



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/061

Sulfasalazine (Salazopyrin En-Tabs®) 500mg tablets

Tier 1 – low impact*

Date of issue: 29/11/2021

Link: www.sps.nhs.uk/shortages/shortage-of-sulfasalazine-500mg-gastro-resistant-tablets-salazopyrin-en-tabs

Summary

- Pfizer are out of stock of Salazopyrin En-Tabs® until w/c 20 December 2021.
- Generic versions of sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets remain available.
- SPS MI have advised there are no known differences in bioavailability between the branded and generic products and they can be considered interchangeable.
- A Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) was issued on 26/11/2021.

Actions Required

- For patients with insufficient supplies, community pharmacists may supply sulfasalazine gastro-resistant 500mg tablets against the SSP for eligible patients.

If the above option is not deemed appropriate, clinicians should:

- consider prescribing sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets generically to enable any manufacturer's product to be dispensed; and
- counsel patients regarding the switch from branded to generic at the point of dispensing.

Supporting information

- Please see the link for further information on the [Salazopyrin En-Tabs 500mg tablet SSP](#)
- See SPCs below for further information
[Salazopyrin En-Tabs® 500mg](#)
[Sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets](#)

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>