

2nd August 2018

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Dear Healthcare Professional

Notification of supply issue for Alvesco Inhaler (ciclesonide)

AstraZeneca has recently become aware of an important medication supply interruption that may impact some of your patients.

Alvesco (ciclesonide) is an inhaled corticosteroid preparation indicated to control persistent asthma in adults and adolescents (12 years and older). The medication is licensed at two doses; 80mcg and 160mcg, and is available in three preparations: 80/120, 160/60 and 160/120.

There has been a delay in supplying one of the components of the inhaler. Despite our best efforts to alleviate this issue, stock in the United Kingdom of **all doses and preparation sizes** is very low. As a result, continued supply of this medication cannot be guaranteed after the beginning of August 2018.

AstraZeneca is working with its suppliers to replenish stock as quickly as possible. It is anticipated that new supplies of ciclesonide will be available from mid-September 2018 (Alvesco 160) and mid-October 2018 (Alvesco 80). It is therefore possible that patients currently receiving ciclesonide will not be able to continue their regular treatment without interruption.

ACTION FOR YOU:

- If you are a **prescriber** receiving this letter, please consider appropriate alternative products to prescribe to any patients currently taking ciclesonide, who may require a repeat prescription between now and September.
- If you are a **pharmacist** receiving this letter, for any prescriptions of ciclesonide that you are unable to fill, please contact the patient's prescribing doctor to explain this and discuss the prescription of an alternative appropriate product.

AstraZeneca is unable to suggest a like-for-like medication, however alternative inhaled corticosteroid therapies are available. Please note that differences in indication, posology and administration may exist for the alternative therapies, and review and re-education of the patient may be necessary. If you have any questions relating to the supply of this medicine, please call AstraZeneca Supply Chain Team on 0800 032 0501 or email at: supply.chain@astrazeneca.com

For other information regarding the medicine, please call AstraZeneca Medical Information on 0800 783 0033 or email at: medical.informationUK@astrazeneca.com

Yours sincerely



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