

Prescribing Tip For Action by Practice

National Patient Safety Alert – Recall of Emerade 500 micrograms and 300 microgram autoinjectors

In May 2023 the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) issued a [recall](#) for all unexpired batches of Emerade 500mcg and 300mcg adrenaline autoinjectors (or pens). **This followed identification that some autoinjectors were failing to deliver the product or were activating prematurely.**

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) together with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) have established **there are sufficient supplies of alternative injectors to allow for a recall of Emerade at patient level. At present future production of 500 and 300 microgram autoinjectors is on hold and patients will need to be switched to an appropriate alternative.**

Points to remember

- Healthcare professionals should identify and inform patients or carers of patients carrying an Emerade 300 or 500 mcg pen to obtain a prescription and be supplied with an alternative brand.
- **Once you have a replacement**, patients and / or their carers should return any existing supplies of Emerade 300mcg and 500mcg autoinjectors to their local pharmacy.
- **As each brand of adrenaline auto injector works differently it is important that patients and carers receive training at the point of prescribing or dispensing.**
- Patients should continue to carry two devices at all times in case a second dose is required before the arrival of the emergency services.
- Alternative brands of adrenaline auto injectors (EpiPen and Jext) are available in a maximum strength of 300 micrograms. **Evidence suggests that a single EpiPen (300mcg) or Jext (300mcg) would be a suitable replacement for a single Emerade 500microgram pen.**

Where possible, healthcare professionals should ensure that they provide training to patients and carers in the correct use of the new pen. Instructions for use can be found in

- The Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC - prescriber's information) and in the Patient Information Leaflets (PILs) that are supplied with the different pens.
- On the respective manufacturers' websites where training videos are available.
[How To Use: Administering Your EpiPen® | EpiPen®](#)
[Welcome to Jext](#)
- Training pens that do not contain adrenaline can also be obtained free of charge from the manufacturers. Healthcare professionals and patients are strongly recommended to obtain these to assist with training. The trainer pens can be used repeatedly, allowing patients to practice regularly with them so they are prepared for use in an emergency.

Other useful resources - [17002885 The correct use of your Adrenaline Auto-Injector AAI CC V10.pdf](#) ([publishing.service.gov.uk](#))

Please continue to report suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs) to the MHRA through the [Yellow Card scheme](#).

To contact the Medicines Optimisation Team please phone 01772 214302
If you have any suggestions for future topics to cover in our prescribing tips please contact Nicola.schaffel@nhs.net
[All content accurate and correct on the date of issue of this tip.](#)