

<p><a href="#">Shortage of Estriol (Imvaggis) 0.03mg pessary</a></p>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date: 26 May 2023</p> <hr/> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, prescribers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• review patients to determine if this is still the most suitable therapy;</li> <li>• consider prescribing an alternative estriol vaginal product (or estradiol 10mcg vaginal tablets if alternative estriol products are not suitable), ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients, and is counselled on administration, dosing, and potential side effects (see supporting information below).</li> </ul> <p>For Alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p><a href="#">Shortage of Trifluoperazine 5mg tablets</a></p>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date: 15 September 2023</p> <hr/> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <p>Parallel imports of trifluoperazine 5mg tablets are available and can cover the demand. Orders can be placed directly with the following suppliers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sigma Pharmaceutical Plc (email <a href="mailto:cs@sigmaplc.com">cs@sigmaplc.com</a> or <a href="mailto:info@sigmaplc.com">info@sigmaplc.com</a> for further information)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Shortage of Fluoxetine 20mg/5mL oral solution and fluoxetine (Olena) 20mg dispersible tablets</a></p>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date –</p> <hr/> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Where patients have insufficient supply of fluoxetine 20mg dispersible tablets to last until the re-supply date, prescribers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• not initiate any new patients on fluoxetine 20mg dispersible tablets</li> <li>• review patients to determine if they are able to swallow solid dosage forms and consider prescribing an equivalent dose of fluoxetine using the capsules, where available strengths allow this</li> <li>• where patients are not able to swallow solid dosage forms, consider prescribing an equivalent dose of fluoxetine using the capsules, where available strengths allow this, the contents of which can be emptied out and dispersed in water (off-label use) and ensure they are counselled on how to do this (see Supporting Information); or</li> <li>• where the above options are not considered appropriate, and a liquid formulation is required, consider an alternative selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) liquid preparation (see <a href="#">alternatives</a>), taking into account the indication for use, previous treatments tried, current fluoxetine dose, and also the need to seek specialist advice on more complex patients being treated for depression or patients with bulimia nervosa.</li> </ul> <p>For Alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

<p><a href="#">Shortage of Pethidine 50mg tablets</a></p>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date: 6 October 2023</p> <p><b>Please note these are not recommended for prescribing within primary care</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <p>The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed Pethidine 50mg tablets (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alium</li> <li>• Mawdsley's</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Shortage of Ketoconazole (Dandrazol) 2% shampoo</a></p>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date: 29 December 2023</p> <hr/> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Prescribers are advised to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• review the need for an anti-fungal shampoo and to not prescribe this product for dandruff; patients should be encouraged to manage mild dandruff with long term over the counter treatments and self care, further information is available from the <a href="#">NHS England website</a></li> <li>• where prescribed treatment is necessary, steroid scalp application should be considered</li> </ul> <p>For over the counter alternatives please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p><a href="#">Shortage of Pilocarpine hydrochloride 4% eye drops</a></p>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date: 9 June 2023</p> <p>For Alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p><a href="#">Shortage of Quetiapine (Sondate XL) modified-release 50mg tablets</a></p>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date updated from 21 Apr 2023 to 14 May 2023</p> <hr/> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, prescribers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consider prescribing an alternative brand of quetiapine modified-release 50mg tablets.</li> </ul> <p>For Alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

<a href="#">Shortage of Sofradex ear/eye drops</a>	<p>Anticipated resupply date updated from 5 May 2023 to 6 October 2023</p> <hr/> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Review the need for Sofradex drops. Prescribe an alternative combination drop suggested in the alternatives section, depending on whether treatment is for the eye or the ear.</p> <p>For alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<a href="#">Shortage of Rifampicin 300mg / Isoniazid 150mg tablets</a>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date: 26 May 2023</p> <p>For actions, alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<a href="#">Shortage of Methylphenidate prolonged-release tablets</a>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date Xenidate XL 27mg tablets (Viatris UK Healthcare Ltd) 28 July 2023 Concerta XL 27mg tablets (Janssen-Cilag Ltd) 2 June 2023</p> <p>For actions, alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<a href="#">Shortage of Capimune (ciclosporin) 25mg, 50mg and 100mg capsules</a>	<p>Anticipated re-supply dates for Capimune (ciclosporin) 25mg, 50mg and 100mg capsules updated from 30 April 2023 to 31 May 2023.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Primary Care</b></p> <p>Where patients have insufficient supplies of Capimune brand of ciclosporin 25mg, 50mg and 100mg capsules to last until the re-supply date, GP prescribers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seek advice from the appropriate specialist team on switching to an available brand of ciclosporin (Deximune), ensuring appropriate monitoring requirements are followed (see supporting information)</li> <li>• ensure patients are counselled regarding any changes to their medicines and where to seek advice if needed</li> </ul> <p>For actions, alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<a href="#">Shortage of Clobetasone 0.05% ointment</a>	<p>Anticipated re-supply date: 30 June 2023</p> <hr/> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Where patients have insufficient supplies until the resupply date, and unable to obtain further supplies, prescribers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consider prescribing an alternative moderately potent topical corticosteroid (See Alternatives)</li> </ul> <p>For alternatives, considerations and background please see <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

All Serious Shortage Protocols (SPP's) can be found:

<https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps>

**Shortage update taken from SPS Medicines Supply Toolkit on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 Information provided by DHSC and NHSEI Medicines Supply Teams and published on Specialist Pharmacy Services Medicines Supply Tool. Not formally reviewed by**

**NHS Kent and Medway Medicines Optimisation. Practices are encouraged to register for access to the SPS website <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/> and access this tool directly in real time.**