Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Jext[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen – corresponding guidance on endorsement, prescription charges, remuneration and reimbursement plus Q&A.

SSP 058 for Jext[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen

1) Endorsement

The contractor must endorse the prescription form or Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) as per Clause 9, Part II of the Drug Tariff.

Electronic prescription:

Where SSP endorsement functionality is available on the dispensing system the contractor must select SSP and input the three-digit reference number. The contractor must also select in the system the SSP item that has been supplied.

Example	Endorsement
	Option
Prescription for Jext [®]	SSP 058
300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000)	
solution for injection auto-injector	Pharmacy contractor selects in
pen x 1	system EpiPen [®]
Pharmacy contractor supplies EpiPen [®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen x 1	300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto- injector pen x 1

Non-electronic prescription form:

Example	Endorsement
	Option
Prescription for Jext [®]	SSP 058
300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen x 1	Pharmacy contractor endorses EpiPen [®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen x 1

Pharmacy contractor supplies EpiPen [®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen x 1	

2) Prescription charges

Pharmacy contractors must take one prescription levy. Only one prescription charge will be applicable for patients who are not exempt from prescription charges.

3) Remuneration

Supply in accordance with this SSP 058 will result in the following fees being paid to the contactor:

- One Single Activity Fee (£1.27)
- One SSP fee (£5.35)
- 4) Reimbursement

The supplied product in accordance with this SSP 058 will be reimbursed as if it was dispensed against a prescription. In this instance, contractors will be reimbursed the NHS list price for EpiPen[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen depending on the quantity supplied.

From June 2023, a VAT allowance will no longer be paid as products supplied in accordance with an SSP are considered to be VAT zero-rated.

Q&A

Will the SSP apply to cross-border prescriptions?

Yes. Patients from England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland who present their prescriptions for Jext[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen are eligible to receive a substituted product under the terms of this SSP 058.

Does the SSP apply to private prescriptions?

Yes. The scope of this SSP 058 applies to valid prescriptions that meets the requirements of the Human Medicine Regulations 2012, so it would cover both NHS and private prescriptions, unless where it stated otherwise on the SSP itself.

Will prescription charges apply under the SSP?

Yes, patients who are not exempt from prescription charges would continue to pay for this as usual. The only circumstance in which patients would not have to pay for a prescription charge is where an SSP specifies a lower quantity to be supplied.

Please note that the SSP for Jext[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen does not specify a lower quantity to be supplied, so patients will continue to pay prescription charges (unless they are already exempt). For more information, please see the above guidance.

Should pharmacists exclude supplying the substituted product where supplying would be considered off-license?

The pharmacist will need to discuss with the patient/carer **and** use their professional judgment when determining whether EpiPen[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen should be supplied in accordance with this SSP 058.

Supplying to patients weighing below 26kg would represent an off-license use of the medicine. However, if the patient weighs less than 26kg, the prescriber will have prescribed Jext[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen as an off-licensed use as its licensed use is for patients weighing 30 kilograms or above and therefore the pharmacist may consider it appropriate to supply the medicine off license.

Pharmacists can refer to the BNF guidance for further information: Adrenaline/epinephrine | Drugs | BNF | NICE

Should pharmacists provide additional counselling when supplying patients with the substituted product?

The pharmacist will need to discuss with the patient/carer whether they have used EpiPen[®] 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen before. Where appropriate the patient/carer should be advised on the safe and effective use of EpiPen[®].

Can pharmacists use their professional judgement to supply an alternative product to patients?

Supply in accordance with this SSP 058 only allows supply of a specific substitution up to the duration of treatment prescribed. However, if the pharmacist thinks that an alternative product, would be suitable for the patient they should either contact the prescriber to discuss this (with the patient's consent) or direct the patient back to the prescriber.

Does the SSP apply to other auto-injector pens?

No, this SSP 058 only applies to prescriptions for $Jext^{\mbox{\tiny B}}$ 300micrograms/0.3ml (1 in 1000) solution for injection auto-injector pen.