



Pharmaceutical Services, 2 Franklin Street, Belfast BT2 8DQ
Telephone No. 028 95 36 0333

To: All Community Pharmacists

28th January 2025

Dear colleague

Medicine Supply Notification: Memantine (Valios®) 5mg orodispersible tablets sugar free
Tier 2 – medium impact

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

Summary

- Memantine (Valios®) 5mg orodispersible tablets sugar free are out of stock until late April 2025.
- Memantine (Valios®) 5 mg/10 mg/15 mg/20 mg orodispersible tablets initiation pack sugar free has been out of stock since 2020 and the resupply date is unknown.
- Memantine 5 mg/10 mg/15 mg/20 mg tablets treatment initiation pack remains available and can support increased demand. (Note: film coated tablets).
- Memantine 10mg/ml oral solution sugar free and memantine (Ebixa®) 5mg/0.5ml pump actuation oral solution remain available and can support increased demand.
- Memantine 10mg and 20mg film coated tablets remain available and can support increased demand.
- Memantine (Valios®) 10mg and 20mg orodispersible tablets sugar free remain available and can support increased demand.

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When initiating and titrating new patients on memantine treatment who are able to safely swallow solid dosage forms, clinicians should consider prescribing memantine 5 mg/10 mg/15 mg/20 mg tablets treatment initiation pack (see Supporting information).

When initiating and titrating new patients on memantine treatment who are unable to safely swallow solid dosage forms, clinicians should consider:

- in those able to safely swallow thin liquids, prescribing memantine oral solution, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients, and counselling them and/or caregiver on the appropriate dose and volume to be administered, and how to administer the dose (including how to use the dosing pump if a formulation with pump is prescribed); or
- in those unable to safely swallow thin liquids (requiring a texture-modified diet), prescribing half of a 10mg film coated tablet to be crushed and administered with a small amount of appropriate food or thickened liquid (off-label use), ensuring that the patient and/or caregiver is provided with a tablet cutter and counselled on how to administer the dose (see Supporting information).

Once the patient has reached maintenance dose of 20mg, prescribers can consider switching patient to memantine (Valios®) 20mg orodispersible tablets.

When prescribing alternative formulations of memantine, the individual [SmPCs](#) should be

Actions Required

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Memantine is licensed for the treatment of moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease in adults. In order to reduce the risk of undesirable effects, the maintenance dose is achieved by upward titration of 5 mg per week over the first 3 weeks as follows: 5mg once a day for 7 days, 10mg once a day for 7 days, 15mg once a day for 7 days, then 20mg once a day, which is the maximum daily dose.

The 10 mg film coated tablets are scored and can be halved into equal doses, to allow 5mg dosing increments.



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Links to further information

[SmPC Valios® 5mg Orodispersible Tablets](#)

[SmPC Ebixa® 5mg/pump actuation oral solution](#)

[SmPC Ebixa® Treatment Initiation Pack](#)

[SmPC Memantine Lupin titration pack](#)

[SmPC Memantine 10mg/ml oral solution](#)

[SmPC Memantine 10 mg film coated tablets](#)

[SmPCs Memantine](#)

[BNF: Memantine](#)