

PRICE ALERT-

Alimemazine (Vallergan®)

February 2017



The withdrawal of the Vallergan® brand of Alimemazine has enabled the suppliers of generic Alimemazine to significantly increase the price. Alternative first generation antihistamines, such as chlorphenamine or promethazine, offer a more cost effective option. There is little evidence that any of these are more superior to the other.

The Vallergan® brand previously cost £4.28 for 28 tablets

The new generic Alimemazine price is £112.85 for 28 tablets

Please identify these patients as a priority and change them to promethazine, hydroxyzine or chlorphenamine as appropriate.

The same price increase can also be seen with Alimemazine solution:

Vallergan® brand of 7.5mg/5mls solution previously cost £4.88 for 100mls

The new Generic Alimemazine price for 7.5mg/5mls is £179.54 for 100mls

Vallergan® brand of 30mg/5mls solution previously cost £7.55 for 100mls

The new Generic Alimemazine price for 30mg/5mls is £243.51 for 100mls

Again, please identify these patients as a priority and change them to an appropriate alternative antihistamine (Cost effective choices include: Cetirizine Solution, Loratadine Solution, Chlorphenamine Solution).

Projected annual spend on Alimemazine across the health economy if no change in prescribing is £611,280 (BwD CCG = £145,657; EL CCG = £465,623).

Since the withdrawal of the Vallergan® Brand of Alimemazine, the generic price has significantly increased

Prescribers should identify patients prescribed Alimemazine and change them to a cost effective alternative.

For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Team on 01254 282087 (BwD CCG) or 01282 644807 (ELCCG)