

Medicines Management Commissioning

Prescribing Memo

Current supply problems with standard release isosorbide mononitrate tablets

Date: 6.2.13

Memo Number: 01/13

MAIN POINTS:

Current supply problems with standard release isosorbide mononitrate may mean that patients' medication will need to be changed.

Use available strengths of isosorbide mononitrate if possible or temporarily change to an equivalent modified release once daily preparation.

There is currently a national problem with the supply of isosorbide mononitrate tablets which may continue for several months.

If practices are experiencing problems then we suggest taking the following action:

1. using any available strength of isosorbide mononitrate in the first instance eg taking two 10mg tablets or half a 40mg tablet as these may still be available (prescriptions may need amending) or
2. changing patients temporarily to a modified release preparation

Dose of m/r preparation	Asymmetric dose
25 mg once daily	10 mg twice daily
30 mg once daily	10 mg twice daily
40 mg once daily	20 mg twice daily
50 mg once daily	20 mg twice daily
60 mg once daily	20 mg twice daily
100mg once daily	40mg twice daily
120mg once daily	40mg twice daily

Examples of MR preparations (costs for one month's supply)

Elantan LA 25 mg caps £3.40	Isotard XL 40mg tabs £6.75
Elantan LA 50mg caps £3.69	Isotard XL 50 mg tabs £6.75
Imdur LA 60mg tabs £10.15	Isotard XL 60mg tabs £5.75
Ismo Retard 40mg tabs £9.75	Monomax SR caps 40mg £6.52
Isodur XL 25mg caps £4.63	Monomax SR caps 60mg £8.86
Isodur XL 50mg caps £6.45	Monomax XL tabs 60mg £5.25
Isotard XL 25mg tabs £6.95	

The situation may change during the coming weeks as we understand that supplies may be available intermittently and all MR products may not be available as demand increases. Please liaise with local pharmacies for up to date information.