

# Community Pharmacy Bulletin



4 June 2021



NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West

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## Coming Up

	June	July	August
Week 1	Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign materials to be displayed from 1 June 2021 ----- Boosting COVID-19 Vaccine uptake in African and Caribbean Communities <a href="#">Webinar</a> Thursday 3 June 1.30-2.30pm	Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign evaluation survey on PharmOutcomes closes 5 July 2021	Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign materials to be removed from display 1 August 2021
Week 2	<a href="#">Staff Vaccination Survey</a> 7 June 2021, 9am ----- Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign Conversations start 7 June 2021	CPCS GP Referral pathway engagement deadline to claim for payment 5 July 2021	
Week 3	Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2021 Closes Mid-June	<a href="#">Staff Vaccination Survey</a> 12 July 2021, 9am	

	June	July	August
Week 4	Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign Conversations finishes 20 June 2021 ----- Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign evaluation survey on PharmOutcomes opens 21 June 2021	Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) screening questionnaire ends 24 July 2021	
Week 5	<a href="#">Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) screening questionnaire</a> 28 June 2021 ----- Data Security Toolkit deadline 30 June 2021		

## Headlines from the Week

### NHS England

- [Help us arrange a tea break on the NHS birthday](#)

### NHS England South West Regional Team

- None

### PSNC Bulletin

- [New SSP endorsement introduced](#)
- [Have you submitted your weekly data for the COVID-19 test distribution service?](#)
- Regs reminders:
  - [Health campaigns](#)
  - [EPS access](#)
  - [Pandemic Treatment Protocol](#)
  - [Flexible provision of flu or coronavirus vaccinations](#)
  - [CAS alert sign-up](#)
  - [Commencement notices and contractors entering administration](#)
  - [NHSE&I inspections and access to electronic information](#)
  - [Facilitating remote access to pharmacy services](#)
  - [HLP requirements](#)
  - [Consultation rooms and remote consultations](#)
- [CPAF screening process to begin this month](#)
- [Data Security and Protection Toolkit: four weeks to go](#)

## Updated: UK Infection Prevention and Control Guidance

Public Health England has published an update to the UK [Infection Prevention and Control guidance](#), agreed by the UK's four chief medical and nursing officers.

Amendments have been made to strengthen existing messaging and provide further advice where needed, including updates on the hierarchy of controls, clarity over the use of valved respirators, and highlighting the need to protect those previously shielding and who are considered clinically extremely vulnerable from

COVID-19. Definitions and supporting resources have been added to support risk assessment based on the hierarchy of controls.

A full list of changes to the previous version are listed on page 8 of the guidance. Following continued extensive clinical and scientific review, no changes to the recommendations, including PPE, have been made in response to the new variant strains at this stage, however this position remains under constant review.

All NHS organisations should ensure reliable application of all IPC recommendations and assurance on adherence, that PPE is available and in supply, and that all staff training is up to date.

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## Evaluation of NHS Volunteer Responders – Workshops

The NHS Volunteer Responders (NHSVR) is a national, app-based, volunteering programme set up in response to the pandemic, providing support across the country to people who are vulnerable to COVID-19 and relieving pressure on NHS Services.

NHS England and NHS Improvement have commissioned an evaluation of NHSVR and are working with leads in a number of Integrated Care Systems who are feeding into and supporting this evaluation. We want to understand the role NHSVR has played in the COVID emergency response and identify opportunities for its development to inform the programme's legacy.

We are inviting a range of stakeholders to join a workshop where we will share and build on our evaluation findings, as well as asking you to feed in your insight and experience, as a referrer, someone who has experience of the scheme or is involved in volunteering locally/nationally. The workshops will cover the agenda in each session to provide greater opportunities for more stakeholders to engage. The workshops will take place on:

- 7 June 1 – 3pm
- 8 June 1 – 3pm
- 11 June 1 – 3pm

Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis. If you want to take part or have any queries, please contact [england.voluntarypartnerships@nhs.net](mailto:england.voluntarypartnerships@nhs.net) telling us on which date you wish to attend. Joining details will be sent to you later.

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## Medicine Supply Notification (MSNs) & Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs)

Please find attached Medicine Supply Notifications for:

- A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Alliance Calcium Syrup® (calcium gluconate 544mg/5ml / calcium lactate 276mg/5ml oral solution)
- An updated Tier 2 medicine supply notification for DDAVP® Desmopressin 100mcg per 1ml intranasal solution

The table below provides a summary of the attached MSN:

Medicine	Out of stock until	Alternatives
Alliance Calcium Syrup® (calcium gluconate 544mg/5ml / calcium lactate 276mg/5ml oral solution)	Mid-September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any remaining supplies of Alliance Calcium Syrup® should be reserved for neonates and patients in whom alternative options are not appropriate.</li> <li>All other patients should be switched to an alternative calcium formulation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Calvive®</a> 1000 effervescent Tablets (formally Sandocal®)</li> <li><a href="#">Calcium 500mg effervescent tablets</a> (formally Cacit®)</li> <li>A named-patient special calcium carbonate oral suspension</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
DDAVP® (Desmopressin) 0.01% w/v (100mcg/ 1ml) intranasal solution  (Updated MSN)	Discontinued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplies of desmopressin 100 micrograms/ml nasal spray (10 micrograms per actuation) remain available from Aspire Pharma Ltd for patients on doses ≥ 10 microgram.</li> <li>Desmopressin tablets and oral lyophilisates remain available.</li> <li>Unlicensed imports have also been sourced.</li> </ul>

There have also been changes to the resupply dates of the medicines listed below.

Original MSN reference	Date of original MSN/SDA	Supply issue	Resupply date originally communicated	Updated resupply date as of w/c 24 May 2021
MSN/2021/021	09/04/2021	Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg injections	w/c 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	5mg to be available in the first week of June 10mg to be OOS from w/c 31 May until late June
MSN/2021/025	11/05/2021	Flixotide (Fluticasone) 100 microgram accuhaler	w/c 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2021	w/c 28 June 2021
MSN/2020/057	21/10/2020	Fluoxetine 30mg capsules	Mid-December 2020	Delayed, TBC
MSN/2020/011	12/03/2020	Fluoxetine 10mg tablets	Late 2020	March 2022

Please note that supply issues that have been categorised as tier 1 or 2, DHSC and the MSRG have requested that the NHSE&I commissioning routes are used to reach community pharmacy and GP Practices. More serious supply issues are communicated via the Central Alerting System for action.

If you have any stock queries please contact: [DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk).

### Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP)

Due to ongoing supply issues, the Serious Shortage Protocol currently in effect for Estradot® 75 microgram patches (SSP012) is being varied to extend the end date, which was previously Friday 4 June 2021.

The end date for SSP012 will now be Friday 11 June 2021.

Please note that the endorsement process for this SSP has changed as per Clause 9E, Part II of the June 2021 Drug Tariff. Contractors should consult the revised endorsement guidance on the BSA website.

If you have any questions regarding the SSP please contact the NHS Prescription Service:  
 Email: [nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk](mailto:nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk)  
 Telephone: 0300 330 1349  
 Textphone: 18001 0300 330 1349  
 To access the latest information about SSPs (including supporting guidance), please visit the [BSA website](#).

INFORMATION



## Useful Information

### NHS England & Improvement – South West Region Community Pharmacy Contract Management Team contact information

Team Member	Telephone	Address
Jenny Collins	07979 308749	<p><b>South West Region Postal Addresses</b></p> <p>NHS England and Improvement – South West Peninsula House            Kingsmill Road            Tamar View Industrial Estate            Saltash, PL12 6LE</p> <p>Or</p> <p>NHS England and Improvement – South West Sanger House, 5220 Valiant Court            Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth            Gloucester, GL3 4FE</p> <p>Or</p> <p>NHS England and Improvement – South West Jenner House, Avon Way            Langley Park            Chippenham, SN15 1GG</p> <p><i>Please note all our offices are currently closed, please do not send post and use email wherever possible</i></p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net">england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net</a></p>
Sharon Greaves	07900 715295	
Les Riggs	07730 371074	
Mary Cotton	07920 288191	
Michele Toy	07568 431890	
Sarah Lillington	07920 834445	
Sharon Hodges	07702 411295	
Tracey Howes	07730 380479	
Chris Yengel	07769 963478	
Kath Hughes	07730 374739	
Hayley Colledge	07900 713005	
Lesley St Leger	07730 381871	
William Anderson	07783 821721	
Stacey Burch	07730 391418	

### Webpages

Please see our websites for more information and any blank templates, forms and documents:

[Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Devon, Bristol, Dorset, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire](#)  
[BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon or Wiltshire](#)  
[Interpretation and Translation Services](#)



# Medicine Supply Notification

## UPDATE:

Update to communications issued 15/10/2020

Material updates are shown in **bold**

MSN/2020/055-U

## DDAVP® (Desmopressin) 0.01% w/v (100 micrograms/ml) intranasal solution

Tier 2 – medium impact\*

Date of issue: 27/05/2021

### Summary

- **DDAVP® (Desmopressin) 0.01% w/v (100 micrograms/ml) intranasal solution has now been discontinued.**
- Supplies of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml nasal spray (10 micrograms per actuation) remain available from Aspire Pharma Ltd for patients on doses  $\geq 10$  microgram.
- Desmopressin tablets and oral lyophilisates remain available.
- Unlicensed imports of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution can currently be sourced.

### Actions Required

All clinicians who prescribe DDAVP® intranasal solution should consider the following advice to manage patients:

- review all patients prescribed DDAVP® 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution for vasopressin-sensitive cranial diabetes insipidus and ensure that patients have an alternative management plan in place as soon as possible (see patient safety alert [here](#)).
- prescribe desmopressin nasal spray for patients on doses  $\geq 10$  microgram, ensuring they are counselled on how to use the spray and how to administer the correct dose (see supporting information below); or
- if the nasal spray is not appropriate, prescribe licensed oral products (tablets or lyophilisates) if age appropriate and this route of administration is deemed suitable (see [BNF-c](#) for oral dosing) (see supporting information below); or
- prescribe desmopressin oral solution (unlicensed special) for neonates who are on doses too small to be delivered by the nasal spray or alternative licensed oral preparations (see [BNF-c](#) for oral dosing); or
- prescribe unlicensed imports of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution. Prescribers should work with local pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (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/>

## Supporting information

**Table 1: Clinical summary of DDAVP® intranasal solution and desmopressin 100micrograms/ml nasal spray:**

<b>Product</b>	<b>Desmopressin (DDAVP®) Intranasal solution</b>	<b>Desmopressin 100micrograms/ml nasal spray</b>
<b>Presentation</b>	Glass bottle fitted with a dropper set to be used with enclosed plastic rhinyle tubes measuring volumes from 0.025 to 0.20 mL	Glass bottle fitted with a pre-compression pump spray device, to which a nasal adaptor is attached
<b>Strength</b>	100microgram/mL	100microgram/mL
<b>Dosage that can be delivered</b>	2.5microgram (0.025mL) up to 20microgram (0.20mL)	10 microgram per actuation
<b>Comment</b>	Used for administering smaller intranasal doses that cannot be provided by the nasal spray	

**Table 2: Supply overview of alternate licensed desmopressin products:**

<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Strength</b>	<b>Stock Availability</b>	<b>Additional information</b>
Desmopressin nasal spray	10 microgram/dose	In Stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aspire are able to support a <u>full</u> uplift in demand.</li> <li>Desmospray® (Ferring) is out of stock until August 2023)</li> </ul>
	150 microgram/dose	Out of Stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ferring (sole supplier) out of stock until August 2023</li> </ul>
Desmopressin tablets	0.1mg	In Stock	
	0.2mg	In Stock	
Desmopressin Oral lyophilisates	25micrograms	In Stock	
	50micrograms	In Stock	
	60micrograms	In Stock	
	120micrograms	In Stock	
	240micrograms	In Stock	

Clinicians are advised to take into consideration indications and age of patient when prescribing an alternative desmopressin preparation and follow the advice in the SPCs below:

- [Desmopressin \(DDAVP®\) 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution](#)
- [Desmopressin 10micrograms/dose nasal spray \(Aspire Pharma Ltd\)](#)
- [Desmopressin oral tablets](#)
- [Desmopressin oral lyophilisates](#)

### Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

- The following specialist importer has confirmed they can source unlicensed desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
  - Smartway Pharma

- 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 (RPS)
  - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC)
- When prescribing a product that is not licensed in the UK due to a supply issue or discontinuation of the licensed alternative, prescribers must indicate on the FP10 prescription that an unlicensed product is required.

This can be done in one of the following two ways:

- Electronic prescriptions – if the required unlicensed product is shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should select:
  - desmopressin 100 microgram/ml intranasal solution (imported)
- Paper prescriptions – where the unlicensed product is not shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should use a paper prescription and annotate with the following wording: **“special order”**.

## Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact [DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk).





# Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/028

Alliance Calcium Syrup<sup>®</sup> (calcium gluconate 544mg/5ml / calcium lactate 276mg/5ml oral solution)

Tier 2 – medium impact\*

Date of issue: 27/5/2021

## Summary

- Alliance Calcium Syrup<sup>®</sup> is out of stock until mid-September 2021.
- Patients in primary care should be referred back to secondary care centres for review and management during the out of stock period.
- Any remaining supplies of Alliance Calcium Syrup<sup>®</sup> should be reserved for neonates and patients in whom alternative options are not appropriate.
- All other patients should be switched to an alternative calcium formulation.

## Actions Required

For patients prescribed Alliance Calcium Syrup<sup>®</sup> in Primary Care GP's should:

- proactively identify all patients prescribed Alliance Calcium Syrup<sup>®</sup>; and
- make early contact with all patients and/or carers and refer them to secondary care for review and management.

Trust/Health Board pharmacy procurement teams should work with clinical leads and the local Medication Safety Officer (MSO) to ensure the following actions are undertaken where relevant:

- reserve any remaining supplies of Alliance Calcium Syrup<sup>®</sup> for neonates and patients in whom alternative options are not appropriate;
- review patients and consider prescribing an alternative calcium formulation to ensure continuity of care that meets the patients' individual needs (see supporting information below). Prescribers should be satisfied that an alternative, licensed medicine would not meet the patient's needs before prescribing an unlicensed medicine;
- clinicians should ensure patients and/or carers are involved in decisions surrounding their treatment and receive appropriate counselling to minimise the risk of confusion with regards to dosing and administration errors; and
- consider sharing stock via mutual aid where possible to ensure continuity of supply for those patients who cannot be switched to an alternative calcium formulation.

## Supporting Information

### Alternative calcium preparations

In the absence of Alliance Calcium Syrup<sup>®</sup> clinicians should consider whether alternative calcium preparations may be appropriate. It is important to note that alternative products may contain a different calcium salt and there are differences in absorption with calcium carbonate being less well absorbed.

\*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

- [Calvive®](#) 1000 effervescent Tablets (formally Sandocal®)
- [Calcium 500mg effervescent tablets](#) (formally Cacit®)
- A named-patient special calcium carbonate oral suspension

See the [UKMi memo](#) for further information on the administration of alternative calcium preparations.

### Named-patient Specials

The following manufacture supplies of calcium carbonate liquid (please note, there may be other companies who also manufacture):

- St Mary's Pharmaceutical Unit - 250mg/5ml
- Newcastle Specials Pharmacy Production Unit - 500mg/5ml
- Nottingham University Hospitals - 500mg/5ml
- Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital NHS Trust - 600mg/5ml

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 (RPS); and
- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC).

## 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
<b>East Midlands</b>	Andi Swain	<a href="mailto:andi.swain@nhs.net">andi.swain@nhs.net</a>
<b>East of England</b>	James Kent	<a href="mailto:james.kent@nhs.net">james.kent@nhs.net</a>
<b>London</b>	Jackie Eastwood	<a href="mailto:jacqueline.eastwood@lpp.nhs.uk">jacqueline.eastwood@lpp.nhs.uk</a>
<b>North East</b>	David Cook Umair Hamid	<a href="mailto:david.cook20@nhs.net">david.cook20@nhs.net</a> <a href="mailto:umair.hamid2@nhs.net">umair.hamid2@nhs.net</a>
<b>North West</b>	Glenn Harley	<a href="mailto:Glenn.Harley@liverpoolft.nhs.uk">Glenn.Harley@liverpoolft.nhs.uk</a>
<b>South Central</b>	Alison Ashman	<a href="mailto:Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk">Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk</a>
<b>South East Coast</b>	Richard Bateman	<a href="mailto:richard.bateman2@nhs.net">richard.bateman2@nhs.net</a>
<b>South West</b>	Danny Palmer	<a href="mailto:Danny.Palmer@UHBristol.nhs.uk">Danny.Palmer@UHBristol.nhs.uk</a>
<b>West Midlands</b>	Diptyka Hart	<a href="mailto:Diptyka.Hart@uhb.nhs.uk">Diptyka.Hart@uhb.nhs.uk</a>
<b>Yorkshire &amp; Humber</b>	David Allwood	<a href="mailto:davidallwood@nhs.net">davidallwood@nhs.net</a>

### **Scotland**

[nss.nhssmedicineshortages@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.nhssmedicineshortages@nhs.scot)

**Wales**

[MedicinesShortages@gov.wales](mailto:MedicinesShortages@gov.wales)

**Northern Ireland**

[RPHPS.Admin@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:RPHPS.Admin@northerntrust.hscni.net)

All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2021/028 - [DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk)