



10 May 2024

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Sulfadiazine silver (Flamazine®) 1% cream

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: early August 2024

Issue

1. Flamazine® 1% cream 20g, 50g and 500g packs are out of stock until early August 2024.
2. Flamazine® 1% cream 250g packs will be out of stock from mid-May 2024 until early August 2024.
3. Alternative products for the treatment of burns and wound care remain available and can support increased demand.
4. Unlicensed supplies of Flammacerium® and Silvadene® creams have been sourced, lead times vary.

Advice and Actions

5. Clinicians should:

- review if Flamazine® cream is the most appropriate treatment and ensure that where available, it is used sparingly and not for longer than clinically necessary; and
- prioritise any remaining supplies for use in patients with burns.

6. Where there are insufficient supplies of Flamazine® cream, clinicians should:

- consider prescribing an alternative product including Flaminal® gels, UrgoTul® dressings, Acticoat® dressings or Prontosan® gels where appropriate, taking into account the ease of use, patient preference and tolerability (see Additional information); or
- consider prescribing unlicensed Flammacerium® or Silvadene® cream containing sulfadiazine silver 1%, only where licensed alternatives are not appropriate. Prescribers should work with local pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see Additional information); and
- if the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from burns or tissue viability specialists on management options.

Additional Information

7. Flamazine® cream contains silver sulfadiazine, a bacteriostatic and bactericidal agent. It is licensed for the prophylaxis and treatment of infection in burn wounds. It may also be used as an aid to the short-term treatment of infection in leg ulcers and pressure sores, and as an aid to the prophylaxis of infection in skin graft donor sites and extensive abrasions. It is also licensed for the conservative management of finger-tip injuries where pulp, nail loss and/or partial loss of the distal phalanx has occurred. Tubes should be discarded 7 days after opening and the 250g and 500g pots 24 hours after opening. The contents of one container are for the treatment of one person.

Table 1: Examples of antimicrobial wound care products*

Product	Constituents	Uses
Flaminal® Hydro Flaminal® Forte	Debriding gel, absorbent alginate and antimicrobial enzyme system.	Acute and chronic wounds, or wounds at risk of infection: Flaminal® Hydro for slightly to moderately exuding wounds. Flaminal® Forte for wounds with moderate to high amounts of wound exudate.
UrgoClean® Ag dressing UrgoTul® Ag/Silver dressing	Hydro-desloughing pad coated with silver-impregnated micro-adherent healing matrix. Non-adherent conformable contact layer dressing with silverimpregnated micro-adherent healing matrix.	Burns Traumatic wounds Surgical wounds Lower limb wounds Diabetic foot ulcers
Acticoat® antimicrobial barrier dressing	Silver anti-microbial barrier dressing	Partial and full thickness wounds
Prontosan® Wound Gel Prontosan® X (extra thick [highly viscous]) gel	Antimicrobial polyhexanide (0.1% polyhexamethylene biguanide) and a betaine surfactant (0.1% undecylenamidopropyl betaine)	Cleansing, moisturising, and decontamination of skin wounds and burns including: Traumatic wounds Postoperative wounds Chronic skin ulcers (e.g. venous, diabetic or pressure ulcers) Thermal wounds Chemical wounds (acid- and alkali-induced) Radiation-induced wounds Moistening of bandages and wound dressings.

*List is not exhaustive; represents suggestions from tissue viability and burns practitioners

Links to further information

- [SmPC Flamazine® 1% cream](#)
- [BNF - Silver sulfadiazine](#)
- [Product information - Flaminal®](#)
- [Product information - UrgoClean® AG](#)
- [Product information - UrgoTul Ag/Silver](#)
- [Product information - Acticoat](#)
- [Product information - Prontosan Wound Gel](#)
- [Product information - Prontosan Wound Gel X](#)

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

8. The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed products (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Durbin (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Genetech (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Mawdsleys (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Target Healthcare (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Alliance Pharma (cerium nitrate hexahydrate 22mg/g/sulfadiazine silver (Flammacerium®) 10mg/g cream)

9. Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Board or local governance procedures. Unlicensed imports do not undergo any central quality assessment or suitability evaluation. Therefore, any import must be locally assessed in line with local unlicensed medicines processes.

10. 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).

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website

11. 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. 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.

12. We encourage prescribers, pharmacy professionals, and pharmacy procurement leads in Scotland to register with the SPS website and use its Medicine Supply Tool to stay up to date concerning medicines supply disruptions. 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

13. 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).