



26 August 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Diazepam (Diazemuls®) 10mg/2ml emulsion for injection

Priority: Level 2* - update to MSAN (2020)22
Valid until: February 2021

Issue

1. Accord are experiencing a long-term out of stock of Diazepam (Diazemuls®) 10mg/2ml emulsion for injection; an anticipated resupply date has been advised for **February 2021**.
2. Unlicensed imports are **not** available.
3. Recommended clinical alternatives are available, however there are insufficient quantities of lorazepam 4mg/ml injection (Ativan®) to meet additional demand to cover the supply issue of Diazemuls® so please only order this drug in line with historic demand.

Advice and Actions

4. Where Diazepam 10mg/2ml emulsion for injection is unavailable, clinicians should:
 - review the UKMi memo for further advice and switch to alternative agents as appropriate;
 - review local PGD's to understand if use of alternative agents is included.

UKMi Advice

5. UKMi have advised the following management guidelines for switching patients to alternative agents:
 - Non-parenteral alternatives include;
 - Rectal diazepam (2.5mg/1ml, 5mg/2.5ml and 10mg/2.5ml), licensed for use in adults and children epileptic convulsions.
 - Buccal midazolam (2.5mg/0.5ml, 5mg/1ml, 7.5mg/1.5ml, 10mg/1ml and 10mg/2ml) – licensed in infants, toddlers, children and adolescents (3months-18 years), off label use in adults, for prolonged, acute, convulsive seizures.
 - Parenteral alternatives include;
 - Diazepam 10mg/2ml solution for injection- licensed for epilepticus in children and adults.
 - Lorazepam 4mg/1ml solution injection- licensed for epilepticus in adults.
6. Please note, the use of alternative agents which are not covered under local PGD's will require the PGD to be reviewed and amended where applicable. Further advice on alternative options can be found in the UKMi memo; <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-diazemuls-diazepam-5mgml-emulsion-for-injection/>

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).