

Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care: August 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 *Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP)* has been issued', this will be found [here](#).

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Information provided: w/c 2 August 2021

New Issues

Injectables

Adrenaline 1mg/ml (1:1000) solution for injection pre-filled syringes (1mL)

- Limited supplies of adrenaline 1:1000 injection PFS are available with remaining stocks expected to be exhausted by mid-September 2021 with resupply due in January 2022.
- Adrenaline 1:1000 solution for injection ampoules (1mL) remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

Carboprost (Hemabate) 250micrograms/1ml solution for injection ampoules

- Pfizer are out of stock of UK licensed Hemabate injection until the end of August 2021.
- Pfizer have sourced Hemabate injection from the US, considered unlicensed in the UK.
- Supplies are available via the Pfizer Customer Contact Centre on 0845 608 8866.
- Specialist importers can also source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.

Enoxaparin (Clexane) pre-filled syringes (various strengths)

- A shortage of the ERIS automatic safety system will impact the availability of several Clexane pre-filled syringes from September until November 2021 (list below):
 - 4,000IU (40mg/0.4ml)
 - 6,000IU (60mg/0.6ml)
 - 8,000IU (80mg/0.8ml)
 - 10,000IU (100mg/1ml)
- To mitigate the supply issue during this period, Sanofi will supply Clexane with the PREVENTIS automatic safety system for the affected presentations only. This will be a UK licensed product.
- Other brands of enoxaparin biosimilars remain available but cannot support an uplift in demand.
- Organisations who use Clexane should prepare to have syringes with two different safety devices in use across the portfolio and ensure appropriate communication and training of health care professionals and patients is undertaken before September. Please find attached the Sanofi Dear Health Care Professional letter.
- An MSN was issued 27 July 2021 (attached).

Tinzaparin sodium (10,000 IU/ml) 3,500 IU in 0.35 ml and 4,500 IU in 0.45 ml pre-filled syringes

- Tinzaparin sodium 3,500units in 0.35 ml and 4,500units in 0.45 ml pre-filled syringes will be unavailable between middle of October 2021 and January 2022 (date TBC).
- All other presentations of tinzaparin remain available.

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- Organisations who use tinzaparin for both prophylaxis and treatment of venous thromboembolism will need to consider if they wish to switch to an alternative low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) for all indications or just for prophylaxis.
- Impacted organisations will need to work with the relevant supplier to ensure their likely demand can be supported and take early steps to make certain their organisation can switch over safely before mid-October.
- Organisations should continue to order the impacted presentations of tinzaparin in line with demand while they work to switch over to an alternative LMWH. Leo Pharma will continue to monitor ordering patterns
- A Supply Disruption Alert ([SDA](#)) was issued 29 July 2021.

Tocilizumab (RoActemra) 200mg and 400mg solution for infusion vials

- Supplies of RoActemra 400mg solution for infusion vials are currently limited. There is no date for resolution and intermittent out of stocks are expected during this time.
- RoActemra 200mg solution for infusion vials are currently out of stock with no date for resupply.
- RoActemra 80mg solution for infusion vials remain available and can support an uplift in demand.
- Kevzara (sarilumab) 200mg solution for injection pre-filled syringes remain available for use in patients admitted to Adult Critical Care Units with Covid-19.
- An MSN was issued 3 August 2021 (attached).

Orals

Esomeprazole (Nexium) 10mg gastro-resistant granule sachets

- Nexium 10mg gastro-resistant granule sachets are out of stock until w/c 16 August 2021.
- Alternative liquid and orodispersible proton-pump inhibitors remain available.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 21 July 2021 (attached).

Glipizide (Minodiab) 5mg tablets

- Glipizide 5mg tablets are out of stock until mid-October 2021.
- Prescribers will need to review all affected patients and assess ongoing need for glipizide.
- If ongoing treatment is required, consideration should be given to prescribing an alternative sulfonylurea or glucose lowering medication.
- Alternative glucose-lowering medications, including sulfonylureas, remain available.
- Patients with monogenic diabetes (MODY) should remain on an equivalent dose of an alternative sulfonylurea.
- Unlicensed supplies of glipizide 5mg tablets have been sourced where the above options are inappropriate.
- An [SDA](#) was issued 2 August 2021.

Tuberculosis (TB) oral agents

- Several TB medicines have been impacted by supply issues.
- See the table in the MSN for a summary of the supply position with TB medications.
- An MSN was issued 2 August 2021 (attached).

Ongoing Issues

Injectables

Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs)

- There are currently sufficient supplies of EpiPen and Jext to meet normal UK demand.
- 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.

Bleomycin 15,000unit powder for solution for injection vials

- Accord, sole supplier remains out of stock of bleomycin 15,000unit injection with resupply date to be confirmed.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- An updated MSN was issued 14 June 2021 (shared previously).

Calcitonin (salmon) 50units/1ml solution for injection ampoules

- Essential Pharma, sole supplier, only has short-dated stock available (expiry 31/10/2021).
- Customers can order direct from Movianto if supplies are not available via wholesalers.
- Next resupply is expected in March 2022.
- Calcitonin (salmon) 100units/1ml solution for injection ampoules remain available and can support the uplift in demand if required.

Dehydrated Alcohol (Absolute Alcohol) BP for Injection

- Limited supplies of Absolute Alcohol (ethanol 100%) BP for injection are available until early September 2021.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- In cases where alternative treatments are inappropriate, Trusts are advised to contact their Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist who may be able to facilitate stock sharing via mutual aid.

Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injection

- There have been intermittent supplies of diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injections available since early 2020.
- Accord are out of stock of both strengths with no re-supply date.

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- Wockhardt are out of stock of diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injections with resupply expected w/c 2 August 2021.
- Diamorphine 30mg injection is out of stock until w/c 9 August 2021.
- An MSN was issued on the 9 April 2021 (shared previously) reminding clinicians of the permanent actions they were asked to take in the [SDA](#) for diamorphine ampoules issued 25 March 2020.

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

- Diazemuls 10mg/2ml emulsion for injection is out of stock long term.
- Lorazepam 4mg/ml solution for injection is available and able to support a full uplift in demand.
- Unlicensed imports of diazepam 10mg/2ml emulsion for injection can be sourced. Lead times vary.
- An updated MSN was issued 27 May 2021 (shared previously).

Glyceryl trinitrate 1mg/ml 50ml vials

- Hameln are out of stock of glyceryl trinitrate 1 mg/ml 50ml vials with re-supply expected w/c 9 August 2021.
- Beaumont Pharma are out of stock with resupply date to be confirmed.
- Pfizer can support this out of stock with a glyceryl trinitrate 5 mg/ml sterile concentrate available in 5ml ampoules.
- Organisations who will be impacted by this shortage should take action to prepare to switch to using the glyceryl trinitrate 5 mg/ml concentrate and take steps to reduce the risk of mis-dosing.
- An MSN was issued 25 June 2021 (shared previously).

Heparin calcium solution for injection 5000unit/0.2ml preservative free

- Wockhardt, sole supplier, are out of stock of heparin calcium 5000unit/0.2ml preservative free ampoules until September 2021 with exact resupply date to be confirmed.
- Heparin sodium 5000unit/0.2ml preservative free ampoules are currently available.
- Panpharma can supply heparin sodium 5000unit/1ml preservative free ampoules to support any gaps in supply. It is available for order via Mawdsley's. Although this is a lower concentration than heparin 5000unit/0.2ml, it is a higher concentration than heparin 5000 units/5ml which is routinely used.
- Other strengths of heparin remain available.
- An MSN was issued 25 June 2021 (shared previously).

Human normal Immunoglobulin (IVIg)

- There is a decreased volume of some presentations of immunoglobulin leading to a shortfall until December 2021.
- Trust level allocations have been cascaded to all Trusts in England.
- Trusts are advised to assess patients who require long term immunoglobulin therapies and use allocations to minimise the need to switch between presentations and brands.
- An MSN was issued 19 July 2021 (attached).

Lorazepam (Ativan) 4mg/ml solution for injection

- Pfizer are out of stock with no confirmed date for resupply.
- Macure Pharma, a new entrant to the lorazepam 4mg/ml injection market have stock available through Oxford Pharmacy Stores (NHS hospitals) and Chapper Healthcare (all other customers).

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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 via Mawdsley's 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 until further notice.
- An updated MSN was issued 30 March 2021 (shared previously).
- Further advice on alternative intravenous acid suppressants for paediatric patients can be found via the SPS website [here](#).

Sodium calcium edetate 500mg/10ml injection

- Sodium calcium edetate 500mg/10 ml injection is only available as an unlicensed preparation and is unavailable until late 2022.
- Mawdsley's have sourced an alternative unlicensed product from Italy, but this is a higher strength preparation of sodium calcium edetate (1000mg/10ml). This product is now available to order.
- The product information has been translated into English and Clinical Specialists consider this an appropriate replacement, albeit at a higher strength.
- The prescribing information in the SPC for this unlicensed product may not reflect UK practice.
- Toxbase and Medusa monographs have been amended to highlight availability of the higher strength product.
- Trusts are advised to work with their procurement teams and Medication Safety Officers to ensure any existing stock of the 500mg/10 ml product is not stored with this higher strength product to reduce risk of dosing errors and protocols/guidelines amended to reflect use of this higher strength product.

Somatropin 200microgram MiniQuick (Genotropin) device

- Genotropin 200microgram MiniQuick devices are out of stock until the end of October 2021.
- All other Genotropin lines remain available.

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

- Metalyse is out of stock with resupply expected in October 2021.
- SPS MI 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 (Synacthen Depot) 1mg depot injection

- Atnahs Pharma, sole suppliers are out of stock with resupply date to be confirmed.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.

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Urokinase (Syner-KINASE) 10,000IU and 25,000IU injection

- Syner-KINASE 10,000IU and 25,000IU injection are out of stock until September 2021.
- Syner-KINASE 100,000IU injection remains available and can support an uplift in demand (see DHCP shared previously).
- Details of other suggested alternative products, if required, can be found in the [SPS MI memo](#).
- An MSN was issued 27 May 2021 (shared previously).

Verteporfin (Visudyne) 15mg powder for solution for infusion

- UK licensed Visudyne is out of stock until January 2022.
- Visudyne from the USA (considered unlicensed in the UK) is currently available in restricted quantities from Neon Healthcare.
- Unlicensed imports cannot currently be sourced by specialist importer companies.
- Remaining supplies of Visudyne should be reserved for the treatment of ocular cancer patients.
- An MSN was issued 27 May 2021 (shared previously).

Orals

Calcium gluconate 544mg/5ml / calcium lactate 276mg/5ml oral solution (Alliance Calcium syrup)

- Alliance Calcium Syrup is out of stock until mid-September 2021.
- Patients in primary care should be referred to secondary care centres for review and management during the out-of-stock period.
- Any remaining supplies of Alliance Calcium Syrup should be reserved for neonates and patients in whom alternative options are not appropriate.
- All other patients should be switched to an alternative calcium formulation.
- An MSN was issued 27 May 2021 (shared previously).

Cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution sugar free

- There are currently limited supplies of cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution.
- UCB Pharma are currently in stock of cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution (150ml).
- Pinewood are expecting resupplies of cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution (200ml) in the coming weeks.
- Cipla have limited supplies of cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution (200ml) which are being supplied to NHS England and Scotland contracts.
- Alternative suppliers remain in stock of cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution (70ml).

Chloral hydrate 143.3mg/5ml oral solution

- Chloral hydrate 143.3mg in 5ml oral solution is out of stock until end of November 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 (shared previously).

Clonidine (Catapres) 100 microgram tablets

- Catapres 100 microgram tablets are out of stock until w/c 4 October 2021.
- Clonidine 25 microgram tablets and clonidine 50 microgram/5ml oral solution remain available and can support an uplift in demand.
- Unlicensed imports have also been sourced. Lead times may vary.

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- An MSN was issued 21 July 2021 (attached).

Cloral betaine 707mg tablets

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

Colestipol (Colestid) plain 5g granules sachets

- Colestid plain sachets are out of stock with a resupply date to be confirmed.
- Colestid orange sachets are currently available.
- SPS MI 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 January 2022.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- Colestyramine light 4g sugar free sachets remain available.
- SPS MI 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 (shared previously).

Product affected	Ingredients	Anticipated resupply date	Management Advice
Noriday	Norethisterone 350 microgram tablets	w/c 2 August 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market (see information below). – Clinicians are advised to refer to CKS guidance and BNF for advice. – Unlicensed imports have been sourced; lead times vary.
Norinyl-1	Mestranol 50microgram / Norethisterone 1mg tablets	w/c 9 August 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market (see information below). - Clinicians are advised to refer to CKS guidance and BNF for advice. - Unlicensed imports have been sourced; lead times vary.
Qlaira	Estradiol valerate / Dienogest	w/c 7 March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See SmPC- Qlaira for full list of active ingredients.

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	(various strengths)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market (see information below). - Clinicians are advised to refer to CKS guidance and BNF for advice. - Unlicensed imports have been sourced; lead times vary.
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Fluoxetine 10mg tablets

- Endo Ventures are out of stock of fluoxetine 10mg tablets until March 2022.
- 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).

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 (shared previously).

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

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

Hormone Replacement Therapy products (HRT)

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

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

- Theramex have confirmed that whilst new manufacturing arrangements are being established, FemSeven Mono patches will be out of stock until September 2021.
- FemSeven Sequi patches will be out of stock until the end of 2021.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.

Premique Low Dose

- Pfizer, sole supplier of Premique Low Dose, have advised that there will be limited supplies in August 2021 until resupplies are made w/c 30 August 2021.
- Alternative oral continuous combined therapies remain available.

Isosorbide mononitrate (Imdur) 60mg modified release tablets

- Topridge, sole supplier, are out of stock with a resupply date to be confirmed.
- 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.

Kolanticon Gel

- Kolanticon gel is out of stock until January 2022.
- Alternative preparations for symptomatic relief of gastro-intestinal disorders characterised by hyperacidity, smooth muscle spasm, including irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), and flatulence, remain available.
- An MSN was issued 16 June 2021 (shared previously).

Naftidrofuryl 100mg capsules

- Accord are out of stock with resupply expected in September 2021.
- The brand, Praxilene, remains available and can support an uplift in demand.

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.

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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.

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 (shared previously).

Tapentadol (Palexia) 20mg/ml oral solution

- Batches of Palexia 20mg/ml oral solution have been [recalled](#) due to potential microbial contamination with resupply not expected until mid-2022.
- Palexia 50mg tablets remain available.

Trifluoperazine 1mg/5ml syrup

- Trifluoperazine 1mg/5ml syrup is out of stock until mid-September 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).

Varenicline (Champix) 0.5mg and 1mg tablets

- Pfizer, sole supplier of Champix, stopped the distribution of all products in the range in early June 2021 and are unable to confirm a resupply date.
- Pfizer have advised this is due to on-going global regulatory investigations, relating to the presence of nitrosamine impurities above Pfizer's acceptable level of daily intake in several batches.
- The MHRA have advised that, at this stage, batches currently in the market are not subject to a recall, and patients can continue to take their medicine if supplies are available.
- An [SDA](#) was issued 24 June 2021.

Others

Clindamycin (Dalacin) 2% vaginal cream

- Pfizer, sole supplier, are out of stock of Dalacin 2% vaginal cream until w/c 6 September 2021.
- Alternative topical preparations are available for the treatment of bacterial vaginosis.
- An MSN was issued 14 June 2021 (shared previously)

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).

Dexamethasone (Maxidex) 0.1% eye drops 5ml

- Novartis, sole supplier, have limited stock of Maxidex 0.1% eye drops until w/c 9 August 2021.
- During this period, stock will only be available to order directly from Novartis and subject to order limits.
- Dexamethasone 0.1% preservative free and alternative steroid eye drops remain available in single dose and multi-dose containers and collectively can support an uplift in demand.
- An [SDA](#) was issued 25 June 2021.

Fentanyl (Instanyl) 50 microgram, 100 microgram and 200 microgram nasal sprays

- Takeda are out of stock of all Instanyl nasal sprays until the end of September 2021.
- 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.
- SPS MI have prepared a [clinical memo](#) containing further information.
- The UK recall notice for Instanyl 100microgram can be found [here](#).

Flumetasone/clioquinol (Locorten Vioform) 0.02%/1% ear drops solution

- Advanz, sole supplier, are out of stock of Locorten Vioform ear drops until April 2022.
- Alternative combination steroid and antibacterial ear drops remain available.
- Clinicians should consider whether there is also a clear clinical need to co-prescribe antifungal ear drops, which remain available.
- An MSN was issued 21 July 2021 (attached).

Gentamicin 0.3% and hydrocortisone acetate 1% (Gentisone HC) Ear Drops

- Gentisone HC ear drops are out of stock until w/c 25 October 2021.
- Alternative combination topical ear products containing an aminoglycoside with a steroid remain available.
- An MSN was issued 12 July 2021 (attached).

Hydrocortisone 0.2% w/w and lidocaine hydrochloride monohydrate 1.0% w/w (Perinal) cutaneous spray

- Dermal Laboratories are out of stock of Perinal cutaneous spray until July 2022.
- Alternate topical anaesthetic/steroid preparations remain available:
 - Uniroid- HC (cinchocaine hydrochloride 5mg/hydrocortisone 5mg) ointment
 - Scheriproct (cinchocaine hydrochloride 5mg/prednisolone hexanoate 1.9g) ointment

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- Proctosedyl (cinchocaine hydrochloride 5mg/hydrocortisone 5mg) ointment

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).

Vaccines

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

Discontinuations

Acetazolamide (Eytazox) 250mg modified-release capsules (Teva)

- Teva have discontinued Eytazox 250mg modified release capsules following a long period of out of stock.
- Diamox SR (acetazolamide) prolonged release 250mg capsules remain available from Advanz.

Ampicillin 500mg capsules (Chemidex)

- Chemidex are discontinuing ampicillin 500mg capsules from September 2021.
- Ampicillin 250mg capsules remain available.

Esketamine (Vesierra) 25mg/ml and 5mg/ml solution for injection (Pfizer)

- Pfizer are discontinuing Vesierra 25mg/ml and 5mg/ml with immediate effect.
- Sintetica continue to supply the market.

Human fibrinogen 140mg/2ml and 350mg/5ml solution for sealant vials and Human thrombin 2,000units/2ml and 5,000units/5ml solution for sealant vials (Evicel) (Omrix)

- Omrix, the sole suppliers of the Evicel solution for sealant vials, have discontinued this range with immediate effect.
- This has been replaced with the Veraseal range of combination fibrinogen and thrombin solution for sealant pre-filled disposable devices available as 400mg/2,500units (10mL) and 80mg/500units (2mL).
- Trusts should follow local guidelines if human fibrinogen and human thrombin are required separately.
- Company communications are attached for hospitals.

Metronidazole 200mg/5ml oral suspension (Zentiva)

- Zentiva are discontinuing their metronidazole 200mg/5ml oral suspension from the UK market with immediate effect.
- Alternate suppliers remain in stock.

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Somatropin (Norditropin SimpleXx) 15mg/1.5ml, 10mg/1.5ml and 5mg/1.5ml solution for injection cartridges (Novo Nordisk)

- Novo Nordisk are discontinuing their Norditropin SimpleXx range with stock expected to be exhausted by the end of December 2021.
- They have implemented a transition programme to help those centres who use the product to co-ordinate the transition of patients from Norditropin SimpleXx to Norditropin FlexPro.

Ursodeoxycholic acid (Ursogal) 250mg capsules (Galen)

- Ursogal 250mg capsules have been discontinued with immediate effect.
- Generic ursodeoxycholic 250mg capsules remain available from several alternative manufacturers.

Verapamil (Vertab) 240mg m/r tablets (Chiesi)

- Chiesi have discontinued Vertab SR 240mg tablets with immediate effect.
- Alternate verapamil 240mg MR tablets remain available.

Resolved

Diclofenac (Voltarol Ophtha Multidose) 0.1% eye drops (19/7/21)

Donepezil 10mg orodispersible tablets (7/21)

Fluoxetine (Olena) 20mg dispersible tablets (16/7/21)

Fluoxetine 30mg capsules (19/7/21)

Gemeprost (Cervagem) 1mg pessary (9/7/21)

Heparin sodium solution for injection 5000unit/0.2ml preservative free (2/8/21)

Haloperidol 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (9/7/21)

Itraconazole 10mg/ml oral suspension (2/8/21)

Lidocaine 5%/hydrocortisone 0.275% (Xyloproct) ointment (13/7/21)

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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			
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	
			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	
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	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		

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			75 microgram	Long term OOS	Resupplies due September 2021	
			100 microgram	Long term OOS		
	Bayer	Progynova TS		50 microgram	In stock	
				100 microgram	In stock	
	Mylan	Elleste Solo MX		40 microgram	In stock (limited)	Discontinued
			80 microgram	In stock (limited)	Discontinued	
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		
	Marlborough Pharma	Estriol cream (generic)	0.01%	In stock		
	Aspen	Ovestin cream	1mg	In stock		
Progestogen only						
Levonorgestrel	Bayer	Mirena Intrauterine device	20 microgram /24hr	In stock		
Progesterone	Besins Healthcare (UK) Ltd	Utrogestan	100mg	In stock		
		Utrogestan	200mg	In stock		
Combined HRTs (Progestogen and oestrogen)						
Continuous combined therapy						
Oral preparations						
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		

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	Orion	Indivina	1mg/ 5mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate/ medroxyprogesterone			1mg /2.5mg	In stock	
			2mg/ 5mg	In stock	
			1mg/5mg	In stock	
low dose conjugated oestrogen/ medroxyprogesterone	Pfizer	Premique	300 microgram /1.5mg	Limited stocks	Resupplies due w/c 30 th August.
Transdermal patch					
Estradiol hemihydrate/ norethisterone acetate	Theramex	Evorel Conti	3.2mg/11.2mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate/ levonorgestrel		FemSeven Conti	1.5mg/ 0.525mg	In stock	
Sequential combined therapy					
Oral preparations					
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/norethister one acetate c)Estradiol hemihydrate		Trisequens	a)1mg b)2mg/1mg c)1mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate/ medroxyprogesterone acetate	Orion	Tridestra	2mg/20mg	In stock	
Transdermal patch					
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 end of 2021.
Gonadomimetic (s)					

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Tibolone 2.5mg	MSD/ Organon	Livial tablets	Tibolone 2.5mg	In stock	
Selective oestrogen receptor modulator					
Ospemifene 60mg tablets	Shionogi	Sensio tablets	Ospemifene 60mg	In stock	