



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/052

Sulfadiazine silver (Flamazine®) 1% cream

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 08/05/2024

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Flamazine® 1% cream 20g, 50g and 500g packs are out of stock until early August 2024.
- Flamazine® 1% cream 250g packs will be out of stock from mid-May 2024 until early August 2024.
- Alternative products for the treatment of burns and wound care remain available and can support increased demand.
- Unlicensed supplies of Flammacerium® and Silvadene® creams have been sourced, lead times vary.

Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- review if Flamazine® cream is the most appropriate treatment and ensure that where available, it is used sparingly and not for longer than clinically necessary; and
- prioritise any remaining supplies for use in patients with burns.

Where there are insufficient supplies of Flamazine® cream, clinicians should:

- consider prescribing an alternative product including Flaminal® gels, UrgoTul® dressings, Acticoat® dressings or Prontosan® gels where appropriate, taking into account the ease of use, patient preference and tolerability (see Supporting information); or
- consider prescribing unlicensed Flammacerium® or Silvadene® cream containing sulfadiazine silver 1%, only where licensed alternatives are not appropriate. Prescribers should work with local pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see Supporting information); and
- if the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from burns or tissue viability specialists on management options.

Supporting information

Flamazine® cream contains silver sulfadiazine, a bacteriostatic and bactericidal agent. It is licensed for the prophylaxis and treatment of infection in burn wounds. It may also be used as an aid to the short-term treatment of infection in leg ulcers and pressure sores, and as an aid to the prophylaxis of infection in skin graft donor sites and extensive abrasions. It is also licensed for the conservative management of finger-tip injuries where pulp, nail loss and/or partial loss of the distal phalanx has occurred. Tubes should be discarded 7 days after opening and the 250g and 500g pots 24 hours after opening. The contents of one container are for the treatment of one person.

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

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

Table 1: Examples of antimicrobial wound care products*

Product	Constituents	Uses
Flaminal® Hydro Flaminal® Forte	Debriding gel, absorbent alginate and antimicrobial enzyme system.	Acute and chronic wounds, or wounds at risk of infection: Flaminal® Hydro for slightly to moderately exuding wounds. Flaminal® Forte for wounds with moderate to high amounts of wound exudate.
UrgoClean® Ag dressing UrgoTul® Ag/Silver dressing	Hydro-desloughing pad coated with silver-impregnated micro-adherent healing matrix. Non-adherent conformable contact layer dressing with silver-impregnated micro-adherent healing matrix.	Burns Traumatic wounds Surgical wounds Lower limb wounds Diabetic foot ulcers
Acticoat® antimicrobial barrier dressing	Silver anti-microbial barrier dressing	Partial and full thickness wounds
Prontosan® Wound Gel Prontosan® X (extra thick [highly viscous]) gel	Antimicrobial polyhexanide (0.1% polyhexamethylene biguanide) and a betaine surfactant (0.1% undecylenamidopropyl betaine)	Cleansing, moisturising, and decontamination of skin wounds and burns including: Traumatic wounds Postoperative wounds Chronic skin ulcers (e.g. venous, diabetic or pressure ulcers) Thermal wounds Chemical wounds (acid- and alkali-induced) Radiation-induced wounds Moistening of bandages and wound dressings.

*List is not exhaustive; represents suggestions from tissue viability and burns practitioners

Links to further information

[SmPC Flamazine® 1% cream](#)

[BNF - Silver sulfadiazine](#)

[Product information - Flaminal®](#)

[Product information – UrgoClean® Ag](#)

[Product information - UrgoTul® Ag/Silver](#)

[Product information - Acticoat®](#)

[Product information - Prontosan® Wound Gel](#)

[Product information - Prontosan® Wound Gel X](#)

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed products (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Durbin (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Genetech (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Mawdsleys (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Target Healthcare (silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene®) 1% cream)
- Alliance Pharma (cerium nitrate hexahydrate 22mg/g/sulfadiazine silver (Flammacerium®) 10mg/g cream)

Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Unlicensed imports do not undergo any central quality assessment or suitability evaluation. Therefore, any import must be locally assessed in line with local unlicensed medicines processes.

Please see the links below for further information:

- [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
- [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society
- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC),

Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist (RPPS) or Associate RPPS, who will escalate to national teams if required.

REGION	Lead RPPS	Email	Associate RPPS	Email
Midlands	Andi Swain	andi.swain@nhs.net	vacant	
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All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2024/052

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.