



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2026/010

Phenobarbital 30mg and 60mg tablets

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 16/02/2026

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Phenobarbital 30mg tablets and 60mg tablets (Teva) are out of stock until mid/late March 2026.
- Phenobarbital 60mg tablets (Accord) are out of stock until late February 2026.
- Phenobarbital 30mg tablets from other manufacturers (Accord and Bristol) remain available and can support increased demand.
- Phenobarbital 15mg tablets (Teva) remain available but can only support a partial uplift in demand where alternative options are unsuitable.

Actions Required

Clinicians should not initiate new patients on phenobarbital 30mg tablets (Teva) or 60mg tablets (Teva or Accord) until the supply issues resolve.

Where existing patients have insufficient stock to last until the resupply date clinicians should:

- consider prescribing phenobarbital 30mg tablets (Accord or Bristol) to make up the required dose; or
- consider prescribing phenobarbital 15mg tablets (Teva) to make up the required dose, only where patients cannot be switched to an alternative manufacturer's product; and
- ensure the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and are counselled on the dose and correct number of tablets to take; and
- reassure patients that they are receiving the same medicine, but from a different manufacturer, in order to maintain treatment, and advise patients to seek advice if they experience loss of seizure control and/or adverse effects after switching brand.

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

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Phenobarbital is a [category 1 anti-epileptic drug](#) so ideally patients should be maintained on a specific manufacturer's product. Patients should be monitored after a switch in manufacturer's product for loss of seizure control and/or adverse effects.

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

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

Links to further information

[SPC Phenobarbital 30mg tablets \(Teva\)](#)

[SPC Phenobarbital 60mg tablets \(Teva\)](#)

[SPC Phenobarbital 30mg tablets \(Accord\)](#)

[SPC Phenobarbital 60mg tablets \(Accord\)](#)

[SPC Phenobarbital 30mg tablets \(Bristol Laboratories\)](#)

[SPC Phenobarbital 15mg tablets \(Teva\)](#)

[BNF Phenobarbital](#)

[BNFC Phenobarbital](#)

Enquiries

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