



25 June 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Lodoxamide 0.1% (Alomide®) eye drops

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: 24 August 2020

Issue

1. Novartis, sole supplier of lodoxamide (Alomide®) 0.1% eye drops, is out of stock until 24th August 2020.
2. UKMi and the Royal College of Ophthalmologists have provided clinical advice regarding alternative eye drops.

Advice and Actions

3. Where the patient has insufficient supplies to last until the resupply date, clinicians should consider prescribing sodium cromoglycate eye drops. If that is not considered suitable, antihistamine eye drops are an alternative (see additional information below).

Additional Information

4. Lodoxamide, a mast cell stabiliser, is licensed for the treatment of adults and children from age 4 years with non-infectious allergic conjunctivitis and may be effective against other ocular diseases where type I immediate hypersensitivity (or mast cells) plays a major role in the inflammatory process. Dose is one or two drops in each eye four times a day.
5. An alternative agent in the same therapeutic class, with an identical dose regimen, is sodium cromoglycate eye drops, licensed for seasonal and perennial allergic conjunctivitis in adults and children.
6. Other preparations used for the topical treatment of inflammation and allergic conjunctivitis include antihistamines (e.g. azelastine, olopatadine, epinastine, antazoline, and ketotifen). Please refer to local formulary or guidelines, BNF and SPCs for further information.

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.net (secondary care).