



UPDATE:

Update to communications issued on 19 December 2024. Material updates are shown in **bold**.

Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/115U

Estradiol (Estradot[®]) **25micrograms/24 hours, 37.5micrograms/24 hours,**
50micrograms/24 hours, 75micrograms/24 hours, and 100micrograms/24 hours
transdermal patches

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 03/04/2025

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Estradiol (Estradot[®]) **25micrograms/24 hours** and 50micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches will be out of stock until late April 2025.
- **Limited supplies of estradiol (Estradot[®]) 75micrograms/24hours and 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches are available until late April 2025.**
- **Estradiol (Estradot[®]) 37.5micrograms/24 hours patches** will be out of stock from late-April until July 2025.
- Alternative brands of estradiol patches (Evorel[®] and Estraderm MX[®]) are available and can support a full uplift in demand.
- FemSeven[®] (estradiol) transdermal patches (once weekly application) remain available and can support an uplift in demand.
- Progynova[®] (estradiol) TS transdermal patches (once weekly application) also remain available but cannot support an uplift in demand.
- Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for estradiol (Estradot[®]) **25micrograms/24hours,** 50micrograms/24 hours, 75micrograms/24 hours and 100micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches have been issued.

Actions Required

Prescribers should not initiate new patients on Estradot[®] **25micrograms/24hours,** **37.5micrograms/24hours,** 50micrograms/24hours, 75micrograms/24hours and 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches until the supply issues have resolved.

For patients with insufficient supplies of Estradot[®] **25micrograms/24hours,** 50micrograms/24 hours, 75micrograms/24 hours and 100micrograms/24 hours transdermal patches:

- community pharmacists may supply an equivalent strength of Evorel[®] or Estraderm MX[®] transdermal patches in accordance with the SSP for eligible patients (see Supporting information below); and

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

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

- if the above options are not appropriate or patients have previously had intolerances to Evorel® or Estraderm MX® patches, refer the patient to the prescriber to establish if ongoing treatment is required, and to consider use of an alternative [available hormone replacement therapy \(HRT\)](#).

For patients with insufficient supplies of Estradot® 37.5micrograms/24hours transdermal patches:

- **clinicians should consider prescribing Evorel® or Estraderm MX® 25micrograms/24hours patches, advising patients to cut a patch in half (off-label use) and apply one and a half patches to provide a 37.5micrograms/24hours dose. The remaining half can be put back into the packet for the next dose. Ensure the patient is able to carry out this manipulation (see Supporting Information);**
- **clearly annotate the prescription to emphasise the dose i.e. one and a half patches of the Evorel® or Estraderm MX® 25micrograms/24hours are to be applied and ensure the patient understands dosing and administration; and**
- **patients should be counselled on the change in brand and how to deliver a 37.5microgram dose at the point of supply.**

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Estradot® patches are licensed as HRT for oestrogen deficiency symptoms in postmenopausal women. They are applied twice weekly. Evorel® and Estraderm MX® are other brands of estradiol patches that are also applied twice weekly.

Links to further information

[SmPC Estradot® patches](#)

[SmPC Evorel® patches](#)

[SmPC Estraderm MX® patches](#)

[British Menopause Society – HRT preparations and equivalent alternatives](#)

[British Society for Paediatric endocrinology and Diabetes patient information leaflet - guidance on cutting Evorel® and Estraderm MX® patches](#)

[SSP Estradiol \(Estradot®\) 25micrograms/24hours, 50micrograms/24hours, 75micrograms/24 hours and 100microgram/24hours transdermal patches](#)

[CKS: Menopause- Hormone replacement therapy](#)

Further updates

DHSC will continue to provide updates on HRT stock availability on the [Medicine Supply Tool](#) and designated '[Prescribing available HRT products](#)' page on the Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website.

Enquiries

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