

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

This report has been produced by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Medicine Supply Team. We aim to produce 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](#).

Where it has been stated 'a Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) has been issued', this will be found [here](#).

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## **Information provided: w/c 5 April 2021**

### New Issues

#### Injectables

##### Phenobarbital 30mg/ml solution for injection

- Martindale, sole supplier is out of stock until late May 2021.
- Phenobarbital 60mg/ml and 200mg/ml injections remain available but cannot support an uplift in demand.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- An MSN will be issued shortly.

##### Voriconazole 200mg powder for solution for infusion

- Pfizer and Fresenius Kabi are out of stock of voriconazole 200mg vials.
- Pfizer expects resupply w/c 12 April and once received will be able to support the Fresenius Kabi out of stock until their resupply in early May 2021.
- Bowmed remains in stock but cannot support the demands of their non-contracted regions during this period.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 24 March 2021 (attached).

#### Orals

##### Chloral hydrate 143.3mg/5ml oral solution

- Chloral hydrate 143.3mg in 5ml oral solution is out of stock until September 2021.
- Specials manufacturers have confirmed they can manufacture chloral hydrate 143.3mg in 5ml oral solution to meet demand of the licensed product.
- An MSN was issued 30 March 2021 (attached).

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Diltiazem (Zemtard) 240mg XL capsules

- Diltiazem (Zemtard) 240mg XL capsules are out of stock until early May 2021.
- Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the resupply date, clinicians should prescribe diltiazem (Zemtard) 120mg XL capsules which can support an uplift in demand during this period.

### Enalapril 5mg tablets

- Enalapril 5mg tablets are out of stock until the end of April 2021.
- Enalapril 10mg tablets remain available and can support an uplift in demand.
- Enalapril 2.5mg tablets remain available but cannot support an uplift in demand.
- Unlicensed enalapril oral solution/suspension is available and unlicensed imports of enalapril 5mg tablets can be sourced.
- UKMi have prepared a [clinical memo](#) to support management of this issue.
- An MSN was issued 18 March 2021 (attached).

### Fentanyl (Abstral) 800microgram sublingual tablets

- Abstral 800microgram sublingual tablets are out of stock until w/c 3 May 2021.
- Abstral 400microgram sublingual tablets remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

### Irbesartan 150 mg/hydrochlorothiazide 12.5 mg (CoAprovel) tablets

- Irbesartan/hydrochlorothiazide 150mg/12.5mg tablets are out of stock until early May 2021.
- Irbesartan/hydrochlorothiazide 300mg/25mg tablets are unscored oval shaped tablets and not suitable for halving.
- A switch to separate components but using bendroflumethiazide 2.5mg tablets in place of hydrochlorothiazide, is an option for patients who run out of irbesartan/hydrochlorothiazide 150mg/12.5mg tablets.
- Consider prescribing an alternative fixed-dose antihypertensive combination product containing an angiotensin II receptor blocker with hydrochlorothiazide if the above option is not appropriate or adherence to separate components is in doubt.
- An MSN was issued 18 March 2021 (attached).

### Itraconazole 10mg/ml oral suspension

- Thame Laboratories are out of stock with resupply date to be confirmed.
- Supplies remain available from Janssen-Cilag (Sporanox brand) and Kent Pharma.

### Pioglitazone 15mg/metformin 850mg (Competact) tablets

- Competact tablets are out of stock until May 2021.
- Pioglitazone 15mg tablets and metformin 850mg tablets remain available and can support the uplift in demand.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- A [serious shortage protocol](#) (SSP) was issued 24 March 2021.
- An MSN was issued 25 March 2021 (attached).

### Rifampicin 300mg/isoniazid 150mg (Rifinah) tablets

- Sanofi are out of stock of Rifinah 300mg/150mg tablets until late April 2021.
- DrugsRUs are also out of stock with no confirmed date for resupply.

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- There are sufficient supplies of rifampicin 300mg capsules and isoniazid 100mg and 50mg tablets to support this gap in supply.
- An MSN was issued 1 April 2021 (attached).

## Voriconazole 40mg/ml powder for oral suspension

- Voriconazole 40mg/ml powder for oral suspension is out of stock until late April 2021.
- Patients in primary care with insufficient supply who need continued treatment, should be referred to secondary care for review.
- Trusts with residual stock should reserve supplies for children 2 to <12 years of age or patients who require administration via enteral feeding tubes.
- Voriconazole 50mg, 100mg and 200mg tablets remain available.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 25 March 2021 (attached).

## Ongoing Issues

### Injectables

#### Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs)

- 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 AAIs 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.
- 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 AAIs.
- 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 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.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- 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 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.
- Supplies from Jazz will be exhausted by the end of April 2021 (see DHCP letter attached).
- Please contact Jazz directly for more information: [customerservices.R1@jazzpharma.com](mailto:customerservices.R1@jazzpharma.com) or 01865 405019
- Erwinase supplies are also now available from [Clinigen](#) (see DHCP letter attached).
- Please contact Clinigen directly for more information: [MedicineAccess@clinigengroup.com](mailto:MedicineAccess@clinigengroup.com) or 01932 824100.

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

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

### 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 (shared previously).

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

- Ativan 4mg/ml solution for injection continues to be out of stock, with resupply expected during the second half of April 2021.
- Pfizer have sourced an alternative lorazepam product from Canada in 4mg/ml multi-dose glass vials which is subject to a weekly 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.
- Macure Pharma, a new entrant to the lorazepam 4mg/ml injection market are working with Oxford Pharmacy Stores to have stock available for sale in the second half of April, exact date to be confirmed.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- An updated MSN was issued 2 December 2020 (shared previously).

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

- Mitomycin 2mg and 10mg vials are out of stock with no date for resupply.
- 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 vary.
- An updated MSN was issued 24 December 2020 (shared previously).

### Ranitidine 50mg/2ml injection

- Ranitidine 50mg/2ml injection is out of stock.
- An updated MSN was issued 30 March 2021 (attached).

### Somatropin 0.2mg MiniQuick (Genotropin) device

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

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

- Limited supplies of Metalyse are currently available with resupply expected in October 2021.
- UKMi have advised that alteplase (Actilyse) can be used as an alternative to tenecteplase.
- All strengths of Actilyse remain available and can support the increase in demand.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times may vary.
- Ambulance services requiring further supplies of tenecteplase should contact their local Trust who may have stock to share/be able to source unlicensed supplies from Specialist Importers.

### Tetracosactide 1mg depot injection

- Atnahs Pharma, sole suppliers will be out of stock until May 2021.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times 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 further notice.
- 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 vary.

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## 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).

### Cloral betaine 707mg tablets

- Atnah's, sole supplier, are out of stock with resupply expected in May 2021.
- Alternative medicines for insomnia remain available.

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

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

### 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 vary.
- Colestyramine light 4g sugar free sachets remain available.
- 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 was issued 18 March 2021 (attached).

Product affected	Ingredients	Anticipated resupply date	Management Advice
<b>Dianette</b>	Ethinylestradiol 35 microgram/ Cyproterone 2 mg tablets	w/c 26 Apr 2021	- Equivalent generic alternatives with the same composition remain available from suppliers of the following manufacturers; Strandhaven Ltd, Stragen UK Ltd and Kent Pharma.
<b>Femodette</b>	Ethinylestradiol 20microgram / Gestodene 75microgram tablets	w/c 3 May 2021	- Equivalent alternatives with the same composition remain available from suppliers of the following brands: Akizza, Millinette and Sunya.



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<b>Norinyl-1</b>	Mestranol 50microgram / Norethisterone 1mg tablets	w/c 12 Jul 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 19 Apr until 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>- See <a href="#">SmPC- Qlaira</a> for full list of active ingredients.</li> <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>
<b>Yiznell and Yasmin</b>	Ethinylestradiol 30microgram / Drospirenone 3mg tablets	w/c 19 Apr 2021 w/c 3 May until w/c 5 Jul 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equivalent alternatives with same composition remain available from suppliers of the following brands: Dretine, Yacella, Ellanite and Lucette.</li> </ul>

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).

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.

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

- Recipharm are out of stock with resupply expected by the end of April 2021.
- Ferrous fumarate and folic acid tablets remain available however there are no alternative combination products.
- An MSN was issued on 8 July 2020 (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.
- A [serious shortage protocol](#) (SSP) was issued on 12 March 2020.
- An MSN was issued 12 March 2020 (shared previously).

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Fluoxetine 30mg capsules

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

Fluoxetine 40mg capsules

- Advanz, sole supplier is out of stock until late May 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.
- An updated MSN was issued 18 March 2021 (attached).

Product	Supplier	Current Stock Position	Anticipated resupply date	Suggested management plan
<b>Famotidine 20mg tablets</b>	Tillomed	In stock	n/a	Unlicensed supplies have been sourced
	Teva	In stock	n/a	
<b>Famotidine 40mg tablets</b>	Tillomed	In stock	n/a	
	Teva	Out of stock	June 2021	
<b>Cimetidine 200mg tablets</b>	Ennogen	Out of stock	June 2021	
	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	9 April 2021	
<b>Cimetidine (Tagamet) 200mg/5ml syrup</b>	Essential Pharma	In stock	n/a	
<b>Nizatidine 150mg capsules</b>	Viatrix (Mylan)	Out of stock	To be confirmed	

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	Medreich	Out of stock	To be confirmed	
	Relonchem	In stock	n/a	
<b>Nizatidine 300mg capsules</b>	Viatrix (Mylan)	Out of stock	To be confirmed	
	Medreich	Out of stock	To be confirmed	
	Relonchem	In stock	n/a	

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.

*Estradot 75microgram patches*

- Novartis is out of stock until 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021.
- Alternative estradiol 75microgram patches remain available.
- An MSN will be issued shortly

*Ethinylestradiol 10microgram/50microgram tablets*

- UCB, sole supplier is out of stock due to manufacturing issues and unable to advise a resupply date.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times 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 September 2021 except for FemSeven Conti which is now back in stock.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.

*Progynova 1mg and 2mg tablets*

- Bayer are expecting a shortage of Progynova 1mg and 2mg tablets from August 2021 until May 2022 and from late-April 2021 until mid-June 2021 respectively.
- Alternative estradiol tablets remain available.
- An MSN will be issued shortly

Isosorbide mononitrate (Isotard) 50mg modified release tablets

- Kyowa Kirin, sole supplier is out of stock until w/c 19 April 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, is out of stock until late April 2021.
- Parallel imports remain available as well as other brands of isosorbide mononitrate 60mg modified release tablets.

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- 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.

### Mianserin 10mg and 30mg tablets

- Mylan, sole supplier is out of stock of mianserin 10mg and 30mg tablets until June 2021 and w/c 12 April 2021, respectively.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- For patients where imports are not appropriate, see previous updates for clinical advice.

### Moclobemide 150mg and 300mg tablets

- Sandoz are out of stock of moclobemide 150mg and 300mg tablets with resupply expected in July and June 2021, respectively.
- Mylan are in stock of moclobemide (Manerix) 150mg and 300mg tablets.

### Phenelzine sulphate (Nardil) 15mg tablets

- Neon Healthcare, the new suppliers of Nardil are currently out of stock. Resupply date is to be confirmed.
- Specialist importers can source 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 25 June 2020 and a subsequent update was issued 3 July 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

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

### Promethazine 25mg tablets

- Teva are out of stock until w/c 14 June 2021.
- Promethazine (Phenergan) 25mg tablets remain available from Sanofi.

### Ranitidine oral preparations

- Ranitidine tablets, effervescent tablets and oral solution are out of stock until further notice due to global regulatory investigations.
- An updated MSN was issued 30 March 2021 (attached).

### 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 an increase in demand.

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- 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 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.

### 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.

### Trifluoperazine 1mg/5ml syrup

- Trifluoperazine 1mg/5ml syrup is out of stock until late July 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 last 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.
- See also above for details of a supply issue with rifampicin 300mg/isoniazid 150mg (Rifinah) tablets.

### Zonisamide 25mg and 50mg 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.
- An updated MSN was issued 28 October 2020 (shared previously).

## Other

### Balneum Bath Additive and Balneum Plus Bath Oil

- Balneum Bath Additive is out of stock until mid-April 2021.
- Balneum Plus bath oil is out of stock until late April 2021.
- All other Balneum products remain available.

### 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.

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### 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](#).

### Fludrocortide 0.0125% cream

- Typharm Limited are out of stock with resupply expected end of April 2021.
- Fludrocortide 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 19 April 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 mid-August 2021.
- Metrogel 0.75% and Rozex gel 0.75% gel remain available.
- An MSN was issued on 17 July 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.

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### Eye drops/treatments

Dorzolamide (Eydalto) 20mg/mL preservative free eye drops

- Aspire, sole suppliers, are out of stock until w/c 19 April 2021.
- Trusopt (dorzolamide 20mg/mL) preservative free single dose units remain available from Santen.
- If the formulation is switched where Eydalto is not available, 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](#).**

Pneumovax 23 pre-filled syringes

- Supplies of Pneumovax 23 pre-filled syringes (PFS) are out of stock until late May 2021.
- A Vaccine Supply Notification will be issued shortly and will include the clinical prioritisation guidance issued by PHE. This is also available in PHE's [November edition of Vaccine Update bulletin](#) (pages 3-6).

## Discontinuations

Ampicillin 125mg/5ml oral suspension (Chemidex)

- Chemidex are discontinuing ampicillin 125mg/5ml oral suspension in April 2021.
- There are no other suppliers of ampicillin oral suspension although ampicillin capsules remain available.
- Alternate penicillin oral suspensions remain available.

Calcitonin (salmon) 400units/2ml solution for injection vials (Essential Pharma)

- Essential Pharma, sole supplier are discontinuing calcitonin (salmon) 400units/2ml solution for injection vials in April 2021.
- They will continue to market 50unit and 100unit presentations.

Ciprofloxacin 250mg & 500mg tablets (Wockhardt)

- Wockhardt have discontinued ciprofloxacin 250mg & 500mg tablets with immediate effect.
- Ciprofloxacin 250mg & 500mg tablets remain available from other generic suppliers.

Co-codamol (Solpadol) 30mg/500mg effervescent tablet x 32 pack (Sanofi)

- Sanofi have discontinued Solpadol (co-codamol) effervescent tablets x 32 with immediate effect.
- Solpadol effervescent tablets remain available in x 100 tablet pack.

Cyproterone acetate (Cyprostat) 100mg tablets (Bayer)

- Bayer are discontinuing Cyprostat (cyproterone acetate) 100mg tablets with immediate effect.
- Cyprostat 50mg tablets will remain available.
- Generic cyproterone acetate 100mg tablets remain available from other suppliers.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Dexamethasone 500microgram tablets (Ethypharm)

- Ethypharm have discontinued dexamethasone 500microgram tablets with immediate effect.
- Dexamethasone 500microgram tablets remain available from other generic suppliers.

### Dithranol (Dithrocream) 0.1%, 0.25%, 0.5% and 1% cream (Dermal Laboratories Ltd)

- Dermal have discontinued dithranol cream (Dithrocream) 0.1%, 0.25%, 0.5% and 1.0% with immediate effect.
- There are no other suppliers of dithranol cream however dithranol in Lassars paste is available as an unlicensed product.

### Estradiol hemihydrate (Elleste Solo MX) 40microgram and 80microgram patches (Viatrix)

- Viatrix are discontinuing Elleste Solo MX 40 and 80 patches in November 2021 and June 2021, respectively.
- Alternative estradiol patches remain available.
- An MSN will be issued shortly.

### Neomycin 500mg tablets (Amdipharm)

- Amdipharm have discontinued neomycin 500mg tablets with immediate effect.
- There are no other suppliers of neomycin 500mg tablets.
- UKMi have advised that suitable alternative antimicrobials remain available.

### Nicardipine 20mg and 30mg capsules (Tillomed)

- Tillomed have discontinued nicardipine 20mg & 30mg capsules with immediate effect.
- There are no other generics suppliers of nicardipine 20mg & 30mg capsules.
- However, nicardipine 20mg & 30mg capsules remain available from Astellas under the brand name Cardene; they are aware they are the sole supplier.

### Tramadol (Zydol XL) 150mg, 200mg & 300mg prolonged-release tablets (Grunenthal)

- Grunenthal are discontinuing Zydol XL 150mg, 200mg & 300mg prolonged-release tablets in May 2021.
- Zydol SR (tramadol) prolonged-release tablets will remain available.
- Other branded tramadol modified-release preparations remain available from alternate suppliers.



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Resolved

Chloramphenicol 5% ear drops (30/3/21)  
 Elleste Duet Conti (6/4/21)  
 Hepatitis B vaccine (HBVAXPRO) 10microgram vaccine (24/3/21)  
 Ketotifen (Zaditen) 1mg/5mL oral solution (15/3/21)  
 Levothyroxine 12.5microgram tablets (31/3/21)  
 Midazolam 10mg in 2ml solution for injection (26/3/21)  
 Penicillamine 250mg tablets (26/2/21)  
 Phenytoin sodium NRIM 100mg capsules (18/3/21)  
 Prednisolone 5mg suppositories (17/3/21)  
 Propofol emulsion for infusion vials and injection (1/4/21)  
 Sulfasalazine 500mg tablets (26/03/21)  
 Sulfasalazine gastro-resistant 500mg tablets (26/3/21)  
 Zonisamide 100mg capsules (30/3/21)

Appendix

Table 2: HRT availability and anticipated resolution dates

Ingredient (s)	Manufacturer	Brand	Strength	Current Availability	Anticipated resupply date		
						Oral preparations	
						Oestrogen Only	
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	Resupplies due June 2021		
			2mg	In stock (limited)			
Conjugated oestrogen	Pfizer	Premarin	300 microgram	In stock			
			625 microgram	In stock			
			1.25mg	In stock			
Ethinyloestradiol	UCB pharma Ltd.	Ethinyloestradiol	10 microgram	Long term OOS	Unlicensed imports available; lead times vary		
			50 microgram	Long term OOS			
			1mg	Long term OOS			

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Transdermal patches					
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	
			37.5 microgram	In stock	
			50 microgram	In stock	
			75 microgram	Out of stock	Resupplies due 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021
			100 microgram	In stock	
			Estradiol hemihydrate	Merus Labs/Norgine	Estraderm
50 microgram	In stock				
75 microgram	In stock				
100 microgram	In stock				
Theramex	FemSeven Mono	50 microgram		Long term OOS	Resupplies due September 2021
		75 microgram		Long term OOS	
		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		
Topical (Transdermal gels/creams/other delivery systems)					
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	

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	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	
	Novo Nordisk	Kliefem	2mg/ 1mg	In stock	
		Kliovance	1mg/ 500 microgram	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate / Dydrogesterone	Mylan	Femoston Conti	500 microgram / 2.5mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate/medroxyprogesterone			1mg/ 5mg	In stock	
low dose conjugated oestrogen/medroxyprogesterone	Orion	Indivina	1mg /2.5mg	In stock	
			2mg/ 5mg	In stock	
			1mg/5mg	In stock	
	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	

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Estradiol hemihydrate/ dydrogesterone	Novo Nordisk	Femoston	1mg/10mg	In stock	
			2mg/10mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate		Novofem	1mg/1mg	In stock	
			a)Estradiol hemihydrate b)Estradiol hemihydrate/norethisterone acetate c)Estradiol hemihydrate	Trisequens	a)1mg b)2mg/1mg c)1mg
Estradiol valerate/ medroxyprogesterone acetate	Orion	Tridestra			2mg/20mg
			<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	Resupplies due September 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	