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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salofalk®: Existing regimen</th>
<th>Pentasa®: Proposed regimen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1g daily</td>
<td>1g daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500mg twice daily</td>
<td>1g daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500mg three times daily</td>
<td>Either 1 g daily (within licence) or 1g twice daily (off label)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x 500mg suppositories twice daily</td>
<td>1g twice daily (off label)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x 500mg suppositories three times daily</td>
<td>1g three times daily (off label)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 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