



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/087

Naltrexone 50mg tablets

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 22/08/2024

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Naltrexone 50mg tablets (Accord) are in limited supply until early September 2024 and then out of stock until late October 2024.
- Naltrexone (Adepend®) 50mg tablets (AOP Orphan) are out of stock until mid-September 2024 and are unable to support increased demand once back in stock.
- Naltrexone 50mg tablets (AOP Orphan) remain available and can support the increased demand.

Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- not initiate patients on the Accord or Adepend® products until the shortages have resolved;
- prescribe naltrexone 50mg tablets (AOP Orphan), noting that use for alcohol dependence is off-label (see Supporting information).

Pharmacists should:

- explain to patients dispensed naltrexone 50mg tablets (AOP Orphan) for alcohol dependence about the shortage and that although the package insert relates only to use for opioid dependency, it is the same treatment that would be used for alcohol dependence; and
- ensure the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and is counselled on the appropriate dose required (see Supporting information).

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Naltrexone 50mg tablets (Accord) are licensed for use as an additional therapy within a comprehensive treatment program including psychological guidance for detoxified patients who have been opioid-dependent and alcohol-dependent to support abstinence. The initial dose should be 25mg (half a tablet) for an opioid-dependent patient on day 1 followed by the usual dose of one tablet per day (50mg) thereafter (but a slower titration may be considered by the clinician based on tolerability). The recommended dose for alcohol dependence to support abstinence is 50mg per day.

Naltrexone 50mg tablets (AOP Orphan) are licenced for treatment of opioid addiction. Use for the treatment of alcohol addiction would be off-label. Dosing would be as for the Accord product.

Links to further information

[SmPC naltrexone 50mg tablet \(Accord\)](#)
[SmPC naltrexone 50mg tablet \(AOP Orphan\)](#)

[SmPC naltrexone \(Adepend®\) 50mg tablets \(AOP Orphan\)](#)
[BNF Naltrexone hydrochloride](#)

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

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

[NICE TA115 - Naltrexone for the management of opioid dependence](#)

[NICE CG115: Alcohol-use disorders](#)

Enquiries

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