

Clenil Supply Update

May 2020



Clenil 100mcg inhaler
subject to the batch-specific variation



Clenil 100mcg inhaler from a regular batch

In a previous Hot Topic we highlighted shortages of some inhalers. To meet an increased demand the MHRA have authorised the release of additional batches of Clenil® Modulite® (beclometasone) 100mcg into the UK supply chain. These inhalers conform to all the required standards and deliver the same medication, however, the inhaler itself differs in appearance as shown above.

These batches are likely to come into circulation from 11th May 2020 and full details of concerned batch numbers can be found via <https://www.chiesi.uk.com/supply-of-chiesi-products>.

Summary of key information related to batch variation:

- **These inhalers contain the same medication i.e. beclometasone, and therefore require no change to either the way prescriptions are written, or the way patients manage their asthma.**
- The differences in the batch variation are related to the appearance of the inhaler device namely:
 - The colours of the plastic actuator and protective cap are beige and yellow respectively (instead of brown and beige respectively; see images above);
 - The beige actuator is not embossed;
 - There is no dose indicator however patients who received Clenil 100mcg prior to September 2019 (when this feature was added to the inhaler) may not notice that a dose indicator is not included.
 - The differences have no effect on the safety profile (adverse effects) of the medicine, however, patients should have increased vigilance for when they may need a new inhaler and should confirm the dosage on the labelling of the outer package and canister.

If dispensing this product, healthcare professionals should:

- Check carefully the dosage of the Clenil 100mcg inhaler written on the labelling on the packaging, prior to dispensing as the Clenil 100mcg; this medicine is a very similar colour to Clenil 50mcg.
- Counsel patients/caregivers regarding the change in appearance of their inhaler and reassure them that it contains their usual medication and is equally effective.
- As usual, recommend that patients keep track of when they start to use their inhaler – each Clenil 100mcg inhaler (irrespective of batch) contains 200 doses of medication so if a patient is taking two puffs of their inhaler twice a day, this means the inhaler will last for over a month.
- Use the opportunity to remind patients of good inhaler technique and to clean their inhaler once a week as usual, referring to the package leaflet for instructions.

Additional information

- The manufacturer, Chiesi, expect continued stock deliveries over the coming weeks and months and have good stock levels of all products.
- All healthcare professionals are requested to help maintain supply by continuing to write monthly repeat prescriptions of inhalers rather than prescriptions for multiple months' supply.

**For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Teams on
01282 644801 (EL CCG) or 01254 282087 (BwD CCG)**