



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2026/032

Nabilone 1mg capsules

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 14/07/2026

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Nabilone 1mg capsules are currently out of stock with an anticipated resupply date of end of August 2026.
- Nabilone 0.25mg capsules remain available and can support increased demand.
- Unlicensed imports of nabilone 1mg capsules are available and can be sourced; lead times vary.

Actions Required

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

- consider prescribing nabilone 0.25mg capsules to make up the required dose, provided the increased pill burden is acceptable to the patient; and
- consider prescribing unlicensed nabilone 1mg capsules only where the above option is not suitable.

If the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from specialist teams on management options.

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Nabilone is indicated for the control of nausea and vomiting, caused by chemotherapeutic agents used in the treatment of cancer, in patients who have failed to respond adequately to conventional antiemetic treatments. It is also used as off-label for neuropathic pain in patients who have not responded to other treatments.

Links to further information

[BNF- Nabilone](#)

[SPC- Nabilone capsules](#)

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed nabilone 1mg capsules (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):

- Arcadia

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

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

- Target

Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Unlicensed imports do not undergo any central quality assessment or suitability evaluation. Therefore, any import must be locally assessed in line with local unlicensed medicines processes.

Please see the links below for further information:

- [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
- [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society
- [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC)

When prescribing a product that is not licensed in the UK due to a supply issue with the licensed alternative prescribers must indicate on the FP10 prescription that an unlicensed product is required. This can be done in one of the following two ways:

Electronic prescriptions – if the required unlicensed product is shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should select:

- Nabilone 1mg capsules (imported)

Paper prescriptions – where the unlicensed product is not shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should use a paper prescription and annotate with the following wording: “**special order**”.

Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Specialist Pharmacy Service Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist (SPS RPPS), who will escalate to national teams if required:

Region	Lead SPS RPPS Name and Email	Associate SPS RPPS Name and Email
Midlands	Andi Swain andi.swain@nhs.net	Dav Manku Dav.Manku@uhb.nhs.uk
East of England	James Kent james.kent@nhs.net	Tracy McMillan tracy.mcmillan2@nhs.net
London	Jackie Eastwood j.eastwood@nhs.net	Daniel Johnson Daniel.Johnson@nhs.net
North East and Yorkshire	David Allwood davidallwood@nhs.net	Penny Daynes penny.daynes@nhs.net
North West	Andrew Stewart Andrew.stewart@liverpoolft.nhs.uk	Lisa Davidson lisa.davidson22@nhs.net
South East	Alison Ashman Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk	Melanie Renney melanie.renney@berkshire.nhs.uk
South West	Danny Palmer danny.palmer@uhbw.nhs.uk	Natalie Bryson Natalie.Bryson@uhbw.nhs.uk

Scotland

nss.nhssmedicineshortages@nhs.scot

Wales

MedicinesShortages@gov.wales

Northern Ireland

RPHPS.Admin@northerntrust.hscni.net

All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2026/xxx.

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.