



Cardiology Department
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
Foresterhill Road
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Queries to: lynne.davidson@nhs.scot

19th August 2022

Dear all,

Issued on behalf of Drs Broadhurst, Affolter and Wiles.

You will probably be aware of the recent Class I Drug Alert and recall for Mexiletine capsules. Mexiletine is used to treat ventricular tachycardia and therefore must not be stopped or interrupted. For most patients, this is not the first line option and therefore there is no licensed alternative.

Up until recently, mexiletine was only available as an unlicensed product for this indication, and given the fact that the licensed preparation may be unavailable for several months, we simply suggest that patients are returned to the unlicensed product which they were already taking previously. The dose and formulation should remain the same.

Please note that there is a licensed mexiletine product (brand: Namscula) which is not licensed for cardiac conditions (it lists these as a contraindication to use). Therefore, to reduce patient confusion, and ensure flexibility of dosing required for ventricular tachycardia, we recommend that the unlicensed preparation is used (and this position is supported by the Grampian Formulary Group in the interests of patient safety).

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynne Davidson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lynne Davidson

Highly Specialist Clinical Pharmacist in Cardiology