Department of Health & Social Care

NHS England

Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2026/053

Phenytoin 100mg tablets (Teva)

Tier 2 – medium impact*
Date of issue: 10/11/2026
Link: Medicines Supply Tool

Summary

- Phenytoin 100mg tablets (**Teva**) are out of stock until late November 2026.
- Phenytoin 100mg tablets (**Aurobindo Pharma – Milpharm Ltd**) remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

Actions Required

Prescribers should not initiate new patients on Teva brand of phenytoin 100mg tablets until the shortage has resolved.

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

- consider prescribing Aurobindo-Milpharm brand of phenytoin 100mg tablets, ensuring the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients and:
    - counsel and reassure them that they are receiving the same treatment, albeit from a different manufacturer, and differing in appearance (see Supporting Information), to ensure continuity of treatment, and
    - advise them to report any adverse effects or loss of seizure control/ treatment efficacy (see Supporting Information)

Seek advice from specialists on alternative management options, if the above options are not considered appropriate.

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Phenytoin tablets are indicated for the prevention and treatment of seizures, and as second line treatment of trigeminal neuralgia. As phenytoin is a category 1 anti-epileptic drug, patients should be maintained on a specific manufacturer's product, but a change in brand is necessary during a shortage to ensure continuity of antiepileptic treatment.

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:
https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/

Some patients may be concerned at the change in appearance of the tablets and require additional counselling/ reassurance, as the Teva brand is white, round, and sugar-coated, whereas the Aurobindo–Milpharm brand is off-white, oval-shaped, and film-coated.

Links to further information

BNF: Phenytoin
BNF: Epilepsy Treatment Summaries
SmPC: Phenytoin 100mg tablets (Teva)
SmPC: Phenytoin 100mg film coated tablets (Aurobindo Pharma – Milpharm Ltd)
NICE CKS: Epilepsy

Enquiries

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