

Medicines Optimisation

Prescribing Memo

Rivaroxaban Packs for the DVT Pathway – Short Expiry, **Action Required - Reminder**

Date: 31st January 2014

Memo Number: 03/14

Main Points

Please check to see if you have any sample packs of Rivaroxaban in your practice, as these are likely to expire on 31st January 2014. These packs should now be safely disposed of unless they will be used before the 31st January 2014.

Due to a production problem with our additional sample packs, these won't be available until the end of February, possibly March 2014.

Until we get additional sample packs, practices are advised to issue a prescription for Rivaroxaban if it's required for the DVT pathway. To minimise waste, you may wish to consider prescribing just enough Rivaroxaban until the ultrasound scan results can be obtained, for example you could prescribe 4 Rivaroxaban 15mg tablets (2 days supply)

Prescription supplies aren't affected by the production problem; unfortunately it's just our sample packs.

We have been working with Bayer to organise over £30,000 worth of free stock for practices in County Durham and Darlington. Due to a production issue in Germany which has been outside of our control, this stock hasn't arrived on time.

Bayer have apologised for this production issue and have confirmed that all the sample packs promised will be honoured and delivered to practices as soon as possible – this is likely to be the end of February, possibly March 2014.

We appreciate this supply problem is frustrating, but ultimately we will end up with over £30,000 worth of free stock and the new DVT pathway has tremendous benefits for both patients and healthcare professionals alike.