



17 November 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Dulcolax® (bisacodyl) 5mg and 10mg suppositories

Priority: Level 2* - update to MSAN(2020)102

Valid until: various, see table below

Issue

1. Due to changes in the availability of bisacodyl suppositories, we have provided updated information within this communication.
2. Please see a supply overview for bisacodyl suppositories below:

Product	Supplier	Current Stock Position	Anticipated resupply date
Bisacodyl 5mg suppositories	Sanofi	Out of stock	w/c 23 November 2020
Bisacodyl 10mg suppositories	Sanofi	Out of stock	Early February 2021
	Martindale	Discontinued	N/A

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

4. Please refer to the [BNF](#) or [BNFc](#) for selection of alternative laxative.
5. If bisacodyl suppositories are being used 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).