

Dear Colleague

UPDATE TO PROTOCOL ON DISPENSING OF ADRENALINE AUTO-INJECTORS, 150microgram

Purpose

1. This circular advises community pharmacies, dispensing doctor practices and NHS Boards of a revision to the interim validation protocol for the dispensing of adrenaline auto-injectors 150 micrograms from 29th November 2018.

Background

2. You will be aware of the recent Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) [Supply Disruption Alert](#) on EpiPen® and EpiPen Junior® adrenaline auto-injectors (AAs) that advises conserving supplies for patients who truly need them. Previous guidance implemented controls on the supply of 150 microgram adrenaline auto injectors.

Detail

3. Stock positions are sufficient to allow further relaxation of the prescription validation protocol for **Jext and Emerade** paediatric devices, whilst prescription validation will still be required for EpiPen Junior devices.

In Pharmacy Validation

4. Community pharmacies and dispensing doctor practices will no longer be required to follow the flowchart outlined in circular PCA(P)(2018)16 for any of the products to determine if a patient should receive a supply but can fulfil prescriptions as they are received.

Ordering

Jext and Emerade Paediatric Devices

5. Community pharmacies and dispensing doctors will now be able to order stock of adrenaline auto-injectors in the same way as they did prior to the implementation of the prescription validation process. Wholesalers will have caps

4 December 2018

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards
Directors of Pharmacy, NHS
Boards

For information

Director of Practitioner
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on the amount of stock which can be ordered, but this is in line with the processes in place previously. Pharmacies are advised to speak to wholesalers directly if further information about current caps is required.

EpiPen Junior Devices

6. EpiPen Junior will remain on a wholesalers prescription management process, this allows pharmacies and dispensing doctor practices to order up to a maximum of two EpiPen junior devices per prescription. Pharmacies and dispensing doctors are required to send anonymised prescriptions to Alliances Healthcare's prescription validation service either by fax or by email. Further information can be found on the EpiPen website, under instructions for pharmacists, this can be found at the following link: www.epipen.co.uk

7. Thank you for your help during this supply issue and for managing stocks of adrenaline auto-injectors closely. Community pharmacies and dispensing doctor practices are urged to continue to order sensibly during this time. Stocks will be closely monitored over the coming weeks to ensure adequate supplies are available to order.

8. Community Pharmacy Scotland have been consulted on the content of this circular.

Action

9. NHS Boards are asked to:

- **copy this circular to all community pharmacy contractors on their pharmaceutical lists, dispensing doctor practices, Health and Social Care Partnerships and the Area Pharmaceutical Board.**

Yours sincerely,



Rose Marie Parr
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer and
Deputy Director Pharmacy & Medicines Division