



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/089

Creon[®] Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules

Tier 3 – high impact*

Date of issue: 23/08/2024

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Creon[®] Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules are in limited supply until late September 2024.
- Creon[®] 10,000 gastro-resistant capsules are in limited supply into primary care settings via the wholesalers. However, there is a small amount in secondary care which may be used for the patient cohort on Creon[®] Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules as described in the actions.
- Where Creon[®] 10,000 gastro-resistant capsules are not suitable, unlicensed supplies may be sourced, lead times vary (see Supporting Information).

Actions Required

NHS Trust service provider pharmacy teams should:

- proactively place orders for unlicensed supplies to boost available supplies until the next delivery of Creon[®] Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules (see Supporting information);
- review local stock holding and where required, conservatively order stock of Creon[®] Micro granules directly from Viatrix in line with projected demand until resupply. Further information on ordering will be provided via your Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist.

Primary care clinicians should identify patients on Creon[®] Micro granules and ascertain if they have sufficient stock until resupply; where they have insufficient supply

- patient/carers should be advised to contact their secondary care specialists for one month's supply of Creon[®] Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules or for doses of 10000 units or more, consider prescribing Creon 10,000 gastro-resistant capsules, which may be opened and mixed without crushing (See supporting information).

Secondary care clinicians should:

- only initiate patients on Creon[®] Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules where doses of less than 10,000 lipase units are required; and
- consider prescribing Creon[®] 10,000 gastro-resistant capsules, where patients are on doses of 10,000 lipase units or more, which may be opened and mixed, without crushing (see Supporting information).

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Creon® Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules are licensed for the treatment of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency. For certain patients, e.g. infants newly diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis, Creon Micro Pancreatin 60.12mg gastro-resistant granules are the only appropriate form of pancreatic enzyme replacement.

Creon 10,000 capsules are licensed for the treatment of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency. They can be swallowed whole, or for ease of administration they may be opened, and the granules taken with acidic fluid or soft food, but without chewing. This could be apple sauce or yoghurt or any fruit juice with a pH less than 5.5, e.g. apple, orange or pineapple juice.

Many patients adjust their dose according to symptom management, but all patients should be counselled to re-titrate the dose if problems with digestion or weight loss occur.

Links to further information

[SmPC – Creon®](#)

[BNFC - Pancreatin](#)

[NPPG Position Statement on the shortage of Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy](#)

[National Patient Safety Alert - Shortage of Pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy](#)

[Specialist Pharmacy Services - Prescribing and ordering available pancreatic enzyme replacement therapies](#)

[Specialist Pharmacy Service - PERT alternatives and equivalences](#)

[Cystic Fibrosis Trust – Creon supply update](#)

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

The following specialist importer has confirmed they can source unlicensed Creon® minimicrospheres micro delayed release granules (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Chemys Limited

The enzyme composition of unlicensed imports may differ from UK licensed products; please refer to corresponding Summary of Product Characteristics for specific product information.

Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Unlicensed imports do not undergo any central quality assessment or suitability evaluation. Therefore, any import must be locally assessed in line with local unlicensed medicines processes.

Please see the links below for further information:

- [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
- [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society
- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC).

Enquiries

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

REGION	Lead RPPS	Email	Associate RPPS	Email
Midlands	Andi Swain	andi.swain@nhs.net	vacant	
East of England	James Kent	james.kent@nhs.net	Tracy McMillan	tracy.mcmillan2@nhs.net
London	Jackie Eastwood	jacqueline.eastwood@gstt.nhs.uk	Daniel Johnson	Daniel.Johnson@gstt.nhs.uk
North East and Yorkshire	David Allwood	davidallwood@nhs.net	Penny Daynes	penny.daynes@nhs.net
North West	Richard Bateman	richard.bateman@liverpoolft.nhs.uk	Andy Stewart	Andrew.stewart@liverpoolft.nhs.uk
South East	Alison Ashman	Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk	Melanie Renney	melanie.renney@berkshire.nhs.uk
South West	Danny Palmer	danny.palmer@uhbw.nhs.uk	Natalie Bryson	Natalie.Bryson@uhbw.nhs.uk

Scotland

nss.nhssmedicineshortages@nhs.scot

Wales

MedicinesShortages@gov.wales

Northern Ireland

RPHPS.Admin@northerntrust.hscni.net

All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2024/089.

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.