



21 October 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Dulcolax[®] (bisacodyl) 5mg suppositories

Priority: Level 2*
Valid until: early December 2020

Issue

1. Dulcolax[®] 5mg suppositories are out of stock until early December 2020.
2. Dulcolax[®] 10mg suppositories remain available.

Advice and Actions

3. Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, clinicians should:
 - review if treatment is still required;
 - consider switching to alternative preparations (see additional information below); and
 - counsel patients on the different products and dosing regimen prescribed.

Additional Information

Clinical Advice from UKMI

4. There are alternative laxatives that can be used via the oral or rectal route for constipation. Please refer to the [BNFc](#) for further information.
5. If being used in children for bowel clearance before surgery or radiological investigations, consult local guidelines or unit conducting the procedure for consideration of alternative agent (e.g. senna and sodium picosulfate).

Enquiries

6. 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).