

SPS Spotlight Monthly Digest September 2024

Resources to support healthcare professionals working in all areas of the health system

*** Please share with the wider team ***

The first stop for professional medicines advice

September 2024

ADVICE & GUIDANCE:

Pharmacy Institutional Readiness for Exagamglogene Autotemcel

(Casgevy®): This document highlights key areas where Chief Pharmacists should focus pharmaceutical expertise prior to implementation of Exagamglogene Autotemcel.

Using generic liposomal amphotericin B: A licensed generic liposomal amphotericin B (Tillomed) is available. Learn about key differences compared to AmBisome Liposomal amphotericin B (Gilead) brand.

Managing risks associated with oxytocin infusions during labour:

Safety strategies can minimise the risk of harms related to oxytocin infusion overdose and delayed therapy.

Medication Safety Update September 2024: A resource collating the latest medication safety communications and publications to inform, support and inspire medication safety improvements.

Covid-19 vaccines: Autumn 2024 campaign

In preparation for the Autumn 2024 Covid-19 vaccine campaign we have updated our guidance and example SOPs to include the vaccines that will be used for the Autumn campaign in England.

Understanding the characteristics of Spikevax (JN.1) vaccine: An overview of the Spikevax (JN.1) vaccine and signposts to other useful resources

Preparing Spikevax (JN.1) vaccine: An example SOP for preparing Spikevax (JN.1) vaccine

Understanding the characteristics of Comirnaty 30 (JN.1) vaccine: An overview of the Comirnaty 30 (JN.1) vaccine and signposts to other useful resources

Understanding the characteristics of Comirnaty 3 (THREE) (JN.1) concentrate vaccine: An overview of the Comirnaty 3 (THREE) (JN.1) concentrate vaccine and signposts to other useful resources.

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Covid-19 vaccines: Autumn 2024 campaign

Understanding the characteristics of Comirnaty 10 (JN.1) ready to use vaccine: An overview of the Comirnaty 10 (JN.1) ready to use vaccine and signposts to other useful resources

Preparing Comirnaty 30 micrograms (JN.1) vaccine: An example SOP for preparing Comirnaty 30 micrograms (JN.1) vaccine

Preparing Comirnaty 10 (JN.1) ready to use vaccine: An example SOP for preparing Comirnaty 10 (JN.1) ready to use vaccine

Preparing Comirnaty 3 (THREE) (JN.1) concentrate vaccine: An example SOP for preparing Comirnaty 3 (THREE) (JN.1) concentrate vaccine

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WEBINARS

30th October
12:30-14:00

**MSATS
Safe use of DOACs**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

25th October
13:00 – 14:00

**Dealing with OOS
Microbiology Results
in Pharmacy Aseptic
Units
PART ONE**

[REGISTER
HERE](#)

25th November
13:00 – 14:00

**Dealing with OOS
Microbiology Results
in Pharmacy Aseptic
Units
PART TWO**

[REGISTER
HERE](#)

PAST EVENTS

**Take a look at our
previous events**

[LISTEN BACK](#)

EVENTS

SPS is going to the Pharmacy Show 2024 The Pharmacy Show is on the 13-14 October 2024 at NEC Birmingham. SPS are presenting and will have a stand.

SPS at the Quality Assurance and Technical Services Symposium SPS will be participating at the Quality Assurance and Technical Services (QATS) Symposium 2024 on Thursday 17 and Friday 18 October 2024 at NEC, Birmingham. Registration is now open via [eventbrite](#). Have you undertaken any research or service transformation at your site? Share it by [entering the poster competition](#).

SPS is going to Clinical Pharmacy Congress North 2024 Clinical Pharmacy Congress North is on the 1-2 November 2024 at Manchester Central. SPS are presenting and will have a stand.

PLANNING

[New Medicines News](#) - Highlights recent new product launches and regulatory changes.

[New Product Evaluations](#) - Lists new product evaluations freely available to NHS staff.

[Medicines Supply Tool](#) - Information provided by DHSC and NHSE Medicines Supply Teams for medication shortages (you must be registered and signed into our website to access this resource).

SUPPLY ISSUES MANAGED BY RPPS

Ustekinumab: Details of the new framework for Ustekinumab including biosimilars have been issued to Trusts and the framework started on the 1st September 2024. Trust procurement, clinical and homecare teams need to have made the local decisions as to preferred products to be used. Work needs to progress at pace to realise the significant saving opportunities available.

Pegasys Injection: Supply will be constrained until June 2025. An MSN has been issued. Allocations of remaining stock have been issued to Trusts. These are fixed for the period of the supply disruption

Pabrinex Injection: There is a long term supply issue with the IV and the IM is being discontinued April 2025. An updated MSN has been issued. Allocations have been running for several months and the August allocation was the last one. Trusts now need to be using thiamine injection imports. Clinical advice for [refeeding syndrome](#) and [alcohol withdrawal](#) is available on the SPS website and advice for use in critical care is being formulated. Generic versions of Pabrinex are expected in the near future and updates on availability will be shared when available.

SUPPLY ISSUES MANAGED BY RPPS

Basiliximab: Limited stock has recently become available. Trusts will now revert to their previous weekly cap.

Albumin: There are supply constraints of both strengths of albumin. Trusts are on monthly allocations, so please review where this is used and use alternatives if possible. A NatPSA has been issued

Alteplase: Allocations for September have been distributed to Trusts. A 25mg Tenecteplase product has been available since 12th August, with supply quantities in good condition. Trusts should begin preparing for its use. It is likely the September Alteplase allocation will be the last one. Once restrictions on Alteplase are lifted, Trusts should avoid overordering. Refer to the [Medicines Supply Tool](#) for further information (website registration required)

Tyenne (tocilizumab): Supply from FK is constrained for the rest of the year. Further SC switching cannot be supported and 80mg and 400mg IV presentations will have significant out of stock periods. The supply position is being reviewed regularly and further updates will be provided if the supply position changes.

IV fluids: The supply issues with IV fluids are continuing. MPSC and SPS Procurement are meeting regularly with suppliers to manage supplies. Please speak to your regional procurement specialists if you have any questions

SUPPLY ISSUES MANAGED BY DHSC

Pancreatic Enzyme replacement therapy: An MSN has been published around the availability of these medicines. There are supply constraints on Creon and Nutrizym. A NatPSA has been issued. Please make sure to regularly check the [Medicines Supply Tool](#) for the latest updates. A public facing page, [Prescribing and ordering available pancreatic enzyme replacement therapies](#) and [mini-tool](#) have been developed on the SPS website.

Viatrix UK has initiated a free Creon® customer service line dedicated to patients and healthcare professional affected by Creon® supply constraint. The purpose of the service is to provide the most up to date information on the supply of Creon®. The service will aim to provide information on the nearest pharmacies which have recently received supply. The Creon® customer service line can be reached via 0800 8086410. The service will be active from Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 17:00.

ADHD medicines: Further support and information can be found via: [Prescribing available medicines to treat ADHD.](#)

GLP-1 inhibitors: An updated MSN has been issued with details on availability of each product. Further information can be found via [Prescribing available GLP-1 receptor agonists](#)

Access to the SPS Medicines Advice Service

A single, national telephone number and email for the SPS Medicines Advice Service for primary care-based healthcare professionals, has now been launched.

Email: askspns.nhs@sps.direct

Phone: 0300 770 8564

KEEP UP TO DATE

Bookmark our website <https://www.sps.nhs.uk>

Register [here](#) on our website and 'opt in' to receive the **weekly SPS bulletin**.

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You can now also follow us on **LinkedIn** - search NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service or click the link and make sure you connect

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/specialist-pharmacy-service/>

Using our advice

You remain professionally responsible and accountable for your own actions when using our advice and guidance.