

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

**Medicine Supply Notification: Triamcinolone acetonide 10mg/ml (Adcortyl® ampoules) and 40mg/ml (Kenalog® vials) suspension for injection**

Tier 2 – medium impact

Date of issue: 07/04/2025

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

## Summary

- Triamcinolone acetonide 10mg/ml (Adcortyl® ampoules) and 40mg/ml (Kenalog® vials) suspension for injection are being discontinued with stock expected to be exhausted by early June 2025.
- Dexamethasone sodium phosphate 3.3mg/ml and 3.8mg/ml injections are available and can support increased demand (see Supporting information).
- Hydrocortisone sodium succinate 100mg powder for solution for injection is available and can support increased demand (see Supporting information).
- Methylprednisolone sodium succinate (Solu-Medrone®) 500mg and 1g injection and methylprednisolone acetate (Depo-Medrone®) 40mg/ml injection are available and can support increased demand (see Supporting information).
- Unlicensed supplies of triamcinolone acetonide 10mg/1ml suspension for injection ampoules and triamcinolone acetonide 40mg/1ml suspension for injection vials have been sourced; lead times may vary.

## Actions Required

Clinicians in primary and secondary care should:

- review patients and consider prescribing alternative steroid injections (see Supporting information); or
- consider prescribing unlicensed imports of triamcinolone acetonide 10mg/1ml suspension for injection ampoules and triamcinolone acetonide 40mg/1ml suspension for injection vials only where licensed alternatives are not considered appropriate;
- seek advice from specialists on management options, where the above options are not considered appropriate.

## Supporting Information

Corticosteroid preparation	Licensed indication	Route of administration
Adcortyl®*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alleviating joint pain, swelling and stiffness associated with rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, with an inflammatory component, also for bursitis, epicondylitis, and tenosynovitis. ¥</li> <li>Lichen simplex chronicus (neuro-dermatitis), granuloma annulare, lichen planus, keloids, alopecia areata and hypertrophic scars. β</li> </ul>	Intra-articular¥, Intradermal β
Kenalog®*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alleviating joint pain, swelling and stiffness associated with rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, with an inflammatory component, also for bursitis, epicondylitis, and tenosynovitis. ¥</li> <li>Treatment of conditions where sustained corticosteroid treatment is required [In practice, the use of Kenalog® for treating hayfever is discouraged]. Ω</li> </ul>	Intra-articular¥, intramuscular Ω
<b>Available corticosteroid injections that can support increase in demand</b>		
Dexamethasone 3.3mg/ml and 3.8mg/ml solution for injection	Endocrine disorders, non-endocrine corticosteroid-responsive conditions, local administration for soft-tissue disorders, intra-articular disorders and soft tissue disorders	Intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous, intra-articular, intrabursal, intralesional
Hydrocortisone sodium succinate 100mg powder for solution for injection	Any condition in which rapid and intense corticosteroid effect is required	Intravenous, intramuscular
Methylprednisolone (Depo-Medrone®) 40mg/1ml suspension for injection	Rheumatic disorders, collagen diseases/arteritis, dermatological diseases, allergic states, GI diseases, respiratory diseases, TB meningitis, soft-tissue disorders	Intramuscular, intra-articular, peri-articular, intrabursal, into tendon sheath, intralesional

Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrone®) 500mg and 1g powder and solvent for solution for injection vials	Any condition in which rapid and intense corticosteroid effect is required	Intravenous, intramuscular
---	--	----------------------------

\*Off label uses also reported in practice

#### Links to further information

[SmPC Adcortyl® 10mg/1ml suspension for injection ampoules](#)  
[SmPC Kenalog® 40mg/1ml suspension for injection vials](#)  
[SmPC dexamethasone sodium phosphate \(3.3mg/ml or 3.8mg/ml\) injection](#)  
[SmPC hydrocortisone sodium succinate 100mg powder for solution for injection](#)  
[SmPC methylprednisolone sodium succinate \(Solu-Medrone®\) injection](#)  
[SmPC methylprednisolone acetate \(Depo-Medrone®\) injection](#)  
[BNF triamcinolone acetonide](#)  
[BNF corticosteroids inflammatory disorders](#)  
[NICE CKS rheumatoid arthritis](#)  
[NICE CKS osteoarthritis](#)

#### Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed medicines

The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed triamcinolone acetonide 10mg/ml and/or triamcinolone acetonide 40mg/ml injections (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Alium medical
- Chemys
- Durbin
- Genetech
- Mawdsleys
- Qmed
- Smartway
- Tanner Pharma
- Target

Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Unlicensed imports do not undergo any central quality assessment or suitability evaluation. Therefore, any import must be locally assessed in line with local unlicensed medicines processes.

Please see the links below for further information:

Information produced by DHSC and disseminated by SPPG Pharmacy and Medicines Management Team. For most up-to-date information, visit [Shortages Information - Business Services Organisation \(BSO\) Website \(hscni.net\)](http://Shortages Information - Business Services Organisation (BSO) Website (hscni.net))



- [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
- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC)