

NATIONAL ADHD MEDICATION SHORTAGE

Updated 04.01.24

We are experiencing current severe disruptions in the supply of ADHD medications **nationally**. NHS England recently issued a National Patient Safety Alert highlighting supply disruptions for the following medications:

Methylphenidate:

- Equasym XL® 10, 20 and 30 mg capsules
- Concerta XL® 18mg prolonged-release tablets
- Xaggitin XL® 18 and 36 mg prolonged-release tablets
- Xenidate XL® 27 mg prolonged-release tablets

Lisdexamfetamine:

- Elvanse® 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 and 70 mg capsules
- Elvanse® Adult 30, 50, and 70 mg capsules

Guanfacine:

- Intuniv® 1, 2, 3 and 4 mg prolonged-release tablets

Please scroll down to the table below to see the current national supply status of these medications.

In addition to the medications listed, we are currently experiencing a shortage of Atomoxetine. We are anticipating having sufficient supply to safely start patients on this medication from end February 2024.

Given the range of the medications affected by the disruption, it would not be possible to attempt to re-titrate patients on the few remaining alternatives, and the supply of these medicines is also likely to be affected as a direct consequence.

Patients should be reassured that stopping and restarting stimulant medications abruptly is medically safe to do, but ADHD symptoms will return.

The current national supply information is as follows:

*** Please note that the anticipated re-supply dates listed are approximate and subject to change. We will update this information regularly.

Lisdexamfetamine * (Elvanse/Elvanse Adult)	Anticipated return date late January
Concerta XL	All strengths currently unavailable
Delmosart MR	18mg – out of stock 36mg – out of stock All other strengths currently available
Xaggitin XL	18mg – out of stock 36mg – out of stock All other strengths are currently available
Xenidate XL	18mg – out of stock 27mg – out of stock 36mg – out of stock
Equasym XL	10mg – out of stock
Medikinet XL	Stocks currently remain stable
Guanfacine MR (Intuniv) **	1mg – Low stock 2mg - Low stock 3 mg, 4 mg – Very low stock. Gradual stock improvements anticipated in February

*** Lisdexamfetamine**

Although we have received a very limited supply of Lisdexamfetamine, we do not have enough stock to start titration. At this point we can only prescribe for those adult patients who have had end of titration reviews or are being prescribed by us due to Shared Care Agreements being declined by their GPs.

We do not have enough medication for those who require adjustments and/or different combined doses (such as 20mg plus 30mg to make a 50mg/day dose). This

would exacerbate the current shortage and lead to further delays. Starting too early, may lead to further disruptions to your titration which may lead further distress.

As soon as we have adequate stock of Lisdexamfetamine we will contact patients to restart titration.

**** Intuniv**

Due to continued shortages of Intuniv, we are currently unable to commence any new titrations of Intuniv.

If you are taking higher dosages, your prescriber may be able to advise you around suitable continuation of your Intuniv treatment plan. However, for the lower (typical) doses this may not be possible.

If you are in shared care with your GP and Psychiatry-UK, please approach your GP in the first instance. Your GP can then inform us if they require us to support the shared care agreement.

If you are receiving prescriptions from PUK, please approach your prescriber directly.

Shared Care Agreements

We have received information from some patient groups that local stocks of medications have returned. If this applies to you, we will be happy to send a shared care agreement (SCA) letter to your GP and then transfer back to primary care as per the SCA arrangement. For all other patients, we will be having the shared care agreement ready for GPs to consider for early February 2024.