60mg, 100mg and 200mg prolonged release granules for oral suspension

- All strengths of MST Continus prolonged release granules for oral suspension are being permanently discontinued during 2021 due to difficulty sourcing a key excipient.
- Alternative morphine presentations, both prolonged release and immediate release, remain available and will be able to support increased demand.
- The table below provides information on anticipated out of stock dates for each presentation.
- An [SDA](#) was issued 26 February 2021.

Product details	Anticipated out of stock date
<b>MST CONTINUS suspension 20mg</b>	Nov-21
<b>MST CONTINUS suspension 30mg</b>	Aug-21
<b>MST CONTINUS suspension 60mg</b>	Jun-21
<b>MST CONTINUS suspension 100mg</b>	May-21
<b>MST CONTINUS suspension 200mg</b>	Jan-22

Moxisylyte (Opilon) 40mg tablets (Kyowa Kirin)

- Kyowa Kirin have discontinued moxisylyte (Opilon) 40mg tablets from the UK market.
- There are no other suppliers of moxisylyte tablets.
- UKMi have advised that suitable alternate medicines remain available.

Phenytoin (Epanutin) Ready-Mixed Parenteral 250mg/5ml solution for injection ampoules (Viatris)

- Viatris are discontinuing Epanutin (phenytoin) Ready-Mixed Parenteral 250mg/5ml solution for injection ampoules from the UK market with immediate effect.
- Phenytoin 50mg/ml injection remains available from generic suppliers.

Phytomenadione (Konakion MM) paediatric 2mg/0.2ml injection (Neon)

- Neon are discontinuing the brand Konakion MM (phytomenadione) paediatric 2mg/0.2ml injection.
- It is being replaced by generic phytomenadione paediatric 2mg/0.2ml injection.

Simvastatin 10mg, 20mg, 40mg 80mg tablets (Lupin)

- Lupin are discontinuing Simvastatin 10mg, 20mg, 40mg 80mg tablets with immediate effect.
- Simvastatin 10mg, 20mg, 40mg 80mg tablets remain available from alternate generic suppliers.

Terbinafine 1% cream 30g (Genesis)

- Genesis have discontinued terbinafine 1% cream 30g from the UK market with immediate effect.
- Terbinafine 1% cream 30g remains available from other suppliers.

Tinidazole 500mg tablets (Fasigyn) (Pfizer)

- Pfizer are discontinuing Fasigyn (tinidazole) 500mg tablets from the UK market in March 2021.
- There are no other suppliers of tinidazole.

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- UKMI have advised that the discontinuation of tinidazole should not cause any major problems as the product is rarely used and most patients would be able to use metronidazole.

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## Resolved

Bisacodyl (Dulcolax) 5mg and 10mg suppositories (3/3/21)  
Clonidine 150microgram/ml injection (12/2/21)  
Epirubicin 100mg solution for injection (28/2/21)  
Fluticasone propionate (Flixotide) 0.5mg/2ml and 2mg/2ml nebules (7/3/21)  
Methylprednisolone powder for solution for injection (all strengths) (5/3/21)  
Norethisterone enantate (Noristerat) 200mg solution for intramuscular injection (19/2/21)  
Sterculia 62% with frangula bark 8% granules (Normacol Plus) (26/2/21)  
Phytomenadione 10mg/ml injection (1/3/21)  
Pneumovax 23 pre-filled syringes (25/2/21)  
Potassium chloride 3% 40mmol/100ml solution for infusion (22/2/21)  
Sofradex ear/eye drops (12/2/21)  
Voriconazole 200mg injection (1/3/21)  
Water for Irrigation 1 litre bags (19/2/21)

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## Appendix

Table 2: HRT availability and anticipated resolution dates

Ingredient (s)	Manufacturer	Brand	Strength	Current Availability	Anticipated resupply date
		Oral preparations			
<b>Oestrogen Only</b>					
Estradiol hemihydrate	Mylan	Elleste Solo	1mg	In stock	
			2mg	In stock	
	Mylan	Zumenon	1mg	In stock	
			2mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate	Bayer	Progynova	1mg	In stock	
			2mg	In stock	
Conjugated oestrogen	Pfizer	Premarin	300 microgram	In stock	
			625 microgram	In stock	
			1.25mg	In stock	
Ethinylestradiol	UCB pharma Ltd.	Ethinylestradiol	10 microgram	Long term OOS	Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary
			50 microgram	Long term OOS	
			1mg	Long term OOS	
<b>Transdermal patches</b>					
Estradiol	Theramex	Evorel	25 microgram	In Stock	
			50 microgram	In Stock	
			75 microgram	In Stock	
			100 microgram	In Stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate	Novartis	Estradot	25 microgram	In stock	Limited supplies expected from early March until w/e 12 <sup>th</sup> March
			37.5 microgram	In stock (limited)	
			50 microgram	In stock	
			75 microgram	In stock	
			100 microgram	In stock	
	Merus Labs/Norgine	Estraderm	25 microgram	In stock	
			50 microgram	In stock	
			75 microgram	In stock	
			100 microgram	In stock	
	Theramex	FemSeven Mono	50 microgram	Long term OOS	Q2 2021
75 microgram			Long term OOS		

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			100 microgram	Long term OOS	
	Bayer	Progynova TS	50 microgram	In stock	
			100 microgram	In stock	
	Mylan	Elleste Solo MX	40 microgram	In stock	
			80 microgram	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	7.5 microgram / 24hours	In stock	
	Novo Nordisk	Vagifem vaginal tablets	10 microgram	In stock	
Estriol	Flynn Pharma	Blissel	50 microgram/g	In stock	
	Marlborough Pharma	Estriol cream (generic)	0.01%	In stock	
	Aspen	Ovestin cream	1mg	In stock	
<b>Progestogen only</b>					
Levonorgestrel	Bayer	Mirena Intrauterine device	20 microgram /24hr	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	In stock (limited)	
	Novo Nordisk	Kliofem	2mg/ 1mg	In stock	
		Kliovance	1mg/ 500 microgram	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate /	Mylan	Femoston Conti	500 microgram / 2.5mg	In stock	
Dydrogesterone			1mg/ 5mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate/medroxyprogesterone	Orion	Indivina	1mg /2.5mg	In stock	
			2mg/ 5mg	In stock	

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			1mg/5mg	In stock	
low dose conjugated oestrogen/medroxyprogesterone	Pfizer	Premique	300 microgram /1.5mg	In stock	
<b>Transdermal patch</b>					
Estradiol hemihydrate/norethisterone acetate	Theramex	Evorel Conti	3.2mg/11.2mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate/levonorgestrel		FemSeven Conti	1.5mg/ 0.525mg	In stock	
<b>Sequential combined therapy</b>					
<b>Oral preparations</b>					
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate	Mylan	Elleste Duet	1mg/1mg	In stock	
			2mg/1mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate/dydrogesterone		Femoston	1mg/10mg	In stock	
			2mg/10mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate	Novo Nordisk	Novofem	1mg/1mg	In stock	
a)Estradiol hemihydrate b)Estradiol hemihydrate/norethisterone acetate c)Estradiol hemihydrate		Trisequens	a)1mg b)2mg/1mg c)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	Theramex	Evorel Sequi	a)3.2mg b) 3.2 mg /11.2 mg	In stock	
a) 1.5mg of estradiol hemihydrate b) Estradiol hemihydrate /levonorgestrel		FemSeven Sequi	a) 1.5mg b) 1.5mg /1.5mg	Long term OOS	Q2 2021
<b>Gonadomimetic (s)</b>					
Tibolone 2.5mg	MSD/Advanz pharma	Livial tablets	Tibolone 2.5mg	In stock	
<b>Selective oestrogen receptor modulator</b>					
Ospemifene 60mg tablets	Shionogi	Senshio tablets	Ospemifene 60mg	In stock	

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