



# Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/039

Phenobarbital 15mg tablets (Accord)

Tier 2 – medium impact\*

Date of issue: 10/04/2024

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

## Summary

- Phenobarbital 15mg tablets (Accord) are out of stock with a resupply date yet to be confirmed.
- Phenobarbital 15mg tablets from other manufacturers remain available and can support increased demand.

## Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- not initiate new patients on phenobarbital 15mg tablets (Accord) until the supply issue resolves;
- consider prescribing phenobarbital 15mg tablets from another manufacturer; and
- if the above option is not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from specialists on alternative management options.

Patients should be reassured that they are receiving the same treatment, albeit from a different manufacturer, in order to maintain treatment, and advised to seek advice if they experience loss of seizure control and/or adverse effects after switching brand.

## 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.

### Links to further information

[SmPC phenobarbital 15mg tablets \(Accord\)](#)  
[BNF phenobarbital](#)

[BNFC phenobarbital](#)  
[MHRA anti-epileptic advice on switching products](#)

## Enquiries

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

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

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