



27 December 2024

## **Medicine Supply Alert Notice**

### **Estradiol (Estradot®) 50micrograms/24 hours, 75micrograms/24 hours, and 100micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches**

**Priority: Level 2\***

**Valid until: various resupply dates – see below**

#### **Issue**

1. Estradiol (Estradot®) 75micrograms/24hours and 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches will be out of stock until mid-January 2025.
2. Estradiol (Estradot®) 50micrograms/24hours transdermal patches will be out of stock until late February 2025.
3. Alternative brands of estradiol patches (Evorel® and Estraderm MX®) across these strengths are available and can support a full uplift in demand.
4. FemSeven® (estradiol) transdermal patches (once weekly application) remain available and can support an uplift in demand.
5. Progynova® (estradiol) transdermal patches also remain available but cannot support an uplift in demand.
6. Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for estradiol (Estradot®) 50micrograms/24 hours, 75micrograms/24 hours and 100micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches were issued (see [PCA\(P\)\(2024\)35](#), [PCA\(P\)\(2024\)36](#) and [PCA\(P\)\(2024\)37](#)).

#### **Advice and Actions**

7. Prescribers should not initiate new patients on Estradot® 50micrograms/24hours, 75micrograms/24hours and 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches until the supply issues have resolved.
8. For patients with insufficient supplies of Estradot® 50micrograms/24 hours, 75micrograms/24 hours and 100micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches:
  - community pharmacists may supply an equivalent strength of Evorel® or Estraderm MX® transdermal patches in accordance with the SSP for eligible patients (see additional information section below); and
  - if the above options are not appropriate or patients have previously had intolerances to Evorel® or Estraderm MX® patches, refer the patient to the prescriber to establish if ongoing treatment is required, and to consider use of an alternative [available hormone replacement therapy \(HRT\)](#).

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

## **Additional Information**

### Clinical Information

9. Estradot® patches are licensed as hormone replacement therapy (HRT) for oestrogen deficiency symptoms in postmenopausal women.

### Links to further information

- [SmPC Estradot® patches](#)
- [SmPC Evorel® patches](#)
- [SmPC Estraderm MX® patches](#)
- [British Menopause Society – HRT preparations and equivalent alternatives](#)
- [SSP Estradiol \(Estradot®\) 50microgram/24hours, 75micrograms/24 hours and 100microgram/24hours transdermal patches](#)
- [CKS: Menopause- Hormone replacement therapy](#)

### Further updates

10. The UK Government's Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) will continue to provide updates on HRT stock availability on the [Medicine Supply Tool](#) (registration required) and designated '[Prescribing available HRT products](#)' page on the Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website.

## **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](mailto:PharmacyTeam@gov.scot) (primary care) or [NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.scot](mailto:NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.scot) (secondary care).