



29 September 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Metronidazole (Acea®) 0.75% gel (Ferndale Pharmaceuticals)

Priority: Level 2* - update to MSAN (2020)71

Valid until: January 2021

Issue

1. Acea® 0.75% gel is out of stock **and no re-supplies are expected before January 2021.**
2. Metrogel® 0.75% gel and Rozex® 0.75% gel remain available.

Advice and Actions

3. Where the patient has insufficient supplies to last until the resupply date clinicians should:
 - consider prescribing metronidazole 0.75% gel generically so pharmacies can supply an equivalent preparation of an alternative product; and
 - counsel patients on the use of the alternative product at the point of dispensing.

Additional Information

4. UKMi in consultation with dermatology specialists have advised that metronidazole 0.75% gel products (licensed for the treatment of acute inflammatory exacerbations of rosacea) are interchangeable and are all licensed for twice daily application.
5. Patients should be counselled by the pharmacist on any changes to the patient's normal brand to avoid medication errors.
6. See SPCs below for further information:
 - [Metrogel® 0.75% gel](#)
 - [Rozex® 0.75% gel](#)
 - [Acea® 0.75% gel](#)

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).