



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2025/005

Memantine (Valios®) 5mg orodispersible tablets sugar free

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 28/01/2025

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Memantine (Valios®) 5mg orodispersible tablets sugar free are out of stock until late April 2025.
- Memantine (Valios®) 5 mg/10 mg/15 mg/20 mg orodispersible tablets initiation pack sugar free has been out of stock since 2020 and the resupply date is unknown.
- Memantine 5 mg/10 mg/15 mg/20 mg tablets treatment initiation pack remains available and can support increased demand. (Note: film coated tablets).
- Memantine 10mg/ml oral solution sugar free and memantine (Ebixa®) 5mg/0.5ml pump actuation oral solution remain available and can support increased demand.
- Memantine 10mg and 20mg film coated tablets remain available and can support increased demand.
- Memantine (Valios®) 10mg and 20mg orodispersible tablets sugar free remain available and can support increased demand.

Actions Required

When initiating and titrating new patients on memantine treatment who are *able* to safely swallow solid dosage forms, clinicians should consider prescribing memantine 5 mg/10 mg/15 mg/20 mg tablets treatment initiation pack (see Supporting information).

When initiating and titrating new patients on memantine treatment who are *unable* to safely swallow solid dosage forms, clinicians should consider:

- in those able to safely swallow thin liquids, prescribing memantine oral solution, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients, and counselling them and/or caregiver on the appropriate dose and volume to be administered, and how to administer the dose (including how to use the dosing pump if a formulation with pump is prescribed); or
- in those unable to safely swallow thin liquids (requiring a texture-modified diet), prescribing half of a 10mg film coated tablet to be crushed and administered with a small amount of appropriate food or thickened liquid (off-label use), ensuring that the patient and/or caregiver is provided with a tablet cutter and counselled on how to administer the dose (see Supporting information).

Once the patient has reached maintenance dose of 20mg, prescribers can consider switching patient to memantine (Valios®) 20mg orodispersible tablets.

When prescribing alternative formulations of memantine, the individual [SmPCs](#) should be consulted for cautions, contraindications and excipients, as these may vary between products.

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

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

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Memantine is licensed for the treatment of moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease in adults. In order to reduce the risk of undesirable effects, the maintenance dose is achieved by upward titration of 5 mg per week over the first 3 weeks as follows: 5mg once a day for 7 days, 10mg once a day for 7 days, 15mg once a day for 7 days, then 20mg once a day, which is the maximum daily dose.

The 10 mg film coated tablets are scored and can be halved into equal doses, to allow 5mg dosing increments.

Links to further information

[SmPC Valios® 5mg Orodispersible Tablets](#)
[SmPC Ebixa® 5mg/pump actuation oral solution](#)
[SmPC Ebixa® Treatment Initiation Pack](#)
[SmPC Memantine Lupin titration pack](#)

[SmPC Memantine 10mg/ml oral solution](#)
[SmPC Memantine 10 mg film coated tablets](#)
[SmPCs Memantine](#)
[BNF: Memantine](#)

Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Specialist Pharmacy Service Regional Pharmacy Procurement Team, who will escalate to national teams if required.

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All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2025/005

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.