

# Medication Shortage Communication

Information for health professionals in NSW public health organisations

## Pristinamycin (SAS) Tablets – Disruption to Supply

Date of notice	8 May 2020
Status	Current
Details of the product(s) affected	Pristinamycin (Prostacine) 500mg tablets [16] Not registered in Australia. Imported and supplied under the TGA's Special Access Scheme
Reason for the shortage	Unclear – global shortage
Date shortage notified or apparent	7 May 2020
Estimated resupply dates	No estimated resupply date
Main therapeutic applications	Oral therapy for infections caused by methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococci</i> , other select Gram positive and anaerobic organisms – where infection is unresponsive to other agents or patient cannot tolerate alternative therapy due to adverse effects, drug interactions or contraindications
Alternative agents	Pristinamycin is used as a last-line agent on the advice of an Infectious Diseases/Microbiology expert. Residual stock should be reserved for existing patients and new initiation of this medication should be discouraged.  <b>There is no standard alternative which can be recommended.</b> Existing patients should receive urgent Infectious Diseases review and have their therapy modified on a case-by-case basis.
Anticipated effect of shortage on clinical practice	Need for patients currently being treated with pristinamycin to have their therapy modified as there is currently no estimation as to when stock will be available.
Associated regulatory/policy issues	PD2013_043 Medication Handling in NSW Public Health Facilities
Key contacts	Clinical Excellence Commission (Medication Safety): <a href="mailto:CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au">CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au</a> HealthShare NSW (Product Critical Supply Manager): <a href="mailto:Caroline.Pfeffercorn@health.nsw.gov.au">Caroline.Pfeffercorn@health.nsw.gov.au</a>

*This Communication is intended as a guide only and does not equate to expert opinion. Interpretation of recommendations should always be taken in context with the patient's current condition and formal clinical assessment. As the information in this publication is subject to review, please contact a medical or health professional before using this publication.*

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