



16 March 2020

## **Medicine Supply Alert Notice**

### **Fluoxetine 10mg tablets**

**Priority: Level 2\***  
**Valid until: late 2020**

#### **Issue**

1. Fluoxetine 10mg tablets are out of stock until late 2020.
2. Fluoxetine 10mg capsules and fluoxetine 20mg/5ml oral solution remain available.

#### **Advice and Actions**

3. For patients with insufficient supplies, clinicians should consider prescribing an alternative formulation of fluoxetine.
4. Community pharmacists may supply fluoxetine 10mg capsules in place of 10mg tablets as appropriate.

#### **Additional Information**

5. Please note that the oral solution has the same bioavailability as the tablets/capsules - so can be used to make up the equivalent dose if required e.g.:
  - 10mg = 2.5ml
  - 30mg = 7.5ml
  - 40mg = 10ml
6. Patient reassurance may be needed due to differences in packaging of each formulation.

#### **Enquiries**

7. Enquiries from Health Boards or healthcare professionals should be directed in the first instance to [PharmacyTeam@gov.scot](mailto:PharmacyTeam@gov.scot) (primary care) or [NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.net](mailto:NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.net) (secondary care).