



29 August 2023

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Phenytoin sodium 100mg capsules (Accord)

Priority: Level 3*

Valid until: late December 2023

Issue

1. Phenytoin sodium 100mg capsules (Accord) are out of stock from late August 2023 until late December 2023.
2. Phenytoin sodium 100mg capsules (Flynn Pharma) remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

Advice and Actions

3. Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, prescribers should:
 - consider prescribing phenytoin sodium 100mg capsules (Flynn Pharma), ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and is counselled on the appropriate dose. Advise and signpost patients to seek advice if they experience any issues after switching (see Additional Information below);
 - seek advice from specialists on alternative management options, if the above is not considered appropriate.

Additional Information

Clinical Information

4. Phenytoin sodium 100mg capsules are indicated for control of tonic-clonic seizures, partial seizures and for the prevention and treatment of seizures occurring during or following neurosurgery and/or severe head injury. Phenytoin is also used in the treatment of trigeminal neuralgia, but it should only be used as second line therapy if carbamazepine is ineffective, or patients are intolerant to carbamazepine.
5. Phenytoin is a category 1 anti-epileptic drug, therefore patients should be monitored for loss of seizure control and adverse effects after switching between different manufacturer's products.
6. Please refer to the links below for further information:
 - [SmPC phenytoin sodium 100mg capsules](#)
 - [BNF Epilepsy](#)
 - [Epilepsy | CKS | NICE](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website

7. The UK Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) in conjunction with SPS have launched an online Medicines Supply Tool, which provides up to date information about medicine supply issues.
8. To access the online Medicines Supply Tool you need to register with the [SPS website](#). Registration for access to the website is available to UK healthcare professionals and organisations providing NHS healthcare. The tool is located under the Tools tab and then click on the Medicines Supply option.
9. We encourage prescribers, pharmacy professionals, and pharmacy procurement leads in Scotland to register with the SPS website and use its Medicine Supply Tool in order to stay up to date concerning medicines supply disruptions.
10. Please be aware that while medicines supply issues will appear on the SPS website, some of the recommended actions may not always be appropriate / relevant within the Scottish context.

Enquiries

11. 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).