



18 June 2025

## **Medicine Supply Alert Notice**

### **Levemir® (insulin detemir) FlexPen® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml prefilled pens and Levemir® Penfill 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml cartridges**

**Priority: Level 2\***

**Valid until: noted products are being discontinued**

#### **Issue**

1. Levemir® (insulin detemir) FlexPen® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens and Levemir® Penfill® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml cartridges are being discontinued; stock is anticipated to be exhausted by the end of 2026.
2. Clinical advice on the discontinuation of all Levemir® presentations is being produced and will follow in the coming months.
3. **TO NOTE:** This is the third of three MSANs covering discontinuations of Novo Nordisk insulin products (NovoRapid® FlexTouch®, Insulatard® Penfill® and all Levemir® presentations).

#### **Advice and Actions**

4. Clinicians should:
  - not initiate new patients on any Levemir® product;
  - not make switches to alternative insulins at this time for existing Levemir® patients; and
  - be prepared to implement insulin switches for all existing Levemir® patients when clinical guidance is issued in the coming months.

#### **Additional Information**

##### **Clinical Information**

5. Levemir® (insulin detemir) is a long-acting insulin analogue used as a basal insulin, indicated for treatment of diabetes mellitus in adults, adolescents and children aged 1 year and above.

##### **Supply Information**

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

6. Until assurance is provided in the form of clinical guidance in the coming months, clinicians should not make switches to alternative insulins at this time for existing Levemir® patients. This is to ensure that alternative products can support an increase in demand.

#### Links to further information

- [BNF Insulin detemir](#)
- [BNF Insulin preparations](#)
- [NICE guidance: Type 1 diabetes in adults \(insulin therapy\)](#)
- [NICE CKS- Insulin therapy in type 1 diabetes](#)
- [NICE CKS- Insulin therapy in type 2 diabetes](#)
- [SmPC Levemir](#)

#### **Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website**

7. The UK Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) in conjunction with the Specialist Pharmacy Service (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.
8. 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**

9. 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).