

SERIOUS SHORTAGE PROTOCOL (SSP)

Reference Number: SSP020

This SSP applies to the following medicine:

Name of medicine (including strength and formulation)	Ovestin® 1mg cream
Legal category	POM

1. Details of medication to be supplied under this SSP

Name of medicine (including formulation and strength) to be supplied	N/A
Quantity of this formulation (if applicable)	Total quantity supplied under this protocol to be equivalent to three months' supply of the prescribed medicine.
Substitution results in a change to whether the use is licenced	No

Scope for which this Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) applies

The SSP applies to the following parts of the UK	Northern Ireland
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Clinical situation to which this Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) applies

Scope of SSP	All NHS and private prescriptions. This protocol allows for the quantity supplied to be less than the number of days prescribed on the original prescription.
Criteria for inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The patient presents with a valid prescription (meeting the requirements of the Human Medicines Regulations 2012) for an amount greater than three months' supply for Ovestin® 1mg cream.The patient/carer is aware that in accordance with this SSP, no further supply can be made from the same prescription above the three-month quantity.
Criteria for exclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The patient presents with a prescription for a medicine other than Ovestin® 1mg cream.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The patient presents a prescription which is not valid. • The patient presents a prescription for Ovestin® 1mg cream for an amount less than or equivalent to three months' supply. • The patient/carer does not consent to receiving the medicine supplied in accordance with this SSP.
Cautions including any relevant action to be taken	None.
Special considerations for specific populations of patients	None.
Action to be taken if the patient is excluded	None.
Action to be taken if the patient or carer declines the supply	If a patient/carer declines to receive the medicine under this SSP, the pharmacist should use their professional judgement to determine if other courses of action are appropriate whilst taking into consideration wider supply issues. If this does not address their concerns, the patient/carer should be referred back to their prescriber for advice.

Valid from:	25 July 2022
Expiry date:	29 October 2022
Reference number:	SSP020
Version number:	1.1


Any queries regarding the content of this SSP which was issued by the Department of Health – Northern Ireland should be forwarded to communitypharmacy@health-ni.gov.uk

Change history

Version number	Change details	Date
V1.1	Expiry date extended to 29 October 2022	25/07/2022

2. Conditions under which this Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) will operate

- The decision to supply any medicine under this protocol rests with the individual registered pharmacist who must abide by the protocol.
- Whilst pharmacy staff may support the dispensing process of the protocol, this must be carried out under the supervision of the registered pharmacist.
- Pharmacists using this SSP must ensure that it is only used within its authorised dates and within the criteria set out within the SSP. Pharmacists must check that they are using the current version of the SSP, particularly when referring to a hard copy version. Amendments may become necessary prior to the published expiry date. Current versions of SSP templates can be found at www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/3063.htm
- Users must not alter, amend or add to the content of this document; such action will invalidate the SSP.

Ministerial ratification by:			
Name	Position	Signature	Date
Minister Robin Sw	DOH Minister		25/07/2022