



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

To: All Community Pharmacists

15th April 2026

UPDATE: Updates to communication (MPS 3386) issued 14th August 2025 in **bold**

Levemir® products are being discontinued. Stock exhaustion is expected in December 2026. This notification is being re-issued, as a high number of patients remain on Levemir® products. Healthcare professionals are reminded to switch patients on Levemir® to a suitable alternative as soon as possible. Patients should be switched as per guidance below

Dear colleague

Medicine Supply Notification:

Levemir® (insulin detemir) FlexPen® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens and
Levemir® (insulin detemir) Penfill 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml cartridges

Tier 2 – medium impact

Date of issue: 15/04/2026

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

Summary

- Levemir® (insulin detemir) FlexPen® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens and Levemir® (insulin detemir) Penfill® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml cartridges are being discontinued; stock is anticipated to be exhausted by the end of 2026.
- [Clinical guidance](#) has been produced by clinical experts (see Supporting information).
- Current supply positions and ability of alternative insulins to support an increase in demand is summarised below. Any changes to availability will be communicated via the [SPS Medicines Supply Tool](#).

Actions Required

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Clinicians should:

- not initiate new patients on any Levemir® product; and
- begin implementing insulin switches for all existing Levemir® patients in line with the [clinical guidance](#) (see Supporting information).

Local teams should ensure that they have checked the current supply overview of alternative insulins to reduce the risk of precipitating a supply disruption of these products (see Supporting information).

As recommended in the [clinical guidance](#), clinicians should aim to diversify prescribing across available alternatives to reduce supply risk where possible.

In addition to consulting the [clinical guidance](#), when prescribing alternatives, consider manual dexterity, vision, and whether additional support is required for administration, and:

- ensure that all patients/carers are counselled on dose to be administered, provided with training on the use of their new device, as well as appropriate ancillaries, including signposting to training videos; and
- advise patients that closer monitoring of blood glucose levels is required initially, and their insulin dose may need to be adjusted.

Seek advice from specialist diabetes teams where required.

Supporting information

Supply summary table

Levemir is a long-acting insulin analogue **with a prolonged duration of effect** used as a basal insulin. It is licensed for the treatment of diabetes mellitus in adults, adolescents and children aged 1 year and above. It can be used alone as the basal insulin or in combination with bolus insulin. It can also be used in combination with oral antidiabetic medicinal products and/or GLP-1 receptor agonists.

As insulin glargine is available in two strengths, these products must be prescribed BY BRAND to minimise the risk of product mis-selection.

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| Insulin type | | Supply overview | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Insulin type | Brand name and devices | Stock status | Ability to support increased demand |
| Insulin glargine U100 (Long acting) | Abasaglar® KwikPen® | In stock | Cannot support |
| | Abasaglar® cartridges | In stock | Cannot support |
| | Lantus® SoloStar® | In stock | Can support |
| | Lantus® cartridges | In stock | Can support |
| | Semglee® pre-filled pens (biosimilar) | In stock | Can support |
| Insulin glargine U300 (Ultralong acting) | Toujeo® SoloStar® | In stock | Can support |
| | Toujeo® DoubleStar® | In stock | Can support |
| Insulin degludec (Ultralong acting) | Tresiba® U100 FlexTouch® | Discontinued | |
| | Tresiba® U100 cartridges | In stock | Can support |
| | Tresiba® U200 FlexTouch® | In stock | Can support |
| Human isophane insulin (intermediate acting) | Humulin® I KwikPen® | In stock | Cannot support |
| | Humulin® I cartridges | In stock | Cannot support |

Links to further information

[Clinical Guideline: Discontinuation of Levemir®](#)

[BNF Insulin detemir](#)

[BNF Insulin preparations](#)

[NICE guidance: Type 1 diabetes in adults \(insulin therapy\)](#)

[NICE CKS- Insulin therapy in type 1 diabetes](#)

[NICE CKS- Insulin therapy in type 2 diabetes](#)

[SmPC Levemir®](#)

[SmPC Lantus®](#)

[SmPC Toujeo®](#)

[SmPC Abasaglar®](#)

[SmPC Semglee®](#)

[SmPC Tresiba®](#)

[SmPC Humulin® I](#)