

Dear Colleague

**UPDATE ON THE SERIOUS SHORTAGE PROTOCOLS
ISSUED FOR OESTROGEL[®], OVESTIN[®], LENZETTO[®]
SPRAY AND SANDRENA[®] GEL – EXTENDED UNTIL 29
OCTOBER 2022**

Purpose

1. This Circular advises NHS Boards and community pharmacy contractors of an extension on 12 Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) issued recently for Hormone Replacement Therapies.
2. Extensions have been applied to SSPs for the following HRT products: Oestrogel[®]; Ovestin[®]; Lenzetto[®] spray; and Sandrena[®] gel. Each SSP has been **extended until 29 October 2022**. Please refer to **Annex A** for a detailed list of all 12 SSPs which have been extended.
3. The SSP for Premique[®] tablets will be allowed to expire on its existing end date of 29 July 2022 as supplies have stabilised.

Action

4. **Health Boards are asked to note the contents of this Circular and to bring it to the attention of community pharmacy contractors on their Pharmaceutical Lists and Area Pharmaceutical Committees. This Circular should also be brought to the attention of General Practices.**

Yours sincerely



Alison Strath
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

29 July 2022

Addresses

For action

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ANNEX A

Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) issued for HRT products as of 29 July 2022

SSP Number	PCA(P) Number	Product	Advice for community pharmacists on SSP	Switch if applicable	Status
019	PCA(P)(2022)09	Estradiol (Oestrogel) 0.06% gel	Restrict to 3 months' supply	N/A	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
020	PCA(P)(2022)10	Estriol (Ovestin 1mg) 0.1% cream	Restrict to 3 months' supply	N/A	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
021	PCA(P)(2022)11	Conjugated oestrogen/ medroxyprogesterone (Premique Low Dose) modified-release tablets	Restrict to 3 months' supply	N/A	Expired on 29/07/2022
022	PCA(P)(2022)13	Estradiol (Oestrogel) 0.06% gel	Rx < 3 months' supply- unrestricted switch (same length of supply dispensed of alternative product)	Estradiol patches – depending on equivalent dose	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
023	PCA(P)(2022)14	Estradiol (Oestrogel) 0.06% gel	Rx > months' supply – restricted switch (max 3 months' supply of alternative product)	Estradiol patches – depending on equivalent dose	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
024	PCA(P)(2022)15	Estriol (Ovestin 1mg) 0.1% cream	Rx < 3 months' supply- unrestricted switch (same length of supply dispensed of alternative product)	Estriol 0.01% cream	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
025	PCA(P)(2022)16	Estriol (Ovestin 1mg) 0.1% cream	Rx > months' supply – restricted switch (max 3 months' supply of alternative product)	Estriol 0.01% cream	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
026	PCA(P)(2022)17	Estradiol (Lenzetto) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray	Restrict to 3 months' supply		Active, extended until 29/10/2022
027	PCA(P)(2022)18	Estradiol (Lenzetto) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray	Rx < 3 months' supply- unrestricted switch (same length of supply dispensed of alternative product)	Estradiol patches – depending on equivalent dose	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
028	PCA(P)(2022)19	Estradiol (Lenzetto) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray	Rx > months' supply – restricted switch (max 3 months' supply of alternative product)	Estradiol patches – depending on	Active, extended until 29/10/2022

SSP Number	PCA(P) Number	Product	Advice for community pharmacists on SSP	Switch if applicable	Status
				equivalent dose	
029	PCA(P)(2022)20	Estradiol (Sandrena) 500microgram and 1mg gel sachets	Restrict to 3 months' supply		Active, extended until 29/10/2022
030	PCA(P)(2022)21	Estradiol (Sandrena) 500microgram and 1mg gel sachets	Rx < 3 months' supply- unrestricted switch (same length of supply dispensed of alternative product)	Estradiol patches – depending on equivalent dose	Active, extended until 29/10/2022
031	PCA(P)(2022)22	Estradiol (Sandrena) 500microgram and 1mg gel sachets	Rx > months' supply – restricted switch (max 3 months' supply of alternative product)	Estradiol patches – depending on equivalent dose	Active, extended until 29/10/2022