



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2025/064

Nifedipine (Fortipine[®] LA) 40mg modified-release tablets

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 08/12/2025

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Nifedipine (Fortipine[®] LA) 40mg modified-release **tablets** are currently out of stock. The resupply date is yet to be confirmed.
- Other brands of nifedipine 20mg modified-release **tablets** remain available and can support increased demand.
- Nifedipine (Coracten[®] SR) 20mg modified-release **capsules** remain available and can support increased demand.

Actions Required

Prescribers should not initiate new patients on Fortipine[®] LA 40 tablets.

Where existing patients have insufficient supplies, prescribers should:

- consider prescribing another brand of nifedipine 20mg modified-release tablets (see Supporting information) to make up the required dose, noting that they are **twice daily** preparations; or
- if suitable, consider prescribing Coracten[®] SR 20mg capsules (see Supporting information) to make up the required dose, noting that it is a **twice daily** preparation, ensuring that the gelatin content is acceptable to patients, there is no intolerance to any of the excipients, and patients are counselled on the change in formulation;
- ensure patients are counselled on the change in brand and dosage regimen; and
- if Fortipine[®] LA 40 tablets are being used off label for other indications, assess and consider on a case-by-case basis if it is appropriate to switch patient to a twice daily regimen of an alternative brand.

When switching between brands, patients may require closer monitoring initially to ensure blood pressure/angina symptoms remain controlled, and they should be advised to report any adverse effects.

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Fortipine[®] LA 40 tablets are licensed for the treatment of hypertension and the prophylaxis of chronic stable angina pectoris. The SPC states that in general, one modified release tablet of Fortipine LA 40 tablet once

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

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

daily should be adequate. If necessary, this dose can be increased to 80mg given once daily, or 40mg twice daily.

Nifedipine 20mg modified-release tablets and Coracten[®] SR 20mg capsules are twice daily modified-release nifedipine preparations licensed for the same indications. Coracten[®] SR 20mg capsules may not be acceptable to some patients on cultural or religious grounds due to its gelatin content.

The BNF highlights that different versions of modified-release nifedipine preparations may not have the same clinical effect. To avoid confusion between these different formulations, prescribers should specify the brand to be dispensed.

Availability of nifedipine 20mg modified-release tablets

The following brands remain available and can support increased demand:

- Dexipress[®] MR 20mg tablets
- Nifedipress[®] MR 20 tablets
- Tensipine[®] MR 20 tablets
- Valni[®] 20 Retard tablets

Links to further information

[SmPC Fortipine[®] LA 40 tablets](#)

[SmPC Coracten[®] SR 20mg capsules](#)

[SmPC nifedipine 20mg modified-release tablets](#)

[BNF Nifedipine](#)

Enquiries

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