



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2023/054

Bromfenac (Yellox[®]) 900 micrograms/ml eye drops

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 25/05/2023

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Bromfenac (Yellox[®]) 900 micrograms/ml eye drops are out of stock until w/c 3 July 2023.
- Ketorolac trometamol 0.5% w/v eye drops remain available and will be able to support an increase in demand.
- Unlicensed supplies of bromfenac 900 micrograms/ml eye drops may be sourced, lead times vary.
- Other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory eye drops also remain available but are unable to provide an uplift in demand. (See Supporting information)

Actions Required

Where supply of licensed bromfenac 900 micrograms/ml eye drops is not available, clinicians should:

- consider prescribing ketorolac 0.5% w/v eye drops which is able to support the market during this time, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and is counselled on the appropriate dose to administer; or
- consider prescribing unlicensed products only where licensed alternatives are not appropriate.

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Bromfenac eye drops are licensed for use in adults for the treatment of postoperative inflammation following cataract surgery. One drop is instilled in the affected eye(s) twice daily, beginning the next day after cataract surgery and continuing through the first 2 weeks of the postoperative period. Treatment should not exceed 2 weeks as safety data beyond this is not available.

Alternative non-steroidal anti-inflammatory eye drops includes ketorolac trometamol, diclofenac, flurbiprofen and nepafenac eye drops, but only ketorolac trometamol can support an uplift in demand at present.

Ketorolac trometamol 0.5% w/v eye drops are licensed for the prophylaxis and reduction of inflammation and associated symptoms following ocular surgery in adults. One drop is instilled into the eye three times daily starting 24 hours pre-operatively and continuing for up to three weeks post-operatively.

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

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

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

- The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed bromfenac 900 micrograms/ml eye drops (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
 - Mawdsleys
 - Target Healthcare
- 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:
 - [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
 - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC),

Please refer to the links below for further information:

- [SmPC Yellox® 0.9mg/ml eye drops solution](#)
- [SmPC Ketorolac trometamol 0.5% w/v eye drops, solution](#)

Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist, who will escalate to national teams if required.

REGION	Full Name	Email
Midlands	Andi Swain (East Midlands)	andi.swain@nhs.net
	Diptyka Hart (West Midlands)	Diptyka.Hart@uhb.nhs.uk
East of England	James Kent	james.kent@nhs.net
London	Jackie Eastwood	jacqueline.eastwood@gstt.nhs.uk
North East and Yorkshire	David Allwood (Yorkshire)	davidallwood@nhs.net
North West	Richard Bateman	richard.bateman@liverpoolft.nhs.uk
South East	Alison Ashman	Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk
South West	Danny Palmer	danny.palmer@uhbw.nhs.uk

Scotland

nss.nhssmedicineshortages@nhs.scot

Wales

MedicinesShortages@gov.wales

Northern Ireland

RPHPS.Admin@northerntrust.hscni.net

All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2023/054.

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.