

DRUG SAFETY NOTICE

Supply Shortage

DRUG NAME/STRENGTH/FORM:

Cefalexin 500mg tablets

PROBLEM

- Cefalexin 500mg tablets are out of stock until mid-September 2024.

ADVICE

Prescribers should:

- Not initiate new patients on cefalexin 500mg tablets until the supply issue has resolved.
- Consider prescribing cefalexin 500mg capsules, if suitable, checking patient acceptability of gelatine content of capsules.
- If cefalexin capsules are unsuitable, consider prescribing an alternative antibiotic, taking into account allergies and local and national guidance on antimicrobial prescribing.

ALTERNATIVES

- Cefalexin 500mg capsules remain available and can support an uplift in demand.
- Alternative cefalexin preparations remain available but are unable to support an uplift in demand.

Key resources

[SmPC: Cefalexin](#)

[BNF: Cefalexin](#)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR WARD BASED PHARMACY TEAM
OR
THE PHARMACY DEPARTMENT (CITY ext.5263; SANDWELL ext.3783).

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