Chief Medical Officer Directorate Pharmacy and Medicines Division



22 November 2019

## **Medicine Supply Alert Notice**

## Fluorouracil 5% (Efudix®) cream

Priority: Level 2\*

Valid until: w/c 16 December 2019

#### Issue

- 1. Fluorouracil 5% (Efudix<sup>®</sup>) cream will be out of stock from week commencing 25 November until week commencing 16 December 2019 due to manufacturing issues.
- 2. Limited supplies of parallel imports and unlicensed imports are available.

### **Advice and Actions**

- 3. Pharmacies should order parallel imports via their usual wholesaler routes, or by contacting suppliers directly.
- 4. For patients without sufficient supplies of Efudix® cream (including parallel imports), prescribers should consider prescribing an unlicensed import.

#### **Additional Information**

5. The following parallel importers have currently confirmed availability of Efudix® cream, however there may be other companies that can source.

Supplier	Contact details for pharmacies to place orders
Nupharm Ltd	Via wholesalers (Phoenix)
Drugs R Us	0208 423 3800
Chemilines Group	0208 799 7888 (or via multiple wholesalers)

- 6. The following specialist importers have currently confirmed availability of unlicensed fluorouracil 5% cream:
  - Alium Medical
  - Clinigen Group Plc
  - Target Healthcare Ltd
  - WEP Clinical
  - Mawdsleys
- 7. Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant health board guidance and local governance procedures. Please see the links below for further information:
  - Prescribing unlicensed medicines, General Medical Council (GMC),
  - <u>The supply of unlicensed medicinal products</u>, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA),

<sup>\*</sup>https://nhsnss.org/media/3874/medicine-supply-alert-notices-definitions-of-classifications-21-october-2019.docx

• <u>Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials</u>, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS).

# **Enquiries**

8. Any enquiries should be directed to <a href="mailto:PharmacyTeam@gov.scot">PharmacyTeam@gov.scot</a>