NHS Circular: MSAN (2020) 92

Chief Medical Officer Directorate

Pharmacy and Medicines Division



29 September 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Enalapril 20mg tablets (various suppliers)

Priority: Level 2* - update to MSAN (2020)72

Valid until: Mid-end October 2020

Issue

- 1. All suppliers of enalapril 20mg tablets are out of stock until mid-end October 2020.
- 2. Alternate strengths of enalapril (2.5mg, 5mg and 10mg) tablets remain available and will be able to support increased demand.
- 3. Unlicensed supplies of enalapril 20mg tablets can be sourced.

Advice and Actions

- 4. Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, prescribers should:
 - work with local pharmacy teams to understand availability of alternative strengths and issue a
 prescription to make up the required dose of enalapril; or
 - consider prescribing unlicensed imports, if supplies of enalapril tablets are unavailable. Prescribers should work with local pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see additional information).

Additional Information

- 5. The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed enalapril 20mg tablets (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
 - Alium Medical
 - Clinigen Group
 - Durbin PLC
 - Mawdsley's Unlicensed
 - Target Healthcare
 - Waymade PLC
- 6. 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)
 - <u>Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials</u>, Royal Pharmaceutical Society

^{*}https://nhsnss.org/media/3874/medicine-supply-alert-notices-definitions-of-classifications-21-october-2019.docx

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).