NHS Circular: MSAN (2025) 40

Chief Medical Officer Directorate
Pharmacy and Medicines Division



19 August 2025

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Estradiol (Progynova® TS) 50micrograms/24hours and 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: above noted product is being discontinued

Issue

- 1. Progynova® TS 50micrograms/24hours and 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches (**once weekly** estradiol patches) will be discontinued from late December 2025 and February 2026, respectively.
- 2. FemSeven® 50micrograms/24 hours and 100micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches (**onceweekly** estradiol patches) remain available and can support the increase in demand.
- 3. Evorel® 50micrograms and 100micrograms and Estraderm® MX 50micrograms and 100micrograms transdermal patches (**twice-weekly** estradiol patches) remain available and can support the increase in demand.

Advice and Actions

- 4. Clinicians should not initiate any new patients on Progynova® TS patches and consider prescribing alternative estradiol patches, taking into account previous patches tried, dosing frequency, and intolerance to any of the patch excipients.
- 5. Additionally, patients should be counselled on:
 - the change in brand and if applicable, change in frequency of applying the patch;
 - potential side-effects such as vaginal 'breakthrough bleeding' and irritation caused by wearing a different patch; and
 - seeking medical advice to consider alternative hormone replacement therapy (HRT)
 products if their symptoms are not controlled or they experience unacceptable side effects
 following the change in estradiol patch.

Additional Information

Clinical information

6. These estradiol patches are licensed as HRT for oestrogen deficiency symptoms in postmenopausal women more than 1-year post menopause, and for the prevention of osteoporosis

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

- in postmenopausal women at high risk of future fractures who are intolerant of, or contraindicated for, other medicinal products approved for the prevention of osteoporosis.
- 7. Progynova[®] TS and FemSeven[®] are applied to the skin once weekly and Evorel[®] and Estraderm[®] MX twice weekly.

Links to further information

- BNF Estradiol
- BNF Sex Hormones Treatment Summary
- SmPC Progynova TS patches
- SmPC FemSeven patches
- SmPC Estraderm MX patches
- SmPC Evorel Patches

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website

- 8. 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.
- 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).