

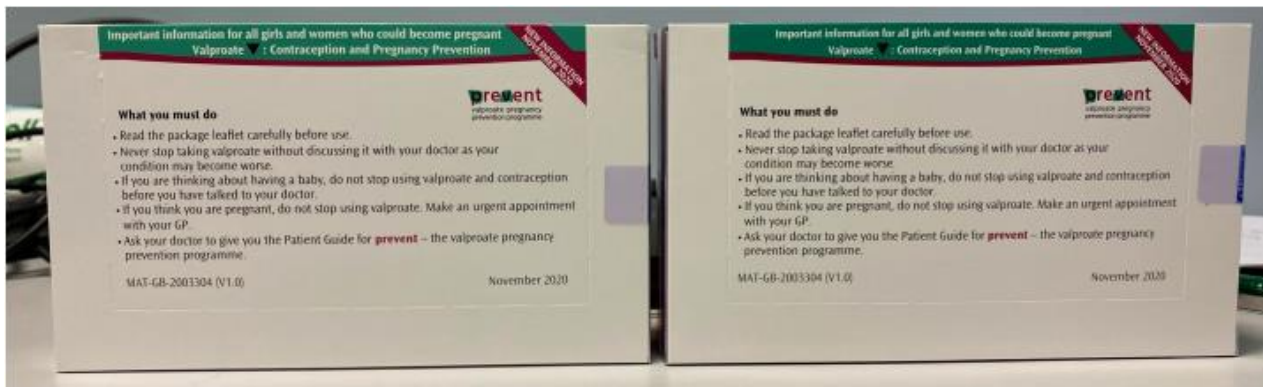
Prescribing Tip No: 345
Date: 14th January 2022

Valproate semisodium and Sodium valproate 'Prevent' Packaging

Prescribing tip for information

Please be aware that the Valproate 'Prevent' Pregnancy Prevention Programme requires these products to have the same warning label and patient information on the outside of the box.

This may cause products to look very similar. Please be aware if a patient raises a query regarding their medication that may highlight a dispensing error.



Please continue to ensure patients of childbearing potential are provided with the required information materials, are attending annual specialist reviews and a copy of the Annual Risk Acknowledgement Form are stored within their document records on EMIS.

Links to Valproate materials: [Valproate use by women and girls \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

- [Patient Card](#) – to be given by pharmacists to all female patients who are dispensed valproate medicines to inform them of the risks
- [Patient Guide](#) – to be provided to girls (of any age) and women of childbearing potential (or their parent/caregiver/responsible person) taking any medicine containing valproate
- [Guide for Healthcare Professionals](#) – for all prescribers, pharmacists, and other healthcare providers involved in the care of women and girls of childbearing potential using valproate medicines
- [Annual Risk Acknowledgement Form](#) – for the specialist and patient (or their parent/caregiver/responsible person) **to sign at initiation and at treatment reviews at least every year.** The patient should receive a copy of the form; one copy should be filed in the specialist notes, and one copy sent to the patient's GP

To contact the Medicines Optimisation Team please phone 01772 214302