

# Ranitidine: Supply Disruption

June 2020



- All oral formulations of ranitidine continue to be out of stock, with no date for resupply until further notice.
- The very limited supplies of unaffected oral ranitidine products which were available are now in extremely short supply and where possible should be reserved for individuals where no other alternative treatment is possible.
- Prescribers should proactively review prescribing of ranitidine as per below.

## Actions required

Identify patients prescribed ranitidine tablets, effervescent tablets and oral solutions. Review to establish if ongoing treatment can be stopped.

If ongoing treatment is still required, then:

1	Actively switch to first line omeprazole if appropriate
2	If omeprazole interacts with medicines currently prescribed then consider lansoprazole capsules  <i>Omeprazole not to be prescribed with clopidogrel due to risk of reducing its antiplatelet efficacy</i>
3	If patient has swallowing difficulties or has their medicines administered via enteral feeding tubes then consider lansoprazole orodispersible tablets
4	If omeprazole and lansoprazole are contraindicated then there may be very limited supplies of ranitidine for those patients in whom alternatives are not clinically appropriate. Contact your pharmacist to determine whether supplies are still available.
5	If ranitidine is unavailable then consider famotidine as a last resort.  All other options must be explored first.  <b>NOTE:</b> Famotidine is over 20 times more expensive than ranitidine

For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Teams on  
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