



4 September 2026

Medicine Supply Alert Notice

Edoxaban (Lixiana®) 15mg tablets

Priority: Level 2*

Valid until: mid-September 2026

Issue

1. Edoxaban (Lixiana®) 15mg tablets are out of stock until mid-September 2026.
2. Alternative direct-acting oral anticoagulants (DOACs) remain available and can support increased demand.
3. Unlicensed supplies of edoxaban 15mg tablets may be sourced, lead times vary.

Advice and Actions

4. Clinicians should not initiate new patients on edoxaban 15mg tablets until the shortage resolves. Where patients have insufficient supply to last until the resupply date, clinicians should:
 - review patients to determine if use is for the licensed indication or for an off-label use,
 - consider appropriateness of switching to an alternative DOAC;
 - where the above option is not suitable, consider prescribing unlicensed edoxaban 15mg tablets; prescribers should work with pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see Additional information section below).
5. If there is uncertainty over selection of an alternative anticoagulant or if the above options are not considered appropriate, clinicians should seek advice and guidance from an anticoagulation team.

Additional Information

Clinical Information

6. Edoxaban 30mg film coated tablets are not scored. The manufacturer has no data available demonstrating the safety or efficacy of edoxaban tablets which have been split prior to administration. Although the tablets are licensed to be crushed and mixed with water, this is only suitable for delivering a whole dose.
7. Edoxaban 15mg is not indicated for use as monotherapy, as it may result in decreased efficacy. It is only indicated for use in switching from edoxaban 30mg (dose used in patients with ≥ 1 clinical factors for increased exposure) to a vitamin K antagonist (e.g. warfarin). Edoxaban 15mg and warfarin are taken together, and once an INR ≥ 2.0 is achieved, edoxaban is discontinued. The SPC notes most patients (85%) should be able to achieve an INR ≥ 2.0 within 14 days of

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

concomitant administration and after 14 days it is recommended that edoxaban is discontinued and warfarin continued to be titrated to achieve an INR between 2 and 3. The alternative to edoxaban 15mg in this setting is to discontinue 30mg edoxaban and use a parenteral anticoagulant with warfarin at the time of the next scheduled edoxaban dose. Once a stable INR of ≥ 2.0 is achieved, the parenteral anticoagulant is discontinued and warfarin continued.

8. There may be off label use of edoxaban 15mg, for example, in elderly patients considered ineligible for standard doses of oral anticoagulants because of their high bleeding risks.

Links to further information

- [BNF - Edoxaban](#)
- [SmPC - Edoxaban \(Lixiana®\) 15mg tablets](#)

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

9. The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed edoxaban 15mg tablets (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- BAP Pharma
- Chemys
- Clinigen
- Eaststone
- Mawdsleys
- Target

10. Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and Health Board procedures. Unlicensed imports do not undergo any central quality assessment or suitability evaluation. Therefore, any import must be locally assessed in line with local unlicensed medicines processes.

11. Please see the links below for further information:

- [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
- [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal College of Pharmacy
- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC).

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website

12. 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.

13. Prescribers, pharmacy professionals, and pharmacy procurement leads in Scotland are encouraged 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

14. 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).