

## Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care: October 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 4 October 2021**

### New Issues

#### Injectables

##### Hydrocortisone sodium phosphate 100mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules

- Hydrocortisone sodium phosphate 100mg/ml solution for injection ampoules are currently out of stock until w/c 18 October 2021.
- Hydrocortisone sodium succinate 100mg powder for solution for injection/infusion remains available and can support an uplift in demand.
- A Medicine Supply Notification (MSN) will be issued shortly.

##### Mitoxantrone 2mg/ml solution for infusion vials

- Pfizer and Baxter Healthcare are out of stock of mitoxantrone 2mg/ml solution for infusion, 20mg and 25mg vials. Full market resupply is expected mid-December 2021.
- Baxter can support full market demand of both 20mg and 25mg vials from mid-December 2021.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- Trusts should take actions to conserve stock of mitoxantrone for patients who have commenced a course of treatment and only initiate new patients once further stock has been obtained.
- Specialist importers have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 5 October 2021 (attached).

## Voriconazole 200mg injection

- Pfizer are out of stock of voriconazole 200mg vials and Vfend 200mg vials until early November 2021 due to a sharp increase in demand during July and August 2021.
- Bowmed and Fresenius Kabi remain in stock but cannot support the demands of their non-contracted regions during this period.
- Trusts in all regions should take actions to conserve stock of voriconazole injection by reviewing local practice.
- Specialist importers have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 27 September 2021 (attached).

## Orals

### Mesalazine (Asacol) 800mg MR gastro-resistant tablets

- Asacol 800mg MR gastro-resistant tablets are out of stock from early October 2021 with a resupply date to be confirmed.
- Asacol 400mg MR gastro-resistant tablets remain available but cannot support full demand for the Asacol 800mg strength tablets.
- Octasa MR 400mg and 800mg tablets remain available and can support full demand for the Asacol 800mg strength MR tablets.
- Other mesalazine tablet preparations, with different release characteristics, remain available should there be difficulties sourcing Octasa MR tablets or Asacol 400mg MR tablets.
- An MSN was issued 6 October 2021 (attached).

### Sulfasalazine (Salazopyrin) 500mg tablets

- Salazopyrin 500mg tablets are out of stock until w/c 25 October 2021.
- Generic sulfasalazine 500mg tablets remain available.

## Ongoing Issues

### Injectables

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

- Adrenaline 1:1000 injection pre-filled syringes are out of stock until January 2022.
- Adrenaline 1:1000 solution for injection ampoules (1mL) remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

#### Adrenaline 150microgram (Emerade) auto-injectors

- There are currently sufficient supplies of Jext and EpiPen Junior to meet normal UK demand for adrenaline 150microgram auto-injectors.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- EpiPen Junior double packs are limited until w/c 11 October; however, EpiPen Junior singles remain available and can support demand.
- Emerade 300microgram and 500microgram auto-injectors will return to the market w/c 4 October 2021 (DHCP letter attached).
- The advice remains to conserve supplies of AAI's 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 AAI's.
- The [Green Book](#) and [Resus Council guidance](#) provides additional advice to healthcare professionals on the use of adrenaline in response to anaphylaxis.

### Bleomycin 15,000unit powder for solution for injection vials

- Accord, sole supplier remains out of stock of bleomycin 15,000unit injection until at least mid-2022.
- 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.

### Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injection

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

### 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 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.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- 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. The Sanofi Dear Health Care Professional letter was shared previously.
- An MSN was issued 27 July 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 the end of October 2021.
- 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 (shared previously).

### Lidocaine 200mg/20ml (1%) with adrenaline 100micrograms/20ml (1 in 200,000) (Xylocaine 1%) solution for injection vials

- Xylocaine 1% with adrenaline is out of stock until w/c 11 October 2021.
- Xylocaine 2% with adrenaline remains available but cannot support an increase in demand.
- Alternative licensed products containing bupivacaine and adrenaline remain available. Where these are not suitable, unlicensed products may be sourced.
- An MSN was issued 6 September 2021 (attached).

### 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).

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- 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.

### 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.

### 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 mid-October 2021 and January 2022 (date TBC).
- All other presentations of tinzaparin remain available.
- 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) 80mg, 200mg and 400mg solution for infusion vials

- RoActemra 80mg and 400mg solution for infusion vials are currently available but in limited supply with no resolution date.
- RoActemra 200mg solution for infusion vials are currently out of stock with no resupply date.
- Allocations have been put in place at a trust level, on a weekly basis, to safeguard remaining stock.
- Kevzara (sarilumab) 200mg solution for injection pre-filled syringes remain available and trusts should ensure they have stock in case tocilizumab becomes unavailable.
- An updated MSN was issued 13 September 2021 (attached).



## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

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

- Syner-KINASE 10,000IU and 25,000IU injection are out of stock until December 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, however, all remaining stock expires 31 December 2021.
- Unlicensed imports cannot currently be sourced by specialist importer companies.
- An MSN was issued 27 May 2021 (shared previously).

## Orals

### 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 is currently out of stock of cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution (200ml), with resupplies due w/c 11 October 2021.
- 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).

### Clomifene (Clomid) 50mg tablets

- Clomid 50mg tablets are out of stock until early December 2021.
- Generic clomifene 50mg tablets remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

### Clonidine (Catapres) 100 microgram tablets

- Catapres 100 microgram tablets are out of stock until w/c 11 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.
- An MSN was issued 21 July 2021 (shared previously).

### Cloral betaine 707mg tablets

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



## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### 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
<b>Qlaira</b>	Estradiol valerate / Dienogest (various strengths)	w/c 18 Apr 2022	See <a href="#">SmPC- Qlaira</a> for full list of active ingredients. There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market (see information below). Clinicians are advised to refer to <a href="#">CKS guidance</a> and <a href="#">BNF</a> for advice. Unlicensed imports have been sourced; lead times vary.

### Fluoxetine 10mg tablets

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

### Glipizide (Minodiab) 5mg tablets

- Glipizide 5mg tablets are out of stock until early November 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.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

### Histamine (H<sub>2</sub>) antagonists

- Famotidine 20mg and 40mg tablets are currently available.
- Cimetidine 200mg, 400mg and 800mg tablets are out of stock until late October 2021. Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- Cimetidine 200mg/5ml oral solution/syrup is currently available.
- Nizatidine 150mg and 300mg capsules are currently available.

### 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, 25 microgram, 50microgram and 1 milligram 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 FemSeven Mono 100 patches will be out of stock until Q4 2021.
- FemSeven Sequi patches will be out of stock until Q1 2022.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.

### Isosorbide mononitrate (Imdur) 60mg modified release tablets

- Topridge, sole supplier, is out of stock until w/c 1 November 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 tablets

- Alfa Sigma, sole supplier, are out of stock until w/c 18 October 2021.
- Ketotifen (Zaditen) 1mg/5mL oral solution remains available and can support an uplift in demand.

### 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).

### Metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution

- Advanz Pharma have discontinued metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution due to further testing requirements necessitated by the potential presence of N-nitrosodiethylamine (NDMA) impurities.
- Rosemont Pharmaceuticals have recalled one batch of metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution due to the presence of NDMA impurities and are therefore out of stock due to further testing requirements.
- Limited supplies of metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution are expected to be made available w/c 4 October 2021, however, this is unable to support full demand.

## COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- Long term supply issues of metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution are expected.
- An MSN was issued 13 September 2021 (attached).

### Phenelzine sulphate (Nardil) 15mg tablets

- Neon Healthcare, the new suppliers of Nardil are currently out of stock. A 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.

### 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).

### Sodium cromoglicate (Nalcrom) 100mg capsules

- Nalcrom 100mg capsules are out of stock until mid-December 2021.
- Generic sodium cromoglicate 100mg capsules (PIP: 1251289) have been bought to market (SPC attached) and are available to order from the following wholesalers:
  - AAH - order code: SOD0952A
  - Alliance - order code: 8037509
  - Phoenix - order code: 6773774
- An MSN was issued 2 September 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.

### 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 updated MSN was issued 27 September 2021 (attached).

### 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.

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### Others

#### 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.

#### Dimeticone 22%/benzalkonium chloride 0.1% (Conotrane) cream

- Conotrane cream is out of stock until early November 2021.
- Clinicians should consider the indication and any hypersensitivity to excipients/antiseptic before recommending an alternative.
- A list of alternative products can be found in the [BNF](#).

#### 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 February 2022.
- 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 (shared previously).

#### 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 (shared previously).

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

#### Lidocaine 5%/hydrocortisone 0.275% (Xyloproct) ointment

- Aspen Pharmacare are currently out of stock until March 2022.

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- Alternate topical anaesthetic/steroid preparations remain available:
  - o Uniroid- HC (cinchocaine hydrochloride 5mg/hydrocortisone 5mg) ointment
  - o Scheriproct (cinchocaine hydrochloride 5mg/prednisolone hexanoate 1.9g) ointment
  - o Proctosedyl (cinchocaine hydrochloride 5mg/hydrocortisone 5mg) ointment

### Metronidazole (Acea) 0.75% gel

- Ferndale Pharmaceuticals are out of stock of Acea 0.75% gel until w/c 18 October 2021.
- Metrogel 0.75% and Rozex gel 0.75% gel remain available.
- An MSN was issued on 17 July 2020 (shared previously).

### Rivastigmine (Erastig) 13.3mg/24hours transdermal patches

- Erastig 13.3mg patches are out of stock until early November 2021.
- Alternative brands of rivastigmine 13.3mg patches remain available.

## Vaccines

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

## Discontinuations

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

- Alliance Calcium Syrup has been discontinued following a long period of out of stock.
- Other calcium supplements remain available. See [SPS memo](#) for further information.

### Ciprofloxacin (Ciproxin) 400mg/200ml solution for infusion bottles (Bayer)

- Bayer have discontinued Ciproxin 400mg/200ml solution for infusion bottles.
- Other ciprofloxacin 400mg/200ml solution for infusions remain available.

### Co-codamol 30mg/500mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (Wockhardt)

- Wockhardt have discontinued co-codamol 30mg/500mg/5ml oral solution with remaining stock expected to be exhausted in October 2021.
- There are no alternative oral solution suppliers.
- Available alternatives include the 30mg/500mg effervescent tablets or codeine and paracetamol oral solutions as separate molecules.

### Codeine 15mg and 30mg tablets (SunPharma)

- SunPharma have discontinued codeine 15mg and 30mg tablets.
- Supplies remain available from alternative suppliers.

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

- Desmopressin (Octim) 150 micrograms/actuation nasal spray has been discontinued.

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- 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).

### Diazepam RecTubes 2.5mg Rectal Solution (Wockhardt)

- Wockhardt have discontinued Diazepam RecTubes 2.5mg rectal solution; stocks are expected to be exhausted from March 2022.
- An SDA will be issued shortly.

### Fenofibrate micronised 200mg capsules (Teva)

- Teva have discontinued fenofibrate micronised 200mg capsules with remaining stock expected to be exhausted in November 2021.
- Supplies remain available from alternative suppliers.

### Flecainide (Tambocor) 50mg tablets (Teva)

- Teva have discontinued Tambocor 50mg tablets.
- Supplies of flecainide 50mg tablets remain available from alternative suppliers.

### Hydrocortisone 20mg tablets (Activase)

- Activase Pharma have discontinued hydrocortisone 20mg tablets.
- Supplies remain available from alternative suppliers.

### Ketoprofen (Oruvail) 2.5% 100g gel (Sanofi)

- Sanofi have discontinued Oruvail 2.5% 100g gel with remaining stock expected to be exhausted at the end of November 2021.
- Supplies of ketoprofen 2.5% gel remains available from alternative suppliers.

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

- Pfizer are discontinuing Ativan injection from 31 December 2021 following a long period of out of stock. No further supplies are expected before the discontinuation date.
- 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).
- Pfizer have issued a DHCP letter (attached).

### Metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution (Advanz)

- Advanz have discontinued metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution with immediate effect.
- An MSN was issued 13 September 2021 containing advice on alternatives (attached).

### Paracetamol (Perfalgan) 500mg/50ml solution for infusion vials (Bristol-Myers Squibb)

- BMS are discontinuing Perfalgan 500mg vials at the end of October 2021.

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- Perfalgan 1g vials were discontinued in December 2020.
- Supplies of paracetamol 500mg vials remain available from other suppliers.
- BMS have issued a DHCP letter (attached).

#### Ropinirole (Spiroco) 2mg and 8mg modified-release tablets (Teva)

- Teva have discontinued Spiroco 2mg and 8mg modified-released tablets.
- Supplies of ropinirole 2mg and 8mg modified release tablets remain available from alternative suppliers.

#### Somatropin (Saizen) 8mg click.easy powder and solvent for solution for injection vials (Merck Serono)

- Saizen 8mg click.easy vials are being discontinued with remaining stock expected to be exhausted by late October 2021.
- Saizen 6mg/1.03ml solution for injection cartridges are an equivalent concentration to the reconstituted Saizen 8mg click.easy vials (5.83mg/ml) and can support a full uplift in demand.
- Merck have issued a DHCP letter (attached).

#### Vinflunine (Javlor) 50mg/2ml and 250mg/10ml solution for infusion vials (Pierre Fabre)

- Javlor 50mg/2ml and 250mg/10ml solution for infusion vials are being discontinued in early October 2021.
- Pierre Fabre have issued a DHCP letter (attached).

#### White soft paraffin 95%/liquid paraffin 5% (Diprobase) ointment (Bayer)

- Bayer have discontinued Diprobase ointment.
- Diprobase cream remains available.
- Alternative emollient ointments remain available from other suppliers.



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Resolved

Adrenaline 300microgram and 500microgram (Emerade) auto-injectors (6/10/21)  
Alfentanil 25mg/50ml solution for injection vials (5/10/21)  
Amiloride 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (9/9/21)  
Amlodipine 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (9/9/21)  
Carboprost (Hemabate) 250micrograms/1ml solution for injection ampoules (29/9/21)  
Chloral Hydrate 500mg/5ml oral solution (13/9/21)  
Clindamycin (Dalacin) 2% vaginal cream (27/9/21)  
Clobazam 10mg/5ml oral suspension (9/9/21)  
Conjugated oestrogens with medroxyprogesterone (Premique Low Dose) tablets (8/9/21)  
Dehydrated Alcohol (Absolute Alcohol) BP for Injection (23/9/21)  
Estradiol (FemSeven Mono) 50microgram and 75 microgram patches (6/9/21)  
Folic acid 2.5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (9/9/21)  
Furosemide 20mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (9/9/21)  
Lofepramine 70mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free (9/9/21)  
Memantine 10mg/ml oral solution sugar free (9/9/21)  
Mestranol 50microgram/norethisterone 1mg tablets (Norinyl-1) tablets (29/9/21)  
Metoclopramide 5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (9/9/21)  
Naftidrofuryl 100mg capsules (27/9/21)  
Norethisterone 350 microgram tablets (Noriday) tablets (29/9/21)  
Paracetamol 250mg/5ml oral suspension (9/9/21)  
Piroxicam (Feldene) 20mg capsules (1/10/21)  
Somatropin 200microgram MiniQuick (Genotropin) device (7/7/21)  
Tenecteplase (Metalyse) 10,000 units powder and solvent for solution for injection (6/9/21)  
Verapamil 40mg/5ml oral solution sugar free (9/9/21)

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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	Viatrix	Elleste Solo	1mg	In stock	
			2mg	In stock	
	Viatrix	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	In Stock	
75 microgram			In Stock		

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	Bayer	Progynova TS	100 microgram	Long term OOS	Resupplies due end of 2021
			50 microgram	In stock	
			100 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	Viatrix	Elleste Duet Conti	2mg / 1mg	In stock	
	Novo Nordisk	Kliefem	2mg/ 1mg	In stock	
		Kliovance	1mg/ 500 microgram	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate /Dydrogesterone	Viatrix	Femoston Conti	500 microgram / 2.5mg	In stock	
			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	<b>Pfizer</b>	<b>Premique</b>	300 microgram /1.5mg	In Stock	
<b>Transdermal patch</b>					
Estradiol hemihydrate/ norethisterone acetate	<b>Theramex</b>	<b>Evorel Conti</b>	3.2mg/11.2mg	In stock	
Estradiol hemihydrate/ levonorgestrel		<b>FemSeven Conti</b>	1.5mg/ 0.525mg	In stock	
<b>Sequential combined therapy</b>					
<b>Oral preparations</b>					
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate	<b>Viatrix</b>	<b>Elleste Duet</b>	1mg/1mg	In stock	
			2mg/1mg	In stock	
<b>Femoston</b>		1mg/10mg	In stock		
		2mg/10mg	In stock		
Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate	<b>Novo Nordisk</b>	<b>Novofem</b>	1mg/1mg	In stock	
a)Estradiol hemihydrate b)Estradiol hemihydrate/ norethisterone acetate c)Estradiol hemihydrate		<b>Trisequens</b>	a)1mg b)2mg/1mg c)1mg	In stock	
Estradiol valerate/ medroxyprogesterone acetate		<b>Orion</b>	<b>Tridestra</b>	2mg/20mg	In stock
<b>Transdermal patch</b>					
a) Estradiol hemihydrate and b) estradiol hemihydrate/ norethisterone acetate	<b>Theramex</b>	<b>Evorel Sequi</b>	a)3.2mg b) 3.2 mg /11.2 mg	In stock	
a) 1.5mg of estradiol hemihydrate b) Estradiol hemihydrate /levonorgestrel		<b>FemSeven Sequi</b>	a) 1.5mg b) 1.5mg /1.5mg	Long term OOS	Resupplies due Q1 2022
<b>Gonadomimetic (s)</b>					
Tibolone 2.5mg	<b>Organon</b>	<b>Livial tablets</b>	Tibolone 2.5mg	In stock	
<b>Selective oestrogen receptor modulator</b>					

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Ospemifene 60mg tablets	<b>Shionogi</b>	<b>Senshio tablets</b>	Ospemifene 60mg	In stock	
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