



15 November 2019

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

PETHIDINE 50MG TABLETS

Priority: Level 2¹

Valid until: early to mid-December 2019

Issue

1. Teva and Martindale are out of stock of pethidine 50mg tablets. There are no alternative suppliers.
2. Teva anticipate resupply in week commencing 2 December 2019 and Martindale in mid-December 2019.
3. Unlicensed pethidine 50mg capsules are available from Martindale.

Advice and Actions

4. Patients without sufficient supplies of pethidine 50mg tablets to last until the resolution date, should be reviewed by a clinician to assess their ongoing need.
5. Where necessary, clinicians may wish to obtain specialist advice from local pain teams or substance misuse teams on alternative treatment options or dosage reduction.
6. For patients who require a supply of pethidine 50mg tablets, clinicians can prescribe the unlicensed pethidine 50mg capsules (see additional information below).

Additional Information

7. Unlicensed pethidine 50mg capsules can be ordered from Martindale using the following PIP code: P034790
8. Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant health board guidance and local governance procedures. Please also see the links below for further information:
 - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC)
 - [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
 - [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS)

Enquiries

9. Any enquiries should be directed to – PharmacyTeam@gov.scot