

Public Health Link

From the Chief Medical Officer for Wales

Distribution:	As Annex 1
From:	Andrew Evans, Directorate of Health Policy
Date:	05 December 2018
Reference:	CEM/CPhA/2018/17a
Category:	Class 2 – Action within 48 Hours
Title:	Update on Protocol on Dispensing of Adrenaline Auto-Injectors, 150microgram applying from 29th November 2018
For Action by:	All Dispensing General Practitioners - please ensure this message is seen by all working in your dispensary and retain a copy in your 'locum information pack'. All Community Pharmacists
For Information:	See Annex 1 – Distribution List
What is this about:	Full details are set out below.
Why has it been sent:	For your action and information and to pass on to Colleagues as appropriate.

Issue:

Previous Public Health Links have notified of controls on the supply of 150microgram adrenaline auto-injectors. Stock positions are sufficient to allow relaxation of the prescription validation protocol for Jext® and Emerade® paediatric devices.

Prescription validation is still required for EpiPen® Junior devices.

All community pharmacies and dispensing doctors to action as attached pdf.

Distribution List

To: NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership to forward to:

All Dispensing General Practitioners - please ensure this message is seen by all working in your dispensary and retain a copy in your 'locum information pack'.

All Community Pharmacists

Deputising services

HB Chief Pharmacists

HB Prescribing Advisers

Independent/Private clinics and Hospitals and Hospices throughout Wales

Community Optometrists

Chief Executives of Health Boards

Medical Directors of Health Boards

Nurse Directors Health Boards

Directors of Public Health

Hospital Principals and Chief Pharmacists to action as per alert

Public Health Wales

Consultants in Pharmaceutical Public Health

Chief Executives, NHS Trusts

Principal Pharmacist Welsh Quality Control

Principal Pharmacist Continuing Care Services

Principal Pharmacist Welsh Medicines Information Centre

CSSIW

NHS Direct



Update on Protocol on Dispensing of Adrenaline Auto-Injectors, 150microgram applying from 29th November 2018

You will be aware of the recent DHSC Supply Disruption Alert on EpiPen Junior adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIS) which advised conserving supplies for patients who truly need them. Previous guidance implemented controls on the supply of 150microgram adrenaline auto-injectors. Stock positions are sufficient to allow further relaxation of the prescription validation protocol for Jext and Emerade paediatric devices, whilst prescription validation will still be required for EpiPen Junior devices.

In Pharmacy Validation:

Pharmacies will no longer need to use the algorithms for any of the products to determine if a patient should receive a supply but can fulfil prescriptions as they are received.

Ordering

Jext and Emerade Paediatric Devices

Pharmacies will now be able to order stock of adrenaline auto-injectors in the same way as they did prior to the implementation of the prescription validation process. The wholesalers will have caps on the amount of stock which can be ordered, but this is in line with processes in place previously. Pharmacies are advised to speak to wholesalers directly if further information about current caps is required.

EpiPen Junior Devices

EpiPen Junior will remain on a wholesaler prescription management process, this allows pharmacies to order up to a maximum of two EpiPen Junior devices per prescription. Pharmacies are required to send anonymised prescriptions to Alliance Healthcare's prescription validation service either by fax or by email. Further information can be found on the EpiPen website, under instructions for pharmacists, this can be found at the following link: <http://www.epipen.co.uk/>

Thank you for all your help during this supply issue and for managing stocks of adrenaline auto-injectors closely. We do urge pharmacies to continue to order sensibly during this time. Stocks will be closely monitored over the coming weeks to ensure adequate supplies are available to order.