



Medicine Supply Notification

Reference: MSN/2020/062

Rifadin[®] (rifampicin) 100mg/5ml oral suspension

Tier 2 - medium impact*

Date of issue: 3/12/2020

Summary

- Sanofi have limited supplies of Rifadin[®] 100mg/5ml oral suspension with resupply expected w/c 18 January 2021.
- Until w/c 18 January 2021, supplies will only remain available to primary care (see supporting information for further details).
- Secondary care Trusts will need to order unlicensed supplies from Specialist Importers or Specials Manufacturers if current stock holding is insufficient to last until the resupply date (see supporting information for further details).
- Rifampicin 150mg and 300mg capsules remain available.

Actions Required

Where further supplies are required before the resupply date, primary care should:

- continue to order Rifadin[®] oral suspension in line with historic demand; and
- be aware that, **where demand exceeds historic use**, a prescription validation process will be implemented. Anonymised prescriptions need to be sent to Sanofi Customer Services to receive further supplies (UK-GFD-DTPsupply@sanofi.com).

Secondary care Trusts should:

- review the ongoing need for Rifadin[®] oral suspension and switch patients to rifampicin capsules where patients can take a solid oral dosage form and the dosage required can be achieved;
- consider limiting prescriptions for Rifadin[®] oral suspension to a maximum of 1 month's supply to ensure supplies at Trusts last as long as possible;
- order unlicensed supplies from Specialist Importers or Specials Manufacturers where insufficient UK licensed Rifadin[®] oral suspension remains at Trusts (see supporting information below);
- ensure any outsourced partners (OPD and Homecare) are included in local planning; and
- maintain current practice when referring patients into primary care for ongoing supplies.

Supporting Information

Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and/or local governance procedures. Please see the links below for further information.

- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC),

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

- [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).
- [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Rifadin (rifampicin) 100mg/5ml oral solution (unlicensed imports)

The following Specialist Importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed Rifadin® 100mg/5ml oral suspension. Lead times may vary (please note, there may be other companies that can also source this presentation):

- Durbin PLC
- Mawdsley's Unlicensed
- Waymade PLC

Rifampicin 100mg/5ml oral suspension (specials)

The following Specials Manufacturers have confirmed they can supply unlicensed rifampicin 100mg/5ml oral suspension (please note, there may be other companies that can also manufacture this presentation):

- Ascot Labs
- Eaststone
- IPS Pharma
- Nova Laboratories Ltd
- PCCA Ltd

Please refer to the BNF and SPCs for further information on all preparations:

- [Rifampicin all preparations BNF](#)
- [Rifampicin all preparations BNFC](#)
- [Rifadin 100mg/5ml oral suspension SmPC](#)
- [Rifadin 150mg capsules SmPC](#)
- [Rifadin 300mg capsules SmPC](#)
- [Rifampicin 150mg capsules \(Mylan\) SmPC](#)
- [Rifampicin 300mg capsules \(Mylan\) SmPC](#)
- [Rimactane 300mg capsules SmPC](#)

Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist, who will escalate to national teams if required.

REGION	Full Name	Email
East Midlands	Andi Swain	andi.swain@nhs.net
East of England	James Kent	james.kent@southend.nhs.uk
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South Central	Alison Ashman	Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk
South East Coast	Richard Bateman	richard.bateman2@nhs.net
South West	Danny Palmer	Danny.Palmer@UHBristol.nhs.uk
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Scotland

NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.net

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All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2020/062.

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk