

DRUG SAFETY NOTICE – Legislation update URGENT

DRUG NAME/STRENGTH/FORM:

Emergency Prohibition of Supply of GnRH analogues

PROBLEM

- From 03/06/2024 there are new restrictions to prohibit the prescribing of GnRH analogues as puberty blockers to patients under 18 years of age.
- This does not apply if the patient has already commenced treatment and/or are part of an NIHR supported clinical trial.
- Restrictions apply both to health service (NHS) prescribing and independent (private) prescribing.
- This is emergency legislation; the prohibition will be in place from 3rd June to 3rd September 2024
 - Additional measures may be put in place following the General Election.

ADVICE/ACTIONS

- During this period no new patients under 18 years will be prescribed these medicines for the purposes of puberty suppression in those experiencing gender dysphoria or incongruence under the care of any prescriber.
- The government has also introduced indefinite restrictions to the prescribing of these medicines within NHS primary care in England, in line with NHS guidelines.
- The new arrangements apply to gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogues - medicines that consist of, or contain, buserelin, gonadorelin, goserelin, leuprorelin acetate, nafarelin or triptorelin.
- They will remain available for patients receiving these drugs for other uses, from a UK-registered prescriber.

REFERENCES

- [New restrictions on puberty blockers](#) – Gov.uk
- [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts\) \(Prescription of Drugs etc.\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#) - which adds GnHR analogues to Part XVIII B of the DTF
- [The Medicines \(Gonadotrophin-Releasing Hormone Analogues\) \(Emergency Prohibition\) \(England, Wales and Scotland\) Order 2024](#) - the "prohibition order" from SoS (effective 3 June for three months)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR WARD BASED PHARMACY TEAM

OR

THE PHARMACY DEPARTMENT (CITY ext.5263; SANDWELL ext.3783).

OUT OF HOURS CONTACT THE ON-CALL PHARMACIST

DATE OF ISSUE: 31/05/24

REFERENCE NUMBER: 02-0524