NHS Circular: MSAN (2025) 35

Chief Medical Officer Directorate Pharmacy and Medicines Division



18 July 2025

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Amiodarone 200mg tablets

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: early August 2025

Issue

- 1. Amiodarone 200mg tablets are out of stock until early August 2025.
- 2. Amiodarone 100mg tablets remain available and can support a limited increase in demand.
- 3. Alternative antiarrhythmics agents remain available.

Advice and Actions

- 4. Clinicians should not initiate new patients on amiodarone tablets (other than those with critical arrythmias see below) until the supply issue has resolved.
- 5. Where patients have insufficient supply to last until the re-supply date, clinicians should liaise with specialists to determine whether amiodarone continues to be the most suitable therapy (see Additional information section) and discuss alternative management options, if appropriate. This should include a review of those not in sinus rhythm despite taking amiodarone for rhythm control and any patient with atrial fibrillation (AF) / atrial flutter prescribed amiodarone for rate control.
- 6. Where specialists have advised that amiodarone is the most appropriate therapy, such as in ventricular tachycardia (see Additional information), consider prescribing amiodarone 100mg tablets to make up the required dose, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and is counselled on number of tablets to take.
- 7. Advice should be sought from specialists on alternative management options if there are insufficient supplies of amiodarone 100mg tablets to bridge the supply gap.

Additional Information

Clinical Information

8. Amiodarone is only indicated for the treatment of severe rhythm disorders not responding to other therapies or when other treatments cannot be used. Treatment should be initiated and normally monitored only under hospital or specialist supervision. Amiodarone is not recommended for rate control in AF / atrial flutter.

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

Links to further information

- SmPC amiodarone tablets
- BNF amiodarone
- BNF Arrhythmias

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website

- 9. 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 <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.
- 10. 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

11. 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).