



23 October 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Ferrous Fumarate 322mg/Folic Acid 350microgram (Pregaday®) tablets (Recipharm)

Priority: Level 2* - update to MSAN (2020)65

Valid until: late November 2020

Issue

1. Pregaday® tablets are out of stock until **late November 2020**.
2. UKMi have provided clinical advice on switching to alternative iron and folic acid containing products (see additional information).
3. Galfer FA® capsules (ferrous fumarate 305mg and folic acid 350micrograms) were discontinued earlier this year.
4. Ferrograd® Folic modified-release tablets (ferrous sulfate 325mg and folic acid 350micrograms) contain the same amount of elemental iron and folic acid as Pregaday®. However, the manufacturer cannot support any uplift in demand and modified-release preparations of iron are less suitable for prescribing (see [BNF](#)), as they may not be absorbed as well.

Advice and Actions

5. All clinicians in primary and secondary care who prescribe Pregaday® tablets should consider prescribing individual components as iron and folic acid (see additional information).

Additional Information

6. Pregaday® tablets are a combination product containing ferrous fumarate 322mg (equivalent to 100mg elemental iron) and folic acid 350micrograms. They are licensed for use during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy for prophylaxis against iron deficiency and megaloblastic anaemia of pregnancy and are not intended as a treatment for established megaloblastic anaemia (see [SPC](#)).
7. There are no other suitable licensed combination products that contain similar amounts of iron and folic acid, therefore consider prescribing the following separate components:
 - Ferrous fumarate 322mg tablets and ferrous fumarate 305mg capsules contain approximately 100mg elemental iron
 - Folic acid tablets (licensed preparations only available in 400 microgram strength)
8. Other ferrous fumarate preparations containing lower amounts of elemental iron are available (see [BNF](#)), if deemed more appropriate.
9. It should be noted that some women may not require folic acid if they are already taking pregnancy vitamins containing folic acid 400micrograms (including Healthy Start women's vitamins).
10. For further information please see the:

[British Society for Haematology guidelines on the management of iron deficiency in pregnancy.](#)

Enquiries

11. 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).