



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2020/020

Acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 09/04/2020

Summary

- Acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules are out of stock until the end of July 2020.
- Acetazolamide immediate release 250mg tablets remain available.
- Limited supplies of unlicensed imports of acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules have been sourced (see supporting information below for further details).

Actions Required

- For patients with insufficient supplies, clinicians should consider prescribing acetazolamide immediate release 250mg tablets.
- See the UKMi memo (link below) for further advice about management and switching from acetazolamide modified-release capsules to immediate release formulations.
- If acetazolamide 250mg tablets are not appropriate, consider prescribing one of the following unlicensed medicines:
 - acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules
 - acetazolamide oral suspension (various strengths available)

Supporting Information

- Please see the following UKMi memo for further advice:
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/acetazolamide-250mg-prolonged-release-capsules-advanz-teva/>
- The following specialist importers have currently confirmed availability of unlicensed acetazolamide SR 250mg capsules (please note, there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
 - Target Healthcare Ltd
 - Waymade PLC
- Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Please see the links below for further information.
 - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC),
 - [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
- When prescribing a product that is not licensed in the UK prescribers must indicate on the FP10 prescription that an unlicensed product is required. This can be done by annotating the prescription with the following wording: “**special order**”.

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk