



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

To: All Community Pharmacists

16th July 2025

Dear colleague

Medicine Supply Notification: Abidec® Multivitamin drops
Tier 2 – medium impact

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

Summary

- Abidec® Multivitamin drops are out of stock until further notice.
- Dalivit® oral drops remain available but can only support **prescription demand**.
- Alternative multivitamin drops remain available (see Supporting information).

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Clinicians should:

- review existing patients to determine if Abidec® Multivitamin drops are still required **ie for management of actual or potential deficiency or licensed clinical indication**
- consider prescribing Dalivit® oral drops for young children where appropriate, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients, and parent(s)/carers are counselled on the appropriate dose and volume required. Vitamin A content and the patients age should be considered as Dalivit® use in children under 6 weeks old is off-label (see Supporting information); or
- consider prescribing or recommending alternative vitamins or food supplements where appropriate, particularly for older children and adults who require ongoing treatment.

Community pharmacists should:

- reserve Dalivit® oral drops for dispensing on receipt of a prescription only; and
- advise and inform parent(s)/carer(s) and customers of alternative food supplements that are available over the counter (see Supporting information including the Neonatal & Paediatric Pharmacists Group (NPPG) Table of Liquid Vitamin and Iron Supplements in Neonates and Children).

Actions Required

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Abidec® Multivitamin drops and Dalivit® oral drops are indicated for the prevention of vitamin deficiencies and for the maintenance of normal growth and health during the early years of infancy and childhood.

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Table 1: Comparison of Abidec® Multivitamin drops and Dalivit® oral drops

		Abidec® Multivitamin drops	Dalivit® oral drops
Licensed age range		Children (from 0 to 12 years of age)	Children (from 6 weeks of age) and adults
Dose		Children (under 1 year): 0.3ml daily Children (1 to 12 years): 0.6ml daily Adults and children over 12 years: Not appropriate	Infants (6 weeks to 1 year): 0.3ml daily Older children, adults and elderly: 0.6ml daily or as directed by the physician
Vitamins per 0.6mL	Vit A	1333 units vitamin A palmitate	5000 units vitamin A palmitate
	Vit B (group)	0.4mg thiamine hydrochloride 0.8mg riboflavin 0.8mg pyridoxine hydrochloride 8mg nicotinamide	1mg thiamine hydrochloride 0.4mg riboflavin 0.5mg pyridoxine hydrochloride 5mg nicotinamide
	Vit C	40mg ascorbic acid	50mg ascorbic acid
	Vit D	400 units ergocalciferol	400 units ergocalciferol
	Excipients	Sodium hydroxide Sugar (mineral water grade) Refined peanut oil DL- α -tocopherol Polysorbate 60 Purified water	Sucrose Polysorbate 80 Sodium hydroxide Sodium methyl hydroxybenzoate (E219) Deionized water
Comments		Patients with rare hereditary problems of fructose intolerance, glucose-galactose malabsorption or sucrase-isomaltase insufficiency should not take this medicine. Contains arachis oil (peanut oil) and	Patients with rare hereditary problems of fructose intolerance, glucosegalactose malabsorption or sucrase-isomaltase insufficiency should not take this medicine. Contains sodium



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Food Supplements

Food supplements are not classified as medicines and are made to different quality standards to medicines. Manufacturers are not required to comply with the manufacturing practices used for medicines.

Advice on food supplements should include the following points:

- [most people do not need supplements and can get them from a balanced diet](#)
- the NHS provides [advice on eating a balanced diet](#)
- taking vitamins or minerals at [daily doses near to the Reference Nutrient Intake \(RNI\)](#) are unlikely to cause side effects or interactions
- taking multiple combination supplements or high dose supplements may cause side effects or interactions
- there may be interactions with narrow therapeutic index medicines such as warfarin

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) advises [vitamin and mineral supplements for some groups of people who are at risk of deficiency](#) e.g. 400micrograms folic acid during first 12 weeks of pregnancy, 10micrograms vitamin D daily due to low sun exposure.

Abidec® Multivitamin drops are not interchangeable with Abidec® Advanced Multivitamin Syrup or Abidec® Immune Support which are food supplements (see links below, including [NPPG Newsletter Spring 2021](#)).

Links to further information

[Prescqiip-Vitamines-and-Minerals.pdf](#) - *SPPG Pharmacy & Medicines Management Team have endorsed this guidance for use in N Ireland*

[SmPC Abidec® Multivitamin drops](#)

[SmPC Dalivit® oral drops](#)

[SPS – Understanding Complementary Medicines](#)

[NPPG Newsletter Spring 2021- Differences between Abidec® products](#)

[The routine supplementation of vitamins and iron in the management of zinc deficiency in preterm and small for gestational age infants](#)

[NPPG Table of Liquid Vitamin and Iron Supplements in Neonates and Children](#)