



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

To: All Community Pharmacists

27<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear colleague

**Medicine Supply Notification: Ramipril 1.25mg capsules**  
Tier 2 – medium impact

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

### Summary

- There are intermittent supply issues with ramipril 1.25mg capsules until the end of May 2026.
- Ramipril 1.25mg and 2.5mg tablets and ramipril oral solution remain available but cannot support increased demand.
- A Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for ramipril 1.25mg capsules was issued on 22/04/2026 which allows community pharmacists to limit supply to one month.
- Other low dose formulations of angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors and angiotensin-II receptor blockers (ARBs) remain available, some of which can support increased demand (see Supporting information).

### Actions Required

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Prescribers should not initiate new patients on ramipril 1.25mg capsules until the supply issue has resolved.

Where supplies of ramipril 1.25mg capsules are available, community pharmacists and dispensing doctors should:

- consider limiting supply to one month of supply in accordance with SSP087 [Serious Shortage Protocols \( SSP's \) - Business Services Organisation \(BSO\) Website](#) for eligible patients presenting with a prescription for more than one month's supply of ramipril 1.25mg capsules (see Supporting information).

Where patients have insufficient supply to last until the resupply date and community pharmacies are unable to source ramipril 1.25mg capsules, prescribers should:

- consider prescribing an alternative ACE inhibitor or ARB that can support increased demand (see Supporting information), establishing if a dose lower than the usual starting dose is required, taking into account the indication for use, treatment history, comorbidities, as well as local guidance/formularies, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and is counselled on the appropriate dose; and
- monitor patients to ensure blood pressure remains controlled and the new agent is tolerated, titrating dose as needed, advising them to seek medical advice if they experience dizziness or light-headedness after switching.

## Supporting information

### Clinical information

Ramipril capsules are licensed for the treatment of hypertension, renal disease, and symptomatic heart failure, and for cardiovascular prevention, including after an acute myocardial infarction. An initial starting dose of 1.25 mg once daily is recommended for certain indications, which is then titrated upwards, if a higher dose is tolerated.

There are limited data on dose equivalence of ACE inhibitors and ARBs. For patients unable to access ramipril 1.25mg capsules, who require a lower starting dose of an alternative agent, the lowest strength formulations **available that can support increased demand** are:

- Lisinopril 2.5 mg tablets
- Losartan 25 mg tablets
- Candesartan 4 mg tablets (can support from late April 2026)



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Please note, other low/lower strength formulations of ACE inhibitors and ARBs remain available but if not listed above, they cannot support increased demand.

If a lower starting dose is not considered necessary, the following higher strength formulations can also support demand, if appropriate: lisinopril 5 mg, perindopril erbumine 4 mg, candesartan 8 mg and losartan 50 mg tablets.

Refer to CKS table of ACE inhibitors [Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors | Prescribing information | Hypertension | CKS | NICE](#) and ARBs [Angiotensin-II receptor blockers | Prescribing information | Hypertension | CKS | NICE](#) in hypertension and ACE inhibitors in heart failure [ACE inhibitors | Prescribing information | Heart failure - chronic | CKS | NICE](#) and ARBs in heart failure [ARBs | Prescribing information | Heart failure - chronic | CKS | NICE](#) for dosing guidance. SPCs should be consulted for full information on licensed indications and dosing regimens.

#### Links to further information

- SmPC Ramipril 1.25mg capsules [Search Results - \(emc\)](#)
- BNF Ramipril [Ramipril | Drugs | BNF | NICE](#)
- NICE CKS guidance: Hypertension- ACE inhibitors [Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors | Prescribing information | Hypertension | CKS | NICE](#)
- NICE CKS guidance: Hypertension- ARBs [Angiotensin-II receptor blockers | Prescribing information | Hypertension | CKS | NICE](#)
- NICE CKS guidance: Chronic heart failure- ACE inhibitors [ACE inhibitors | Prescribing information | Heart failure - chronic | CKS | NICE](#)
- NICE CKS guidance: Chronic heart failure- ARBs [ARBs | Prescribing information | Heart failure - chronic | CKS | NICE](#)

Serious shortage protocols (SSPs) | BSO [Serious Shortage Protocols \( SSP's \) - Business Services Organisation \(BSO\) Website](#)