



8 March 2021

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Colestid® (colestipol) orange and plain 5g granules sachets

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: end of May 2021

Issue

1. Colestid® Orange sachets are out of stock until the end of May 2021.
2. Colestid® Plain sachets are out of stock with a resupply date to be confirmed.
3. Other bile-acid sequestrants remain available.
4. Supplies of unlicensed imports of colestipol sachets have been sourced.

Advice and Actions

5. For patients with insufficient supplies, clinicians should consider:
 - prescribing an alternative bile-acid sequestrant (see UKMi memo for further information); or
 - prescribing unlicensed colestipol sachets if alternative medicines are not appropriate. Prescribers should work with pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see additional information below).

Additional Information

6. Please see the [UKMi memo](#) for further information on prescribing alternative bile-acid sequestrants.
7. The following specialist importer(s) have currently confirmed availability of unlicensed colestipol sachets (please note, there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
 - Alium Medical
 - Durbin PLC
 - Target Healthcare Ltd
 - Waymade PLC
8. 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.
 - [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
 - [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society
 - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC)

Enquiries

9. 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).