



29 September 2020

## **Medicine Supply Alert Notice**

### **Zonisamide 50mg and 100mg Capsules (Teva)**

**Priority: Level 2\***  
**Valid until: Late November 2020**

#### **Issue**

1. Teva are out of stock of zonisamide 50mg and 100mg capsules until late November 2020.
2. Teva remain in stock of zonisamide 25mg capsules but cannot support any increase in demand on this strength.
3. All strengths of zonisamide capsules remain available from Glenmark Pharmaceuticals and Eisai Ltd.

#### **Advice and Actions**

4. Where patients have insufficient supplies of zonisamide 50mg and/or 100mg capsules (Teva) to last until the re-supply date, clinicians should:
  - work with local pharmacy teams to understand the availability of alternative manufacturer's zonisamide 50mg and 100mg 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**

5. 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.
6. 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.
7. Please refer to the BNF and SPCs for further information on alternative preparations
  - [Zonisamide BNF](#)
  - [Zonisamide 50mg capsules SmPC](#)
  - [Zonisamide 100mg capsules SmPC](#)

## **Enquiries**

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