



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

To: All Community Pharmacists

3rd July 2026

Dear colleague

Medicine Supply Notification: Oxcarbazepine 150mg tablets (Viatris)
Tier 2 – medium impact

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

Summary

- Oxcarbazepine 150mg tablets (Viatris) are out of stock until mid-July 2026.
- Oxcarbazepine 150mg tablets (Trileptal®) remain available and can support increased demand

ACTIONS REQUIRED

Prescribers should not initiate new patients on oxcarbazepine 150mg tablets (Viatris) until the shortage has resolved. Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, clinicians should:

- consider prescribing alternative brand of oxcarbazepine 150mg tablets (Trileptal®);
- reassure patient that they are receiving the same treatment, albeit from a different manufacturer, in order to maintain their treatment; and to continue the same dose, and report any side effects or loss of seizure control (or symptom control if being used off-label for trigeminal neuralgia) after the switch; and
- if the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from specialists on management options.



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Supporting information

Clinical Information

Oxcarbazepine is licensed for the treatment of partial seizures with or without secondarily generalised tonic clonic seizures, as monotherapy or adjunctive therapy, in adults and in children of 6 years of age and above. The licensed starting dose is 600 mg/day given in 2 divided doses, with doses titrated at approximately weekly intervals to achieve the desired clinical response. Therapeutic effects are seen at doses between 600 mg/day and 2,400 mg/day.

It is a category 2 antiepileptic drug so the need for continued supply of a particular manufacturer's product should be based on clinical judgement and consultation with patient and/or carer, considering factors such as seizure frequency and treatment history, as well as patient/carers-related factors, including their negative perceptions

Links to further information:

- SmPC Oxcarbazepine [Search Results - \(emc\)](#)
- BNF Oxcarbazepine [Oxcarbazepine | Drugs | BNF | NICE](#)
- BNF Treatment Summary - Epilepsy [Epilepsy | Treatment summaries | BNF | NICE](#)
- CKS Epilepsy [Epilepsy | Health topics A to Z | CKS | NICE](#)