Chief Medical Officer Directorate Pharmacy and Medicines Division



11 January 2025

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Apomorphine hydrochloride (APO-go[®] PFS) 50mg/10ml solution for infusion pre-filled syringes

Priority: Level 2^{*} Valid until: product is being discontinued

Issue

- 1. APO-go[®] (apomorphine hydrochloride) PFS is being discontinued; supplies are anticipated to be exhausted from early April 2025.
- 2. APO-go[®] POD (apomorphine hydrochloride hemihydrate) 100mg/20ml solution for infusion cartridges remain available and can support increased demand.

Advice and Actions

- 3. Prescribers should:
 - not initiate new patients on APO-go® PFS;
 - identify and review patients currently prescribed APO-go® PFS;
 - consider prescribing APO-go[®] POD where appropriate, maintaining the same dose regimen, and ensuring all patients initiated onto the new device are counselled on the change, and provided with appropriate training on its use (see Additional information section); and
 - if the above options are not considered suitable, seek advice from specialist Parkinson's Disease teams for further guidance.

Additional Information

- 4. Whilst there is not a national service level agreement in place in Scotland, Health Boards who have access to Britannia nursing teams should liaise directly to organise and provide training to patients switching to APO-go[®] POD. If patients receive ongoing treatment with APO-go[®] PFS in primary care, clinicians can liaise with their specialist Parkinson's Disease teams to understand if Britannia nursing provision is available to provide training on new devices.
- 5. If Britannia nursing provision is not available within a particular Health Board, clinicians can contact Britannia Pharmaceuticals Medical Information Department directly for any queries.

Contact details: Tel: 0808 196 8585 e-mail: <u>medinfo@britannia-pharm.com</u>

Links to further information

- BNF: Apomorphine Hydrochloride
- <u>SmPC: APO-go[®] PFS 5mg/ml solution for infusion in pre-filled syringe SmPC: APO-go[®] POD 5mg/ml solution for infusion in cartridge</u>

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website

- 6. 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.
- 7. 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

 Enquiries from Health Boards or healthcare professionals should be directed in the first instance to <u>PharmacyTeam@gov.scot</u> (primary care) or <u>NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.scot</u> (secondary care).