



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/018

Acetylcysteine 2g/10ml solution for injection

Tier 2 - medium impact*

Date of issue: 25/03/2021

Summary

- Due to manufacturing constraints Martindale are currently out of stock of acetylcysteine 2g/10ml solution. Further stock is due to arrive in the UK by 30/31 March 2021. Martindale are working with their wholesalers to support stock being available to order from 1st April 2021 and over the bank holiday weekend.
- Phoenix labs are currently in stock but do not have capacity to support non contracted customers.
- Unlicensed imports have been sourced with varying lead times (see supporting information).

Actions Required

Trust pharmacy procurement and clinical teams should:

Martindale regions (DLN, DNE, DNW, DSW)

- review stock holding of acetylcysteine 2g/10ml solution for injection;
- work with clinical teams to review use and conserve stock for priority indications, where necessary;
- work with their Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist (RPPS) to share stock locally under the principle of mutual aid, to ensure continuity of care for patients; and
- contact respective RPPSs if mutual aid or unlicensed imports are not available as a limited quantity of Phoenix labs stock is available but RPPS authorisation is required.

Phoenix labs regions (DCE, DLS)

- review stock holding of acetylcysteine 2g/10ml solution for injection;
- work with clinical teams to review use and conserve stock for priority indications, where necessary; and
- continue to order acetylcysteine 2g/10ml solution for injection in line with forecasted demand, and no more than 7 days stock, over ordering will be challenged.

Supporting Information

Should there be any further delays in the availability of Martindale's stock, unlicensed imports are available.

Unlicensed imports

The following importer companies have indicated they can source supplies of acetylcysteine 2g/10ml solution for injection:

- Alium Medical
- Target Healthcare

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link: [A Guide to Managing Medicines Supply and Shortages.](#)

- UL Global Pharma
- Waymade PLC

Quantities available and lead times vary so please contact the companies directly for up to date information. Please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies and that this information is correct at time of issue but is subject to change.

Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Please see the links below for further information:

- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC);
- [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA); and
- [Professional guidance for the procurement and supply of specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS).

Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist, who will escalate to national teams if required.

REGION	Full Name	Email
East Midlands	Andi Swain	andi.swain@nhs.net
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All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2021/018.

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk

Communication prepared by pharmacy team at the Commercial Medicines Unit, NHS England & NHS Improvement