

Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care: January 2022

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.

DHSC and NHSE/I have now launched an online [Medicines Supply Tool](#), which provides up to date information about medicine supply issues. The contents of this report can now be viewed on the Tool. To access the Tool, you will be required to register with the [SPS website](#). Please be aware that emails from SPS may be diverted to your junk mail folder.

Therefore, we plan to stop issuing the monthly supply issues update. **The last monthly update will be issued in February 2022.**

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

Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| New Issues | 3 |
| Injectables | 3 |
| Abatacept (Orencia) ClickJect 125mg/1ml solution for injection pre-filled pens | 3 |
| Dehydrated Alcohol (Absolute Alcohol) BP for Injection | 3 |
| Epoprostenol 0.5mg and 1.5mg powder and solvent (pH10.5) for solution for infusion vials | 3 |
| Methotrexate solution for injection vials | 4 |
| Methylprednisolone acetate (Depo-Medrone) 40mg/ml vials and methylprednisolone acetate with lidocaine 40mg/ml and 80mg/2ml vials | 4 |
| Tenecteplase (Metalyse) 10,000unit powder and solvent for solution for injection | 4 |
| Others | 4 |
| Estriol (Ovestin) 1mg cream | 4 |
| Paracetamol 120mg and 240mg suppositories | 4 |
| Ongoing Issues | 5 |
| Injectables | 5 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Adrenaline 1mg/ml (1:1000) solution for injection pre-filled syringes (PFS) (1mL) | 5 |
| Adrenaline 150microgram (Emerade) auto-injectors | 5 |
| Bleomycin 15,000unit powder for solution for injection vials | 5 |
| Calcitonin (salmon) 50units/1ml solution for injection ampoules | 5 |
| Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injections | 5 |
| Diazepam (Diazemuls) 10mg/2ml emulsion for injection | 5 |
| Enoxaparin (Clexane) pre-filled syringes (various strengths) | 5 |
| Human normal Immunoglobulin (IVIg) | 6 |
| Idarubicin (Zavedos) 5mg and 10mg injection | 6 |
| Ketorolac 30mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules | 6 |
| Lidocaine 200mg/20ml (1%) with adrenaline 100micrograms/20ml (1 in 200,000) (Xylocaine 1%) solution for injection vials | 6 |
| Mitomycin 2mg and 10mg injection | 6 |
| Ranitidine 50mg/2ml injection | 7 |

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

| | | | |
|---|----|---|----|
| Sarilumab (Kevzara) 200mg/1.14ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes – unlicensed supply for the treatment of COVID-19 | 7 | Ranitidine oral preparations | 11 |
| Sodium calcium edetate 500mg/10ml injection | 7 | Sulfasalazine (Salazopyrin-EN) gastro-resistant 500mg tablets | 11 |
| Tetracosactide (Synacthen Depot) 1mg depot injection | 7 | Tapentadol (Palexia) 20mg/ml oral solution | 11 |
| TICE strain Bacillus of Calmette-Guerin (OncoTICE) 12.5mg powder for reconstitution for instillation vials | 7 | Tuberculosis (TB) oral agents..... | 11 |
| Tinzaparin sodium (10,000 IU/ml) 3,500 IU in 0.35 ml and 4,500 IU in 0.45 ml pre-filled syringes..... | 8 | Varenicline (Champix) 0.5mg and 1mg tablets | 11 |
| Tocilizumab (RoActemra) 162mg/0.9ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes and pre-filled pens..... | 8 | Others | 12 |
| Tocilizumab (RoActemra) 80mg, 200mg and 400mg solution for infusion vials | 8 | Desmopressin (Octim) 150microgram/actuation nasal spray..... | 12 |
| Urokinase (Syner-KINASE) 10,000IU and 25,000IU injection | 8 | Diclofenac (Voltarol Ophtha Multidose) 0.1% eye drops 5ml | 12 |
| Verteporfin (Visudyne) 15mg powder for solution for infusion | 8 | Fentanyl (Instanyl) 50 microgram, 100 microgram and 200 microgram nasal sprays | 12 |
| Voriconazole 200mg injection | 8 | Flumetasone/clioquinol (Locorten Vioform) 0.02%/1% ear drops solution..... | 12 |
| Orals..... | 9 | Hydrocortisone 0.2% w/w and lidocaine hydrochloride monohydrate 1.0% w/w (Perinal) cutaneous spray | 12 |
| Chloral hydrate 143.3mg/5ml oral solution .. | 9 | Lidocaine 5%/hydrocortisone 0.275% (Xyloproct) ointment | 12 |
| Clomifene (Clomid) 50mg tablets..... | 9 | Vaccines | 13 |
| Cloral betaine 707mg tablets | 9 | Discontinuations | 13 |
| Colestipol (Colestid) plain 5g granules sachets | 9 | Chlorpromazine (Largactil) 50mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules (Sanofi) | 13 |
| Colestyramine (Questran) Powder for Oral Suspension..... | 9 | Codeine 60mg/ml solution for injection ampoules (Torbay)..... | 13 |
| Contraceptive products (oral) | 9 | Felodipine 5mg modified release/ramipril 5mg (Triapin) tablets (Sanofi) | 13 |
| Fluoxetine 10mg tablets | 9 | Resolved..... | 13 |
| Histamine (H2) antagonists | 10 | Atorvastatin (Lipitor) 20mg chewable tablets (7/12/21)..... | 13 |
| Hormone Replacement Therapy products (HRT) | 10 | Cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution sugar free (15/12/21)..... | 13 |
| Kolanticon Gel..... | 10 | Conjugated oestrogens with medroxyprogesterone (Premique Low Dose) 300 microgram/1.5mg modified-release tablets (23/12/21)..... | 13 |
| Metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution..... | 10 | | |
| Phenelzine sulphate (Nardil) 15mg tablets .11 | | | |
| Prazosin (Hypovase) 500microgram tablets | 11 | | |

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

| | | | |
|--|----|--|----|
| Estradiol (Estring) 7.5micrograms/24hours vaginal delivery system (21/12/21)..... | 13 | Mivacurium 2mg/ml solution for injection ampoules (15/12/21)..... | 13 |
| Estradiol valerate (Progynova) 2mg tablets (06/12/21) | 13 | Promethazine (Phenergan) 25mg/ml solution for injection (15/12/21) | 13 |
| Gentamicin 0.3% and hydrocortisone acetate 1% (Gentisone HC) Ear Drops (16/12/21).... | 13 | Sodium cromoglicate (Nalcrom) 100mg capsules (1/12/21) | 13 |
| Heparin sodium 500units/500ml & 2,000units/L infusion bags (6/12/21) | 13 | Appendix | 14 |
| Medroxyprogesterone (Sayana Press) 104mg/0.65mL suspension for injection pre-filled syringe (24/12/21) | 13 | Table 1: HRT availability and anticipated resolution dates | 14 |
| Mitoxantrone 2mg/ml solution for infusion vials (14/12/21) | 13 | | |

Information provided: w/c 3 January 2022

New Issues

Injectables

Abatacept (Orencia) ClickJect 125mg/1ml solution for injection pre-filled pens

- Orencia ClickJect 125mg/1ml pre-filled pens will be out of stock from mid-January until mid-March 2022.
- Orencia 125mg/1ml pre-filled syringes remain available and can support an uplift in demand during this period only. Once this shortage has resolved clinicians will need to switch patients back to the pre-filled pens.
- A Medicine Supply Notification (MSN) was issued 8 December 2021 (attached).

Dehydrated Alcohol (Absolute Alcohol) BP for Injection

- Absolute Alcohol (ethanol 100%) BP for injection is out of stock from w/c 24 January until mid-February 2022.
- 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.

Epoprostenol 0.5mg and 1.5mg powder and solvent (pH10.5) for solution for infusion vials

- Advanz epoprostenol 0.5mg powder and solvent (pH10.5) for solution for infusion is out of stock with resupply anticipated by end of February 2022 at the earliest (exact date to be confirmed).
- Advanz epoprostenol 1.5mg powder and solvent (pH10.5) for solution for infusion remains in stock, but as supply is very limited until the anticipated resupply date of end of February 2022; this stock has been ringfenced for use in paediatric homecare patients with pulmonary hypertension only.
- Alternative epoprostenol products remain available:
 - Epoprostenol 0.5mg and 1.5mg powder and solvent (pH12) for solution for infusion (Flolan) can support an uplift in demand, however Trusts need to consider the implications of using a

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

higher pH presentation (see advice on switching patients to alternative treatments in the Supply Disruption Alert)

- Epoprostenol 0.5mg and 1.5mg powder (pH12) for solution for infusion vials (Veletri) is unable to meet any increase in demand.
- A Supply Disruption Alert ([SDA](#)) was issued 21 December 2021.

Methotrexate solution for injection vials

- There are limited supplies of some presentations of methotrexate solution for injection vials from Pfizer.
- Methotrexate 5mg/2ml injection vials are out of stock until w/c 31 January 2022.
- Alternative methotrexate presentations are unable to support an increase in demand.
- An MSN was issued 20 December 2021 (attached).

Methylprednisolone acetate (Depo-Medrone) 40mg/ml vials and methylprednisolone acetate with lidocaine 40mg/ml and 80mg/2ml vials

- Depo-Medrone 40mg/ml vials are out of stock until late February 2022.
- Depo-Medrone 80mg/2ml and 120mg/3ml vials remain available but cannot support an increase in demand.
- Depo-Medrone with lidocaine 1% 40mg/ml vials are out of stock until early February 2022; 80mg/2ml vials are out of stock until late February 2022.
- Lidocaine 1% injection remains available.
- Alternative licensed injectable steroids also remain available. Where these are not suitable, unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 14 December 2021 (attached).

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

- Metalyse injection is out of stock until mid-May 2022.
- All strengths of streptokinase injection remain available and can support an increase in demand.
- All strengths of alteplase (Actilyse) remain available, however, cannot support an increase in demand.
- Specialist Importers have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 17 December 2021 (attached).

Others

Estriol (Ovestin) 1mg cream

- There are limited supplies of Ovestin cream until w/c 21 February 2022.
- Alternative estriol vaginal products remain available.

Paracetamol 120mg and 240mg suppositories

- Martindale, sole suppliers, are out of stock until mid-February 2022.
- Paracetamol 125mg and 250mg suppositories remain available from other suppliers and can support the uplift in demand.
- An MSN will be issued shortly.

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 late February 2022.
- Adrenaline 1:1000 solution for injection ampoules (1mL) remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

Adrenaline 150microgram (Emerade) auto-injectors

- Emerade 150 microgram auto-injectors remain out of stock.
- There are currently sufficient supplies of Jext and EpiPen Junior to meet normal UK demand for adrenaline 150microgram auto-injectors.
- The advice remains to conserve supplies of AAI 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.

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, is out of stock of calcitonin 50units/1ml injection until March 2022.
- Calcitonin (salmon) 100units/1ml solution for injection ampoules remain available and can support the uplift in demand.

Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injections

- Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg ampoules are out of stock until February 2022.
- Diamorphine 30mg and 100mg ampoules currently remain available however are unable to support an uplift in demand.
- An updated MSN will be issued shortly.

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 October 2022 (list below):

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

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

Human normal Immunoglobulin (IVIg)

- There is a decreased volume of some presentations of immunoglobulin leading to a shortfall until a date to be confirmed.
- 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).

Idarubicin (Zavedos) 5mg and 10mg injection

- Zavedos 5mg and 10mg injection is out of stock until mid-February and end of February 2022, respectively.
- Pfizer have sourced Australian Zavedos 5mg/5ml solution for injection in sufficient quantities to ensure continuity of supply during this period. This product is considered unlicensed in the UK.
- An MSN was issued 26 November 2021 (shared previously). An updated MSN will be issued shortly.

Ketorolac 30mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules

- Baxter are out of stock of ketorolac 30mg/1ml injection until early March 2022.
- Pharmanovia, the only other licensed supplier, will be out of stock from mid-December until February 2022, exact resupply date to be confirmed.
- Specialist importers have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 18 November 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 late March 2022.
- Xylocaine 2% with adrenaline is out of stock until mid-February 2022.
- Alternative licensed products containing bupivacaine and adrenaline remain available. Where these are not suitable, unlicensed alternatives may be sourced.
- An MSN was issued 8 November 2021 (shared previously).

Mitomycin 2mg and 10mg injection

- Mitomycin 2mg and 10mg vials are out of stock with no date for resupply.

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

- 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).

Sarilumab (Kevzara) 200mg/1.14ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes – unlicensed supply for the treatment of COVID-19

- Unlicensed supplies of sarilumab (Kevzara) 200mg/1.14ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes sourced to treat patients with COVID-19 are out of stock. There is no confirmed resupply date.
- Supplies of UK licensed sarilumab (Kevzara) pre-filled syringes and pre-filled pens remain available for licensed indications only and should not be used to treat patients with COVID-19.
- An MSN was issued 3 December 2021 (attached).

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 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 supplier, are out of stock with resupply expected February 2022.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.

TICE strain Bacillus of Calmette-Guerin (OncoTICE) 12.5mg powder for reconstitution for instillation vials

- Supplies of OncoTICE are unable to meet full UK demand and weekly wholesaler quotas have been applied to all customers to restrict supplies to 90% of usual requirement for the foreseeable future.
- The British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS) have developed [clinical guidelines](#) on risk stratification to aid patient prioritisation.
- Specialist importers have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.
- An MSN was issued 3 December 2021 (shared previously).

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

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 are out of stock until April 2022.
- 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.
- A Supply Disruption Alert ([SDA](#)) was issued 29 July 2021.

Tocilizumab (RoActemra) 162mg/0.9ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes and pre-filled pens

- RoActemra 162mg/0.9ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes and pre-filled pens are in limited supply until late March 2022.
- An updated [SDA](#) was issued on 23 December 2021.

Tocilizumab (RoActemra) 80mg, 200mg and 400mg solution for infusion vials

- RoActemra 80mg vials are out of stock with no confirmed resupply date.
- Limited supplies of RoActemra 200mg and 400mg vials are currently available.
- Allocations have been put in place at a Trust level, to safeguard remaining stock.
- An MSN was issued 3 December 2021 (attached).

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

- Syner-KINASE 10,000IU and 25,000IU injection are out of stock until March 2022.
- 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 on the [SPS portal](#).
- An MSN was issued 27 May 2021 (shared previously).

Verteporfin (Visudyne) 15mg powder for solution for infusion

- Limited supplies of UK licensed Visudyne are available with stock restricted to the 4 ocular cancer centres only.
- Full resupply is expected during Q1 2022.
- Unlicensed imports cannot currently be sourced by specialist importer companies.
- An MSN was issued 27 May 2021 (shared previously).

Voriconazole 200mg injection

- Fresenius Kabi are out of stock until late January 2022.
- Pfizer are in stock and can support an uplift in demand.
- Bowmed are in stock but cannot support an uplift in demand.

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

Orals

Chloral hydrate 143.3mg/5ml oral solution

- Chloral hydrate 143.3mg in 5ml oral solution is out of stock until February 2022.
- 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 late January 2022.
- Generic clomifene 50mg tablets remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

Cloral betaine 707mg tablets

- Pharmanovia, sole supplier, are out of stock with resupply to be confirmed.
- 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.
- 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 April 2022.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.
- Colestyramine light 4g sugar free sachets remain available.

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 | Active ingredients | Anticipated resupply date | Management Advice |
|------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| Qlaira | Estradiol valerate / Dienogest (various strengths) | w/c 18 Apr 2022 | See SmPC- Qlaira for full list of ingredients. There are no exact equivalent preparations available in the UK market. Clinicians are advised to refer to CKS guidance and BNF 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.
- An SSP was issued on 12 March 2020.
- An MSN was issued 12 March 2020 (shared previously).

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

Histamine (H2) antagonists

- Famotidine 20mg and 40mg tablets are currently available.
- Supplies of cimetidine 200mg and 400mg tablets are currently available.
- Cimetidine 800mg tablets are out of stock with resupply expected w/c 10 January 2022.
- 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 1** in the Appendix for a full update on the availability of all HRT products.

Estradiol (FemSeven) transdermal patch range

- Theramex have confirmed that FemSeven Mono 100 patches will be out of stock until February 2022.
- FemSeven Sequi patches will be out of stock until June 2022.
- Specialist importers can source unlicensed products. Lead times vary.

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.

Isosorbide mononitrate (Imdur) 60mg modified release tablets

- Topridge, sole supplier, is 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 with resupply date to be confirmed.
- 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.
- Subject to regulatory approval, intermittent supplies of metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution with a reduced shelf life are being released by Rosemont Pharmaceuticals.
- Limited supplies of metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution are being made available by Colonis, however, this is unable to support full demand.
- Long term supply issues of metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution may be expected pending regulatory investigation outcomes.
- An MSN was issued 13 September 2021 (shared previously).

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

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.

Prazosin (Hypovase) 500microgram tablets

- Hypovase 500 microgram tablets are out of stock until mid-January 2022. Pfizer are the sole supplier of prazosin 500 microgram tablets in the UK.
- Alternative alpha blockers remain available and can support an uplift in demand.
- Specialist importers have indicated that unlicensed imports can be sourced, lead times vary.
- An [SDA](#) was issued on 25 November 2021.

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).

Sulfasalazine (Salazopyrin-EN) gastro-resistant 500mg tablets

- Pfizer have limited supplies of Salazopyrin EN-Tabs until full resupply at the end of February 2022.
- Generic versions of sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets remain available.
- An SSP was issued on 26 November 2021.
- An MSN was issued 29 November 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 21 December 2021 (attached).

Varenicline (Champix) 0.5mg and 1mg tablets

- In June, Pfizer, the sole supplier of Champix, stopped the distribution of all Champix 0.5mg and 1mg tablets due to the presence of nitrosamine impurities above Pfizer's acceptable level of daily intake in several lots.
- There is no date for resupply and no availability of varenicline products until further notice. There are currently no alternative suppliers of varenicline tablets.
- The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) initiated a class 2 medicines [recall \(EL 21 A/25\)](#) of all strengths of Champix tablets on 14 October 2021.
- An updated [SDA](#) was issued 28 October 2021.

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

Others

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 per ml injection remains available and can be prescribed as an alternative.
- An MSN was issued 2 October 2020 (shared previously).

Diclofenac (Voltarol Ophtha Multidose) 0.1% eye drops 5ml

- Laboratoires Thea are out of stock until mid-March 2022.
- Voltarol Ophtha unit dose packs (preservative free) remain available and can fully support during this time.

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.
- 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).

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 is out of stock until mid-April 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

Vaccines

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

Discontinuations

Chlorpromazine (Largactil) 50mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules (Sanofi)

- Sanofi, sole supplier is discontinuing Largactil 50mg/2ml ampoules in mid-January 2022.
- Alternative neuroleptic agents remain available.

Codeine 60mg/ml solution for injection ampoules (Torbay)

- Torbay, sole supplier is discontinuing codeine 60mg/ml injection at the end of January 2022.
- Alternative opioids remain available.

Felodipine 5mg modified release/ramipril 5mg (Triapin) tablets (Sanofi)

- Sanofi, sole supplier is discontinuing Triapin 5mg/5mg modified-release tablets in mid-January 2022.
- Triapin 2.5mg/2.5mg modified-release tablets currently remain available.
- Tablets containing the individual constituents also remain available.

Resolved

Atorvastatin (Lipitor) 20mg chewable tablets (7/12/21)

Cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution sugar free (15/12/21)

Conjugated oestrogens with medroxyprogesterone (Premique Low Dose) 300 microgram/1.5mg modified-release tablets (23/12/21)

Estradiol (Estring) 7.5micrograms/24hours vaginal delivery system (21/12/21)

Estradiol valerate (Progynova) 2mg tablets (06/12/21)

Gentamicin 0.3% and hydrocortisone acetate 1% (Gentisone HC) Ear Drops (16/12/21)

Heparin sodium 500units/500ml & 2,000units/L infusion bags (6/12/21)

Medroxyprogesterone (Sayana Press) 104mg/0.65mL suspension for injection pre-filled syringe (24/12/21)

Mitoxantrone 2mg/ml solution for infusion vials (14/12/21)

Mivacurium 2mg/ml solution for injection ampoules (15/12/21)

Promethazine (Phenergan) 25mg/ml solution for injection (15/12/21)

Sodium cromoglicate (Nalcrom) 100mg capsules (1/12/21)

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

Appendix

Table 1: HRT availability and anticipated resolution dates

| Ingredient (s) | Manufacturer | Brand | Strength | Current Availability | Anticipated resupply date |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---|
| Oestrogen Only | | | | | |
| Oral preparations | | | | | |
| Estradiol hemihydrate | Viartis | Elleste Solo | 1mg | In stock | |
| | | | 2mg | In stock | |
| | Viartis | 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 | | |

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---|
| | Theramex | FemSeven Mono | 50 microgram | In Stock | |
| | | | 75 microgram | In Stock | |
| | | | 100 microgram | Long term OOS | Resupplies due Feb 2022 |
| | Bayer | Progynova TS | 50 microgram | In stock | |
| | | | 100 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 | |
| | Gedeon Richter | Lenzetto transdermal spray | 1.53mg/spray | In stock | |
| | Novo Nordisk | Vagifem vaginal tablets | 10 microgram | In stock | |
| | Gedeon Richter | Vagirux vaginal tablets | 10 microgram | In stock | |
| | Advanz | Estradiol vaginal tablets (generic) | 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 | Limited supplies | Limited supplies expected until w/c 21 Feb 2022 |
| | Besins | Imvaggis pessary | 0.03mg | 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 | |

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

| Combined HRTs (Progestogen and oestrogen) | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------|--|
| Continuous combined therapy | | | | | |
| Oral preparations | | | | | |
| Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate | Viartis | Elleste Duet Conti | 2mg / 1mg | In stock | |
| | Novo Nordisk | Kliofem | 2mg/ 1mg | In stock | |
| | | Kliovance | 1mg/ 500 microgram | In stock | |
| Estradiol hemihydrate /Dydrogesterone | Viartis | 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 | |
| | | | 1mg/5mg | In stock | |
| low dose conjugated oestrogen/ medroxyprogesterone | Pfizer | Premique | 300 microgram /1.5mg | In stock | |
| Estradiol hemihydrate/progesterone | Theramex | Bijuve | 1mg/100mg | In stock | |
| 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 | Viartis | Elleste Duet | 1mg/1mg | In stock | |
| | | | 2mg/1mg | In stock | |
| Femoston | | 1mg/10mg | In stock | | |
| | | 2mg/10mg | In stock | | |

COMMERCIAL-SENSITIVE

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Estradiol hemihydrate / norethisterone acetate | Novo Nordisk | Novofem | 1mg/1mg | In stock | |
| a) Estradiol hemihydrate b)Estradiol hemihydrate/norethisterone acetate c)Estradiol hemihydrate | | Trisequens | a)1mg b)2mg/1mg c)1mg | In stock | |
| Estradiol valerate/ medroxyprogesterone acetate | Orion | Tridestra | 2mg/20mg | In stock | |
| 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) estradiol hemihydrate b) Estradiol hemihydrate /levonorgestrel | | FemSeven Sequi | a) 1.5mg b) 1.5mg /1.5mg | Long term OOS | Resupplies due June 2022 |
| Gonadomimetic(s) | | | | | |
| Oral preparations | | | | | |
| Tibolone | Organon | Livial | 2.5mg | In stock | |
| | Advanz | Tibolone (generic) | 2.5mg | In stock | |
| | Aristo | Tibolone (generic) | 2.5mg | In stock | |