SERIOUS SHORTAGE PROTOCOL (SSP)
Reference Number: SSP 026

- SSP 026 (this SSP) – Where the duration of treatment on the prescription is for more than 3 months of estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray and supplies of estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray are available.
- SSP 027 – Where the duration of treatment on the prescription is for 3 months or less of estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray, supplies of estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray are unavailable, and substitution is deemed clinically appropriate.
- SSP 028 – Where the duration of treatment on the prescription is for more than 3 months of estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray, supplies of estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray are unavailable, and substitution is deemed clinically appropriate.

This SSP applies to the following medicine:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of medicine (including strength and formulation)</th>
<th>Estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray where supplies are available but the prescription is for more than 3 months supply.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refer to SSP 027 and 028 for when supplies are unavailable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal category</td>
<td>POM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Details of medication to be supplied under this SSP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of medicine (including formulation and strength) to be supplied</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Scope for which this Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) applies

| The SSP applies to the following parts of the UK | UK-wide |

### Clinical situation to which this Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) applies

| Scope of SSP | All brand and generically prescribed NHS and private prescriptions. |
| Criteria for inclusion | • The patient presents with a valid prescription (meeting the requirements of the Human Medicines Regulations 2012) for an amount greater than three months’ supply for estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray.  
• The patient/carer is aware that in accordance with this SSP, no further supply can be made from the same prescription above the three-month quantity.  
• All patients aged 18 years of age or above. |
| Criteria for exclusion | • The patient presents with a prescription for a medicine other than estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray.  
• The patient presents a prescription which is not valid.  
• The patient presents a prescription for estradiol (Lenzetto®) 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray for an amount less than or equivalent to three months’ supply.  
• The patient/carer does not consent to receiving the medicine supplied in accordance with this SSP.  
• Patients aged less than 18 years. |
| Cautions including any relevant action to be taken | None |
| Special considerations for specific populations of patients | None |
| Action to be taken if the patient is excluded | None |
Action to be taken if the patient or carer declines the supply

If a patient/carer declines to receive the medicine under this SSP, the pharmacist should use their professional judgement to determine if other courses of action are appropriate whilst taking into consideration wider supply issues. If this does not address their concerns, the patient/carer should be referred back to their prescriber for advice.

Valid from: 19/05/2022
Expiry date: 19/08/2022
Reference number: SSP 026
Version number: 1.0

Any queries regarding the content of this SSP which was issued by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, should be addressed to NHS Prescription Services.

You can get in contact by:
Email: nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk
Telephone: 0300 330 1349
Textphone: 18001 0300 330 1349

You can also write to us at:

Newcastle
NHS Prescription Services
Bridge House
152 Pilgrim Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 6SN

Middlebrook
NHS Prescription Services
Ridgeway House
Northgate Close
Middlebrook
Horwich
Bolton
BL6 6PQ

Wakefield
NHS Prescription Services
4th Floor
Wakefield House
Borough Road
Wakefield
WF1 3UB

Change history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version number</th>
<th>Change details</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Conditions under which this Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) will operate
• The decision to supply any medicine under this protocol rests with the individual registered pharmacist who must abide by the protocol.

• Whilst pharmacy staff may support the dispensing process of the protocol, this must be carried out under the supervision of the registered pharmacist.

• Pharmacists using this SSP must ensure that it is only used within its authorised dates and within the criteria set out within the SSP. Pharmacists must check that they are using the current version of the SSP, particularly when referring to a hard copy version. Amendments may become necessary prior to the published expiry date. Current versions of SSP templates can be found at https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps.

• Users must not alter, amend or add to the content of this document; such action will invalidate the SSP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maria Caulfield</td>
<td>Minister</td>
<td></td>
<td>19/05/2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADDENDUM
Supporting information on notifying other healthcare professionals

- Any items supplied in accordance with an SSP in response to an NHS prescription also needs to be supplied in accordance with NHS Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services Regulations.

- Those Regulations provide that where a therapeutic equivalent is supplied, a pharmacist will need to inform a patient’s GP practice. This would generally be expected within the next working day, but further guidance would be given in any case where this applied.

- Where a different quantity, an alternative pharmaceutical form, an alternative strength or a generic equivalent is provided, it may not always be necessary that the patient’s prescriber is informed, as the existence of the SSP may be enough for the prescriber to be aware that these changes in dispensing may take place, unless national arrangements agreed with the relevant representative bodies state otherwise. However, guidance may be issued on particular SSPs to indicate that prescribers should be informed of any patients that receive supply under it.

- In the absence of any preferred local alternate communication channels, all feedback to prescribers should be sent by NHSmail. The NHS 111 Directory of Service finder is a way for pharmacies to look up the email address of the patient’s GP.