



23 October 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Salazopyrin En-Tabs[®] (sulfasalazine) 500mg tablets

Priority: Level 1*

Valid until: early December 2020

Issue

1. Pfizer are out of stock of Salazopyrin En-Tabs[®] until early December 2020.
2. Generic versions of sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets remain available.
3. UKMI have advised there are no known differences in bioavailability between the branded and generic products and they can be considered interchangeable.

Advice and Actions

4. For patients with insufficient supplies, community pharmacists may supply sulfasalazine gastroresistant 500mg tablets. Patient reassurance may be needed due to differences in packaging.
5. If the above option is not deemed appropriate, clinicians should:
 - consider prescribing sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets generically to enable any manufacturer's product to be dispensed; and
 - counsel patients regarding the switch from branded to generic at the point of dispensing.

Additional Information

6. See SPCs below for further information:
 - [Salazopyrin En-Tabs[®] 500mg](#)
 - [Sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets](#)

Enquiries

7. 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).