NHS Circular: MSAN (2024) 53

Chief Medical Officer Directorate Pharmacy and Medicines Division



30 August 2024

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Naloxone (Nyxoid®) 1.8mg/0.1ml nasal spray unit dose

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: w/c 30th September 2024

Issue

- 1. Naloxone (Nyxoid®) 1.8mg/0.1ml nasal spray unit dose is out of stock until w/c 30th September 2024.
- 2. Naloxone 1.26mg/0.1ml nasal spray unit dose remains available and can support a full increase in demand.
- 3. Naloxone (Prenoxad®) 1mg/ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes remain available and can support a full increase in demand.

Advice and Actions

- 4. All community pharmacy contractors, community drug and alcohol services, HM Prisons, the Scottish Ambulance Service, Health Boards and other services who prescribe, supply and/or administer naloxone should note the following:
 - Naloxone 1.26mg/0.1ml nasal spray unit dose should be ordered in accordance with requirements and not over ordered, to maintain availability of supply;
 - Utilise naloxone 1.26mg/0.1ml nasal spray unit dose, considering that any usage in children is off-label, and ensuring the person is not intolerant to any excipients (see Additional Information section);
 - Where naloxone nasal spray is unavailable, utilise Prenoxad[®] (naloxone) 1mg/ml solution for injection pre-filled syringe;
 - People supplied naloxone nasal spray or pre-filled syringe to take home must be provided with appropriate training on how to use and administer these products; and
 - Organisations should ensure any local policies, Standard Operating Procedures and Patient Group Directions give sufficient flexibility to allow available products to be used.

Additional Information

Clinical Information

5. Both Nyxoid[®] 1.8mg/0.1ml and naloxone 1.26mg/0.1ml nasal sprays are intended for immediate administration as emergency therapy for known or suspected opioid overdose as manifested by

*https://www.nss.nhs.scot/media/1842/medicine-supply-alert-notices-definitions-of-classifications-21-october-2019.pdf

- respiratory and/or central nervous system depression in both non-medical and healthcare settings. Nyxoid® is licensed for use in adults and adolescents aged 14 years and over. Naloxone 1.26 mg nasal spray is licensed for use in adults and contains the preservative benzalkonium chloride, which can cause irritation.
- 6. Prenoxad injection is also intended for emergency use in the home or other non-medical setting by appropriate individuals or in a health facility setting for the complete or partial reversal of respiratory depression induced by natural and synthetic opioids. It is licensed for use in adults. It is not intended to be used for children in the home setting other than by an appropriately trained healthcare professional.

Patient Safety

7. Prenoxad® (Naloxone) 1mg/1ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes are the only naloxone injectable product that should be supplied to people to take home as the pack contains needles. Generic naloxone 1mg/ml solution for injection pre-filled syringes are for hospital use and *do not* contain needles.

Links to further information

- SmPC Nyxoid 1.8 mg/0.1ml nasal spray, solution in a single-dose container
- SmPC- Naloxone 1.26 mg/0.1ml nasal spray unit dose
- SmPC Prenoxad 1mg/ml Solution for Injection in a pre-filled syringe
- BNF Naloxone

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website

- 8. 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 <u>SPS website</u>. 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 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

10. 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).