

From the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer
Mrs Cathy Harrison



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte
Mánnystrie O Poustie

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Date: 19 May 2021

FOR ACTION

Chief Executives, Health and Social Care
Board/Business Services Organisation (*for
onward transmission to relevant staff*)

Assistant Director of Integrated Care, Head of
Pharmacy and Medicines Management, HSCB
(*for onward distribution to Community
Pharmacies*).

Head of General Medical Services, HSCB (*for
onward distribution to GP Practices*)

GP Medical Advisers, Health and Social Care
Board.

Dear Colleagues,

SERIOUS SHORTAGE PROTOCOL – Fluoxetine 40mg capsules

I refer to my most recent letter of 31 March 2021 regarding the continuing supply issue with fluoxetine 40mg capsules and the decision to extend the expiry date of the most recent Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) to allow community pharmacies to substitute Fluoxetine 40mg capsules with 2 x Fluoxetine 20mg capsules.

I can confirm that following a review of the current situation it has been agreed that the SSP for fluoxetine 40mg capsules (**SSP009 – applies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland**) will end today (17 May 2021) as scheduled.

Action Required

All relevant staff should be made aware of this development. I would also ask the HSCB to bring this information to the attention of GP Practices and Community Pharmacists directly.

Yours sincerely,

Cathy Harrison
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer