

## DRUG SAFETY NOTICE

### Tresiba (Insulin Degludec) FlexTouch 100units/mL Solution for Injection 3mL Pre-Filled Pens

#### ISSUE

- The manufacturer of Tresiba (insulin degludec) 100units/mL FlexTouch pen are currently experiencing a shortage which is expected to last from August 2023 until January 2024.
- Other presentations of Tresiba, including within other insulin pens, are unaffected by the shortage

#### ADVICE / ALTERNATIVE

- Prescribers are advised not to initiate new patients on Tresiba FlexTouch 100units/mL pens during this time.
- Tresiba penfill cartridges can be considered as an alternative taking into account:
  - Patient dexterity and ability to use the device correctly and:
  - The appropriate delivery system and needles are available and provided to the patient i.e. the non-disposable NovoPen 6 which will have 1 unit increments similar to the disposable FlexTouch pens
  - Patients are counselled on the change in device and provided with training on their use and potential need for closer blood glucose monitoring.
- Pharmacy have procured penfill cartridges and the Diabetes team have the NovoPen 6 non-disposable pens.
- If changing to penfill cartridges is inappropriate seek advice from the specialist diabetes team on use of an alternative insulin.

#### ACTIONS

- All clinicians to be aware of the above information seeking advice from the diabetes team as required.
- Ensure all patients prescribed the penfill cartridges have the NovoPen 6 delivery system and are counselled and trained to use the device appropriately

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR WARD PHARMACY TEAM  
OR THE PHARMACY DEPARTMENT (City ext. 5263; Sandwell ext. 3783)**

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