



Medicine Supply Notification

Reference: MSN/2019/003

Salofalk[®] (mesalazine) 500mg and 1g suppositories

Tier 2 – medium impact

Date of issue: 1 November 2019

Summary

- Salofalk[®] 500mg suppositories are out of stock until w/c 16th December 2019.
- Salofalk[®] 1g suppositories will be out of stock from late November until w/c 16th December 2019.
- Pentasa[®] (mesalazine) 1g suppositories remain available during this period.

Actions Required

- For patients without sufficient supplies of Salofalk[®] suppositories to last until the resolution date, prescribers may consider switching to Pentasa[®] suppositories.
- The below table can be used to support dose conversion between brands:

Salofalk [®] : Existing regimen	Pentasa [®] : Proposed regimen
1g daily	1g daily
500mg twice daily	1 g daily
500mg three times daily	Either 1 g daily (within licence) or 1g twice daily (off label)
2 x 500mg suppositories twice daily	1g twice daily (off label)
2 x 500mg suppositories three times daily	1g three times daily (off label)

- Clinicians (*both prescribing and dispensing*) should counsel patients regarding the different dosing regimen prescribed, where appropriate.

Supporting Information

- Any decision to prescribe an off-label 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)
- See the UKMi memo for further information:
<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-salofalk-mesalazine-suppositories-500mg-and-1g/>

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk