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Medicine Supply Notification: Testosterone (Testim®) 50mg/5g transdermal gel unit dose tubes

Tier 2 – medium impact*
Date of issue: 21/12/2023

[Medicines Supply Tool – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](#)

Summary

- Testosterone (Testim®) 50mg/5g transdermal gel unit dose tubes are being discontinued with stock exhausted by the end of December 2023.
- Alternative testosterone preparations (Tostran®, Testavan® and Testogel®) remain available and will be able to support increased demand

Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- review patients to determine if this is still the most suitable therapy;
- consider prescribing an alternative testosterone gel, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and is counselled on the appropriate dose and how to administer it (see Supporting information below); and
- if the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from specialists on management options.

Supporting Information

Clinical information

Licensed use of topical testosterone:

Testosterone replacement therapy for male hypogonadism when testosterone deficiency has been confirmed by clinical features and biochemical tests.

Off label use:

Testosterone gel is used in women with decreased libido in the menopause.

Switching products

Please refer to table 1 to select an alternative product based on the current dose of testosterone that the patient is receiving and in line with the maximum licensed dose of the product selected. There will be slight differences in the dose of testosterone when switched and the dose may need to be titrated based on testosterone levels, and signs and symptoms related to testosterone deficiency

Table 1: Testosterone content of topical products

Testim® 50mg/5g transdermal gel unit dose tubes – To be discontinued	
No.tubes	Testosterone dose (mg)
1 tube	50
2 tubes	100

Tostran® 2% gel pump – In stock with supplier	
No. pump actuations (depressions)	Testosterone dose (mg)
1	10
2	20
4	40
6	60
8	80

Testogel® 16.2mg/g pump - In stock with supplier	
No. pump actuations (depressions)	Testosterone dose (mg)
1	20.25
2	40.5
3	60.75
4	81

Testogel® 40.5mg/2.5g gel sachets – In stock with supplier	
No. sachets	Testosterone dose (mg)
½ sachet- difficult to administer correctly	20.25
1 sachet	40.5
2 sachets	81

Testavan® 23mg/1.15g pump – In stock with supplier	
No. pump actuations (depressions)	Testosterone dose (mg)
1	23
2	46
3	69

Please refer to the links below :

- SmPC Testim 50mg/5g transdermal gel unit dose tubes [Testim - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#)
 - SmPC Testavan 23mg/1.15g pump [Testavan 20 mg/g Transdermal gel - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#)
 - SmPC Testogel 16.2mg/g pump [Testogel 16.2mg/g gel - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#)
 - SmPC Testogel 40.5mg/2.5g gel sachets [TESTOGEL 40.5 mg, transdermal gel in sachet - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#)
 - SmPC Tostran 2% gel pump [Tostran 2% Gel - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#)
 - BNF: Testosterone [Testosterone | Drugs | BNF | NICE](#)
- British Menopause Society: Testosterone replacement in menopause [08-BMS-TfC-Testosterone-replacement-in-menopause-DEC2022-A.pdf \(thebms.org.uk\)](#)