



20 April 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: End July 2020

Issue

1. Acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules are out of stock until the end of July 2020.
2. Acetazolamide immediate release 250mg tablets remain available.
3. Limited supplies of unlicensed imports of acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules have been sourced (see supporting information below for further details).

Advice and Actions

4. For patients with insufficient supplies, clinicians should consider prescribing acetazolamide immediate release 250mg tablets.
5. See the UKMi memo (link below) for further advice about management and switching from acetazolamide modified-release capsules to immediate release formulations.
6. If acetazolamide 250mg tablets are not appropriate, consider prescribing one of the following unlicensed medicines:
 - acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules
 - acetazolamide oral suspension (various strengths available)

Additional Information

7. Please see the following UKMi memo for further advice:
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/acetazolamide-250mg-prolonged-release-capsules-advanz-teva/>
8. The following specialist importers have currently confirmed availability of unlicensed acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules (please note, there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
 - Target Healthcare Ltd
 - Waymade PLC
9. Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Board or local governance procedures. Please see the links below for further information:
 - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC),
 - [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
 - [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Enquiries

10. Enquiries from Health Boards or healthcare professionals should be directed in the first instance to PharmacyTeam@gov.scot (primary care) or NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.net (secondary care).