



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2023/095

Pancrease® HL gastro-resistant capsules

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 12/10/2023

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Pancrease® HL gastro-resistant capsules are being discontinued with stock expected to be exhausted by mid-November 2023.
- Alternative high strength pancreatin preparations remain available and will be able to support increased demand.

Actions Required

Clinicians/prescribers should:

- review patients currently prescribed Pancrease HL capsules and prescribe an alternative high strength pancreatin preparation, titrating dose according to symptoms, and ensuring patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients (See Supporting Information below).

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Pancrease HL gastro-resistant capsules is a high strength pancreatin preparation licensed for exocrine pancreatic enzyme deficiency as in cystic fibrosis, chronic pancreatitis, post pancreatectomy, post gastro-intestinal bypass surgery (eg Billroth II gastroenterostomy), and ductal obstruction from neoplasm (eg of the pancreas or common bile duct).

Alternative high strength preparations include Creon 25,000 and Nutrizyme 22. The preparations differ slightly in the levels of enzymes (see Table 1). Prescribers may need to re-titrate the dose according to symptoms of maldigestion and malabsorption, as well as ensure there is no intolerance to excipients. Of note, Nutrizyme 22 contains castor oil which may cause stomach upset and diarrhoea.

Table 1: High strength pancreatin preparations enzyme content

Product	Protease units	Amylase units	Lipase units
Pancrease HL capsule	1250	22,500	25,000
Creon 25,000 capsule	1000	18,000	25,000
Nutrizyme 22 capsule	1100	19,800	22,000

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

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

Links

[SmPC - Pancrease HL Capsules](#)

[SmPC – Creon 25,000 capsule](#)

[SmPC – Nutrizyme 22 capsule](#)

[BNF - Pancreatin](#)

[BNF- Exocrine pancreatic insufficiency](#)

[Cystic Fibrosis Trust - Pancreatic enzyme supplement and cystic fibrosis](#)

Enquiries

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