



# Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/033

Levemir InnoLet® (insulin detemir) 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled disposable devices

Tier 2 – medium impact\*

Date of issue: 21/03/2024

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

## Summary

- Levemir® InnoLet® (insulin detemir) 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled disposable devices are being discontinued with remaining stock exhausted by the end of May 2024.
- Levemir® FlexPen® (insulin detemir) 100 units/ml pre-filled pens and Levemir® Penfill® (insulin detemir) 100 units/ml cartridges remain available and can support increased demand.

## Actions Required

Prescribers should:

- not initiate patients on Levemir® InnoLet®;
- identify and review patients currently prescribed Levemir® InnoLet®;
- consider prescribing Levemir® FlexPens® or Levemir® Penfill® cartridges where appropriate, taking into account the patient's manual dexterity, vision, ability to use new device correctly, and whether support is required with administering the dose;
- when prescribing Levemir® Penfill® cartridges, ensure that the patient is prescribed a Novo Nordisk insulin delivery system and appropriate needles (see Supporting Information); and
- seek advice from specialist diabetes team on management options if the above options are not considered suitable.

Prescribers and pharmacies should:

- ensure that all patients initiated on a new device are counselled on the change in device, provided with training on their use, including signposting to training videos, and advised closer monitoring of blood glucose levels may be required (see Supporting 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/>

## Supporting information

### Insulin detemir

A soluble, long-acting insulin analogue. Duration of action is up to 24 hours depending on dose. If administered twice daily, steady state will occur after 2–3 dose administrations.

### InnoLet<sup>®</sup> delivery device

This was developed for people with a visual or physical impairment to be able to set and inject insulin doses. It is a compact pre-filled pen able to deliver 1 to 50 units in increments of 1 unit. It comprises a pre-filled insulin reservoir and a large simple to use dial that has larger print numbers and gives an audible click each time the dial is moved. The dial is turned to the number of units to be delivered and the top of the device is pressed to administer the dose, after which the dial returns to zero.

### Levemir<sup>®</sup> FlexPen<sup>®</sup>

Pre-filled pen that delivers 1–60 units of insulin in one injection in increments of 1 unit.

### Levemir<sup>®</sup> Penfill<sup>®</sup> cartridges

These can be used with the NovoPen 6<sup>®</sup> and NovoPen Echo<sup>®</sup> Plus devices, which are prescribable on the NHS:

- NovoPen 6<sup>®</sup> can deliver up to a 60-unit dose of insulin in one injection and the dose goes up in 1-unit increments.
- NovoPen Echo<sup>®</sup> Plus can deliver up to a 30-unit dose of insulin in one injection and the dose goes up in 0.5-unit increments.

### Links to further information

[SmPC for Levemir<sup>®</sup> InnoLet<sup>®</sup> pens](#)

[SmPC for Levemir<sup>®</sup> FlexPen<sup>®</sup>](#)

[SmPC for Levemir<sup>®</sup> Penfill<sup>®</sup> cartridges](#)

[BNF: Insulin detemir](#)

[BNF: Insulin preparations](#)

[Smart insulin pens - JDRF, the type 1 diabetes charity](#)

[Novo Nordisk quick guide to using NovoPen<sup>®</sup> 6 or](#)

[NovoPen Echo<sup>®</sup> Plus](#)

[NICE guidance: Type 1 diabetes in adults \(insulin therapy\)](#)

## Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact [DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk).