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Medicine Supply Notification: Nabilone 1mg capsules

Tier 2 – medium impact
Date of issue: 14/07/2026

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

Summary

- Nabilone 1mg capsules are currently out of stock with an anticipated resupply date of end of August 2026.
- Nabilone 0.25mg capsules remain available and can support increased demand.
- Unlicensed imports of nabilone 1mg capsules are available and can be sourced; lead times vary

Actions Required

- Where existing patients have insufficient supply to last until the resupply date, clinicians should:
- consider prescribing nabilone 0.25mg capsules to make up the required dose, provided the increased pill burden is acceptable to the patient; and
 - consider prescribing unlicensed nabilone 1mg capsules only where the above option is not suitable.

If the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from specialist teams on management options

Supporting information

Clinical information

Nabilone is indicated for the control of nausea and vomiting, caused by chemotherapeutic agents used in the treatment of cancer, in patients who have failed to respond adequately to conventional antiemetic treatments. It is also used as off-label for neuropathic pain in patients who have not responded to other treatments.

Links to further information

- BNF- Nabilone [Nabilone | Drugs | BNF | NICE](#)
- SPC- Nabilone capsules [Search Results - \(emc\)](#)



Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed nabilone 1mg capsules (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Arcadia
- 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:

- [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),

When prescribing a product that is not licensed in the UK due to a supply issue with the licensed alternative prescribers must indicate on the HS21 prescription that an unlicensed product is required, with the following wording: “**special order**”.