



# Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/014

Flixotide<sup>®</sup> (fluticasone) 50 micrograms/dose Evohaler

Tier 2 – medium impact\*

Date of issue: 08/02/2024

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

## Summary

- Flixotide<sup>®</sup> (fluticasone) 50 micrograms/dose Evohaler is out of stock until early March 2024.
- Flixotide<sup>®</sup> (fluticasone) 50 micrograms/dose Accuhaler remains available and can support a full uplift in demand.
- Flixotide<sup>®</sup> (fluticasone) 125 micrograms/dose Evohaler and 100 micrograms/dose Accuhaler remain available and can support a full uplift in demand.
- Where these are not suitable options, alternative corticosteroid inhalers, including beclomethasone 100 micrograms inhalers, are available.

## Actions Required

No new patients should be initiated on Flixotide<sup>®</sup> 50 micrograms/dose Evohaler until the shortage has resolved; and where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, clinicians should:

- review and discuss treatment options with them considering individual clinical requirements e.g., need for a spacer, to aid selection of an alternative treatment option (see Supporting Information below);
- consider suitability of Flixotide<sup>®</sup> 50 micrograms/dose Accuhaler, a dry powder inhaler (DPI) in patients able to use this device, and prescribe one month's supply to cover gap until the Evohaler is back in stock; or
- in patients on 2 puffs (100micrograms) twice daily of Flixotide<sup>®</sup> 50 micrograms/dose Evohaler for whom a DPI is unsuitable, consider prescribing Flixotide<sup>®</sup> 125 micrograms/dose Evohaler 1 puff twice daily, as this provides the closest dose to that currently being used; or
- where patients are already prescribed a Flixotide<sup>®</sup> 50 micrograms/dose Evohaler and a salmeterol inhaler separately, consider prescribing Seretide<sup>®</sup> 50 Evohaler as this combination inhaler delivers 50 micrograms fluticasone and 25 micrograms salmeterol;
- counsel patients and carers on inhaler technique and dose to administer after switching treatment, and monitor symptom control; and
- if the above options are not appropriate, consider prescribing an alternative inhaled corticosteroid in line with NICE asthma guidelines (see Supporting information below).

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

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

# Supporting information

## Clinical Information

Flixotide® (fluticasone) 50 micrograms/dose Evohaler is a metered dose inhaler (MDI) licensed for use in adults and children from age 4 years for the prophylactic treatment of asthma and may be used off label in younger children.

NICE have developed [tables](#) to support the recommendations on inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) dosages in its guideline on asthma, indicating low, moderate, and high ICS dosages for adult and paediatric maintenance therapy. This can be used as an aid to product selection. As DPIs are not compatible with spacer devices, they would not be a suitable option for patients who require a spacer.

Further guidance including videos advising patients on how to use dry powdered inhalers (Accuhaler) and metered dose inhalers (Evohaler) with spacers can be found via the Asthma UK website [here](#).

### Links:

SmPC Flixotide® (fluticasone) Evohaler

NICE guideline on asthma

Inhaled corticosteroid doses for NICE's asthma guideline

BTS/SIGN guideline on the management of asthma

SmPC Flixotide® (fluticasone) Accuhaler

SmPC Seretide® 50 Evohaler

SmPC Beclomethasone 100mcg metered dose inhaler

## Enquiries

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