 **Medicine Shortage Flowchart for Community Pharmacy**

**Pharmacy cannot supply product**

**Submit this information on the CPS Shortages App/website**

**Please collect as much information regarding return date, pricing from both supplier and manufacturer and which wholesaler/suppliers you have contacted**

**Manufacturing issue**

**Wholesaler cannot supply**

**Contact another local pharmacy on behalf of the patient – they may have a supply still in stock.**

**Independently owned contractors can use multiple wholesalers – contact an independent and ask if they can source the medicine for the patient.**

**It is important for the patient journey these steps are carried out.**

**If no way to obtain prescribed medicine, please consider an in-stock alternative or change of strength and subsequent quantity to achieve same dose and duration of supply.**

**Remember to apply correct electronic and paper endorsement to ensure accurate payment. Either endorse with PC if consulted with prescriber or PMR if you have made a professional decision based on the information available on your records**

**Send the patient with the prescription to the pharmacy**

NOTE: please do not dispense any other items from the GP10 so that the full GP10 can be returned to the patient

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is notappropriate to **routinely** change a prescription for a part 7 generic drug to an equivalent non part 7 brand unless advised to do so by the NHS board. The pharmacist must contact the GP to change one drug for another e.g. one beta- blocker to another and the GP would need to update the patient record accordingly. Some medication with a narrow therapeutic range or significant differences in bio availability may require specialist input. October 2023

**Example 1. Atorvastatin 40mg OOS you can give Atorvastatin 20mg using the PNC or PMR endorsement. No need to contact practice or seek new prescription.**

**Example 2. Eumovate OOS alternative option Betnovate RD. Seek agreement with practice – use PC endorsement. No need for new prescription.**

**Inform practice of unavailability; date expected back (if applicable) make appropriate local agreements**