



9 November 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Zonisamide capsules various strengths (Glenmark and Teva)

Priority: Level 2* - update to MSAN(2020)89

Valid until: mid-February 2021

Issue

1. Due to changes in the availability of zonisamide capsules from Teva UK and Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, we have provided updated information within this communication
2. Please see a supply overview for zonisamide capsules below:

Product	Supplier	Current Stock Position	Anticipated resupply date
Zonisamide 25 mg capsules	Eisai	In stock	N/A
	Teva	Out of stock	Mid-February 2021
	Glenmark	In stock	N/A
Zonisamide 50mg capsules	Eisai	In stock	N/A
	Teva	Out of stock	Mid-February 2021
	Glenmark	In stock	N/A
Zonisamide 100mg capsules	Eisai	In stock	N/A
	Teva	Out of stock	Early December 2020
	Glenmark	Out of stock	Mid-November 2020

Advice and Actions

3. Where patients have insufficient supplies of any strength of zonisamide capsules (Teva or Glenmark) to last until the re-supply date, clinicians should:
 - work with local pharmacy teams to understand the availability of alternative manufacturer's zonisamide capsules and prescribe accordingly;
 - inform patients of the change in manufacturer's product and advise them to report any changes in seizure frequency to their GP; and
 - if further advice is needed, or complications arise advice should be sought from secondary care specialists.

Additional Information

4. Zonisamide is a category 2 anti-epileptic drug as designated by the MHRA. For these drugs the need for continued supply of a particular manufacturer's product should be based on clinical

judgement and consultation with the patient and/or carer considering factors such as seizure frequency and treatment history.

5. As a result of this shortage patients may have to switch to an alternative manufacturer's zonisamide capsules. Clinicians advise that prescribers should closely monitor patients for any changes in seizure frequency and/or breakthrough seizures when they are switched over to alternative manufacturer's zonisamide capsules.
6. Please refer to the BNF and SPCs for further information on alternative preparations:
 - [Zonisamide BNF](#)
 - [Zonisamide capsules SmPC](#)
 - [The use of generic antiepileptics in patients with epilepsy](#)

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).