



# Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2024/023

Epilim® (sodium valproate) syrup 200mg/5ml

Tier 2 – medium impact\*

Date of issue: 21/02/2024

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

## Summary

- Epilim® 200mg/5ml syrup is out of stock from mid-March until w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.
- Epilim® (sodium valproate) 200mg/5ml liquid (sugar-free) remains available and can support increased demand.

## Actions Required

Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, clinicians/prescribers should:

- consider prescribing Epilim® 200mg/5ml liquid (sugar-free) which can support the market during this time, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients (see supporting information below), understands the dose remains the same, and to report any side effects or loss of seizure/symptoms control after the switch; and
- if the above option is not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from specialists on management options.

## Supporting information

### Clinical Information

Both of these preparations are licensed for the treatment of generalised, partial or other epilepsy. Epilim® 200mg/5ml liquid is sugar-free and contains two additional excipients that may cause allergic reactions, so allergy history should be established before prescribing.

- Sodium methyl hydroxybenzoate/sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate (possibly delayed reaction)
- Ponceau 4R (E124), a colourant (azo dye) may cause reactions including asthma in some people, and higher likelihood if they are also allergic to aspirin.

### Links to further information

[SmPC – Epilim Syrup 200mg/5ml](#)

[SmPC – Epilim Liquid 200mg/5ml](#)

## Enquiries

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

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

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