



8 March 2020

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Docusate sodium 100mg capsules

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: June 2021 - update MSAN(2020)119

Issue

1. Limited supplies of docusate sodium 100mg capsules are available until **June 2021**.
2. Docusate sodium 50mg/5ml oral solution remains available.

Advice and Actions

3. If supplies of docusate sodium 100mg capsules are not available, clinicians should consider:
 - reviewing if treatment is still required;
 - switching to alternative laxative therapy (see additional information below);
 - prescribing docusate sodium 50mg/5ml oral solution where a change in laxative is not appropriate; and
 - counselling patients on the different products and dosing regimen prescribed.

Additional Information

4. In the event that docusate sodium is unavailable, laxative choice is largely dictated by what the patient has tried before and finds acceptable. Please refer to the [BNF](#) or [BNFc](#) for information on alternative laxatives.

Enquiries

5. 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).