



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2026/050

Cilostazol 50mg and 100mg tablets

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 19/10/2026

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Cilostazol 50mg and 100mg tablets are out of stock until late November 2026.
- Naftidrofuryl 100mg capsules remain available and can support increased demand
- Other licensed treatments for intermittent claudication remain available

Actions Required

Prescribers should not initiate new patients on cilostazol 50mg and 100mg tablets until the shortage has resolved.

Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the resupply date, prescribers should:

- review existing patients to assess treatment response, as the SmPC recommends discontinuing where an inadequate effect is observed or symptoms have not been improved after 3 months of cilostazol treatment
- for patients who have derived benefit from cilostazol, consider appropriateness of prescribing naftidrofuryl, taking into account treatment history and contraindications (see supporting information); if prescribed, ensure the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and is counselled on dosing

Seek specialist advice in cases of unlicensed indications, uncertain diagnosis or if the above options are not considered appropriate.

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Cilostazol is indicated for the improvement of the maximal and pain-free walking distances in patients with intermittent claudication, who do not have rest pain and who do not have evidence of peripheral tissue necrosis. It is intended for second-line use, in patients in whom lifestyle modifications (including stopping smoking and [supervised] exercise programs) and other appropriate interventions have failed to sufficiently improve their intermittent claudication symptoms.

NICE guidance (CG147) does not recommend cilostazol, pentoxifylline and inositol nicotinate for treating intermittent claudication in people with peripheral arterial disease.

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

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

NICE guidance (TA223) only recommends naftidrofuryl as an option for treating intermittent claudication in people with peripheral arterial disease for whom vasodilator therapy is considered appropriate after taking into account other treatment options.

BNF notes that naftidrofuryl has shown a greater increase in maximum walking distance and pain-free walking distance than cilostazol and pentoxifylline.

Naftidrofuryl is contraindicated in patients with a history of hyperoxaluria or recurrent calcium-containing kidney stones.

Links to further information

[BNF: Cilostazol](#)

[SPC: Cilostazol](#)

[SPC: Naftidrofuryl oxalate](#)

[SPC: Pentoxifylline](#)

[NICE \(TA223\): Cilostazol, naftidrofuryl oxalate, pentoxifylline and inositol nicotinate for the treatment of intermittent claudication in people with peripheral arterial disease](#)

[NICE \(CG147\): Peripheral arterial disease: diagnosis and management](#)

[BNF: Peripheral vascular disease](#)

Enquiries

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