

## Medicine Supply Notification

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

Date of issue: 15/10/2020

#### Summary

- DDAVP<sup>®</sup> (Desmopressin) 0.01% w/v (100 micrograms/ml) intranasal solution will be out of stock from the end of October until mid-2021.
- Supplies of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml nasal spray (10 micrograms per actuation) remain available from Aspire Pharma Ltd and can fully support demand during this time for patients on doses  $\geq 10$  microgram.
- Unlicensed imports of desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution can be sourced.

## Actions Required

Where patients have insufficient supplies, clinicians should:

- review all patients prescribed DDAVP<sup>®</sup> 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 nasal spray 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), or;
- prescribe unlicensed desmopressin oral solution 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).

Information produced by DHSC and disseminated by HSCB Pharmacy and Medicines Management Team. For most up-to-date information, visit <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/3065.htm>

# Supporting information

## Clinical Information

<b><u>Product</u></b>	<b><u>Desmopressin (DDAVP) Intranasal solution</u></b>	<b><u>Desmopressin 100mcg/ml nasal spray</u></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	

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 importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed desmopressin 100micrograms/ml intranasal solution (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
  - Alium Medical
  - Mawdsleys Unlicensed
- 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:
  - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC),
  - [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
- When prescribing a product that is not licensed in the UK due to a supply issue with the licensed alternative prescribers must indicate on the HS21 prescription that an unlicensed product is required. This can be done by annotating the prescription with the following wording: **“special order”**.