



21 October 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

DDAVP® (Desmopressin) 0.01% w/v (100 micrograms/ml) intranasal solution

Priority: Level 2*
Valid until: mid-2021

Issue

1. DDAVP® (Desmopressin) 0.01% w/v (100 micrograms/ml) intranasal solution will be out of stock from the end of October until mid-2021.
2. Supplies of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml nasal spray (10 micrograms per actuation) remain available from Aspire Pharma Ltd and can fully support demand during this time for patients on doses ≥ 10 microgram.
3. Unlicensed imports of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution can be sourced.

Advice and Actions

4. Where patients have insufficient supplies, clinicians should:
 - review all patients prescribed DDAVP® 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution for vasopressin-sensitive cranial diabetes insipidus and ensure that patients have an alternative management plan in place as soon as possible (see patient safety alert [here](#)).
 - prescribe desmopressin nasal spray for patients on doses ≥ 10 microgram, ensuring they are counselled on how to use the spray and how to administer the correct dose (see additional information section), or;
 - if nasal spray not appropriate, prescribe licensed oral products (tablets or lyophilisates) if age appropriate and this route of administration is deemed suitable (see [BNF-c](#) for oral dosing), or;
 - prescribe unlicensed desmopressin oral solution for neonates who are on doses too small to be delivered by the nasal spray or alternative licensed oral preparations (see [BNF-c](#) for oral dosing), or;
 - prescribe unlicensed imports of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution. Prescribers should work with local pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see additional information section).

Additional Information

Clinical Information

5. Clinicians are advised to take into consideration indications and age of patient when prescribing an alternative desmopressin preparation and follow the advice in the SPCs below:
 - [Desmopressin \(DDAVP®\) 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution](#)
 - [Desmopressin 10micrograms/dose nasal spray \(Aspire Pharma Ltd\)](#)

- [Desmopressin oral tablets](#)
- [Desmopressin oral lyophilisates](#)

Product	Desmopressin (DDAVP) Intranasal solution	Desmopressin 100mcg/ml nasal spray
Presentation	Glass bottle fitted with a dropper set to be used with enclosed plastic rhinyle tubes measuring volumes from 0.025 to 0.20 mL.	Glass bottle fitted with a precompression pump spray device, to which a nasal adaptor is attached
Strength	100microgram/mL	100microgram/mL
Dosage that can be delivered	2.5microgram (0.025mL) up to 20microgram (0.20mL)	10 microgram per actuation
Comment	Used for administering smaller intranasal doses that cannot be provided by the nasal spray	

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

6. The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Alium Medical
- Mawdsleys Unlicensed

7. Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Board or local governance procedures. Please 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

Enquiries

8. Enquiries from Health Boards or healthcare professionals should be directed in the first instance to PharmacyTeam@gov.scot (primary care) or NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.scot (secondary care).