



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2023/082

Estradiol (Estradot®) 25micrograms/24 hours, 37.5micrograms/24 hours and 100micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 23/08/2023

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Estradiol (Estradot®) 25micrograms/24hours, 37.5micrograms/24hours, 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches will be out of stock until late September 2023.
- Alternative brands of estradiol patches (Evorel® and Estraderm MX®) are available and can support a full uplift in demand.
- A Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Estradiol (Estradot®) 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches was issued on 21/08/2023.

Actions Required

For patients with insufficient supplies of:

Estradiol (Estradot®) 25micrograms/24hours transdermal patches:

- clinicians should consider prescribing Evorel® or Estraderm MX® 25micrograms/24hours patches, ensuring the patient is counselled on the change in brand at the point of supply.

Estradiol (Estradot®) 37.5micrograms/24hours transdermal patches:

- clinicians should consider prescribing Evorel® or Estraderm MX® 25micrograms/24hours patches, advising patients to cut a patch in half (off-label use) and apply one and a half patches to provide a 37.5micrograms/24hours dose. The remaining half can be put back into the packet for the next dose. Ensure the patient is able to carry out this manipulation (see Supporting Information);
- clearly annotate the prescription to emphasise the dose i.e. one and a half patches of the Evorel® or Estraderm MX® 25micrograms/24hours are to be applied and ensure the patient understands dosing and administration; and
- patients should be counselled on the change in brand and how to deliver 37.5mcrogram dose at the point of supply.

If the above options are not appropriate or patients have previously had intolerances to Evorel® or Estraderm MX® patches, refer the patient to their specialist where applicable, establish if ongoing treatment is required and switch to an alternative available hormone replacement therapy (HRT).

Estradiol (Estradot®) 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches:

- community pharmacists may supply an equivalent strength of Evorel® or Estraderm MX® 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches in accordance with the SSP for eligible patients (see Supporting information below);

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

- pharmacists must ensure that the patient's prescriber and/or GP practice is notified when supplying a patient in accordance with this SSP; and
- patients should be counselled regarding the switch in brand at the point of supply.
- If the above options are not appropriate or patients have previously had intolerances to Evorel® or Estraderm MX® patches, refer the patient to the prescriber/specialist to establish if ongoing treatment is required and considering prescribing an alternative available hormone replacement therapy (HRT).

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Please see the links for further information:

- [SmPC Estradot® patches](#)
- [SmPC Evorel® patches](#)
- [SmPC Estraderm MX® patches](#)
- [British Menopause Society – HRT preparations and equivalent alternatives](#)
- [British Society for Paediatric endocrinology and Diabetes patient information leaflet](#) - guidance on cutting Evorel® and Estraderm MX® patches
- [SSP Estradiol \(Estradot®\) 100microgram/24hours transdermal patches](#)
- [CKS: Menopause- Hormone replacement therapy](#)

Further updates:

DHSC will continue to provide updates on HRT stock availability on the Medicine Supply Tool and designated '[Prescribing available HRT products](#)' page on the Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website.

Enquiries

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