Department of Health & Social Care

NHS England

Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2025/054

Exenatide (Bydureon® BCise®) 2mg/0.85ml prolonged-release suspension for injection pre-filled pen

Tier 2 – medium impact*
Date of issue: 15/10/2025
Link: Medicines Supply Tool

Summary

- Exenatide (Bydureon® BCise®) 2mg/0.85ml prolonged-release suspension for injection pre-filled pens have been discontinued with supplies now exhausted.
- Alternative GLP-1 RAs and dual GIP/GLP-1 RA remain available and can support increased demand.

Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- not initiate new patients on Bydureon® BCise®;
- review existing patients and consider switching to alternative once weekly parenteral GLP-1 RAs including semaglutide (Ozempic®), and dulaglutide (Trulicity®) or GIP/GLP-1 RA (tirzepatide [Mounjaro®]), which can fully support increased demand;
    - when switching to alternative agent, ensure patients are not intolerant to any of the excipients, and are counselled on the new treatment, the reason for the switch, dosing regimen, and how to administer it (refer to product SPC); and
    - consider dose reductions for those on concomitant insulin or sulfonylureas when switching to tirzepatide (Mounjaro®) to avoid the risk of hypoglycaemia.

If the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from the diabetes team on alternative management options.

Supporting information

Bydureon is a prolonged release formulation of exenatide, a GLP-1 RA. It is licensed for the treatment of adults, adolescents and children aged 10-years and above with type 2 diabetes mellitus to improve glycaemic control in combination with other glucose-lowering medicinal products including basal insulin, when the therapy in use, together with diet and exercise, does not provide adequate glycaemic control. It is administered once weekly. Semaglutide (Ozempic®), dulaglutide (Trulicity®) and tirzepatide (Mounjaro®) are also administered once weekly and can be started two weeks after the last dose of Bydureon is taken. Note that Bydureon has a half-life of approximately two weeks, and if an alternative is given one week after the last dose of Bydureon, there is an increased risk of side effects such as diarrhoea or vomiting. Alternatively, where the alternative is started four weeks after the last dose of Bydureon, there is a risk of transient hyperglycaemia. Ensure patients are advised appropriately on potential side effects.

Specialists note there are very little data on switching between different GLP-1 RAs or switching to a GIP/GLP-1 RA, therefore in most cases it would be reasonable to follow the licenced dose initiation for each product given the need for them all to gradually reach steady state.

Links to further information

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:
https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/

SmPC Bydureon® BCise®
SmPC Ozempic®
SmPC Trulicity®
SmPC Mounjaro® KwikPen®
BNF: Type 2 diabetes
CKS guidance: Diabetes type 2: GLP-1 RA

Enquiries

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