

NATIONAL ADHD MEDICATION SHORTAGE

Updated 22.02.2024

We are experiencing current severe disruptions in the supply of ADHD medications nationally. NHS England issued a National Patient Safety Alert in October 2023 which highlighted supply disruptions for the following medications:

Methylphenidate:

- Equasym XL® 10, 20 and 30 mg capsules
- Concerta XL® 18mg prolonged-release tablets
- Xaggitin XL® 18 and 36 mg prolonged-release tablets
- Xenidate XL® 27 mg prolonged-release tablets

Lisdexamfetamine:

- Elvanse® 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 and 70 mg capsules
- Elvanse® Adult 30, 50, and 70 mg capsules

Guanfacine:

- Intuniv® 1, 2, 3 and 4 mg prolonged-release tablets

Please scroll down to the table below to see the current national supply status of these medications.

In addition to the medications listed, we are still experiencing a shortage of atomoxetine. We had anticipated having sufficient supply from the end of February 2024, but unfortunately, this is not the case, and our suppliers have informed us that an anticipated date cannot be given at this stage. We are constantly reviewing the situation and will update you again as soon as we have firm information and enough stock available to meet and sustain demand.

Given the range of the medications affected by the disruption, it would not be possible to attempt to re-titrate patients on the few remaining alternatives, and the supply of these medicines are also likely to be affected as a direct consequence.

Patients should be reassured that stopping and restarting stimulant medications abruptly is medically safe to do, but ADHD symptoms will return.

If you are in shared care with your GP and Psychiatry-UK, please approach your GP in the first instance. Your GP can then inform us if they require us to support the shared care agreement. If you are receiving prescriptions from PUK, please approach your prescriber directly.

The current national supply information is as follows:

*** Please note that the anticipated re-supply dates listed are approximate and subject to change. We will update this information regularly. ***

Lisdexamfetamine (Elvanse/Elvanse Adult)*	Limited stock available for all strengths.
Concerta XL Delmosart MR Xaggitin XL Xenidate XL Equasym XL	Some strengths are out of stock. Available strengths are very low in stock, and supplies are intermittent.
Medikinet XL	Stocks remain limited but stable currently.
Guanfacine MR (Intuniv) (not licensed in adults)	Supplies are stable.

* Lisdexamfetamine

Although we have received a very limited supply of lisdexamfetamine, we do not have enough stock to start titration. At this point we can only prescribe for those adult patients who have had end of titration reviews or are being prescribed by us due to Shared Care Agreements being declined by their GPs. We do not have enough medication for those who require adjustments. This would exacerbate the current shortage and lead to further delays. Starting too early may lead to further disruptions to your titration, which may lead further distress. As soon as we have adequate stocks of lisdexamfetamine, we will contact patients to restart titration.

We are still not initiating any new lisdexamfetamine titration for CAMHS patients based on advice from respective ICBs.

Shared Care Agreements

We have received information from some patient groups that local stocks of medications have returned – If this applies to you, we will be happy to send a shared care agreement (SCA) letter to your GP and then transfer care back to primary care as per the shared care arrangement. For all other patients, we will be having the shared care agreement ready for GPs to consider when supplies are stable.