



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2023/041

Estriol (Imvaggis®) 0.03mg pessary

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 06/04/2023

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Estriol (Imvaggis®) 0.03mg pessary is out of stock until mid-late May 2023.
- Alternative estriol vaginal products remain available, as does estradiol 10mcg vaginal tablets, and will be able to support increased demand.

Actions Required

Where patients have insufficient supplies to last until the re-supply date, prescribers should:

- review patients to determine if this is still the most suitable therapy;
- consider prescribing an alternative estriol vaginal product (or estradiol 10mcg vaginal tablets if alternative estriol products are not suitable), ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients, and is counselled on administration, dosing, and potential side effects (see supporting information below).

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Imvaggis 0.03mg pessary is licensed for local treatment of vaginal symptoms of oestrogen deficiency in postmenopausal women.

Adverse effects reported by the manufacturers of intravaginal oestrogens include vulvovaginal discomfort, headache, abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting, and oestrogen-related adverse events (e.g. breast pain, postmenopausal bleeding). Patients should seek advice from prescriber if breakthrough bleeding or spotting occurs after switching treatment, or if they experience other side effects that do not subside.

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

Table 1- Oestrogen containing vaginal HRT products

	Imvaggis 0.03mg pessary	Ovestin® 1mg cream	Estriol 0.01% cream*	Estradiol 10mcg vaginal tablet
Indication**	Local treatment of vaginal symptoms of oestrogen deficiency in postmenopausal women.	Treatment of symptoms of vaginal atrophy due to oestrogen deficiency in postmenopausal women.	Hormone replacement therapy for treatment of atrophic vaginitis and kraurosis in postmenopausal women.	Treatment of vaginal atrophy due to oestrogen deficiency in postmenopausal women
Active ingredient	Estriol	Estriol	Estriol	Estradiol
Strength	0.03mg per pessary	0.1% (1mg per 1g)	0.01% (100micrograms per 1g)	10microgram per vaginal tablet
Dose per application	0.03mg estriol	1 applicator dose (0.5g of cream) = 0.5mg estriol	1 applicator dose (5mL of cream) = 0.5mg estriol	10microgram estradiol
Dose	During the first 3 weeks of treatment one pessary is administered daily. Thereafter a maintenance dose of 1 pessary twice a week is recommended.	1 application per day for the first weeks (maximally 4 weeks), followed by a gradual reduction, based on relief of symptoms, until a maintenance dosage (e.g. 1 application twice a week) is reached.	1 application per day initially, followed by a dose of 1 application twice a week for maintenance.	Initial dose: One vaginal tablet daily for two weeks. Maintenance dose: One vaginal tablet twice a week.

*Excipients include arachis oil and benzoic acid

** Only included indications in common with Imvaggis

Further information

[SPC Imvaggis 0.03mg pessary](#)

[SPC Ovestin® 1mg cream](#)

[SPC Estriol 0.01% cream](#)

[SPC Estradiol 10mcg vaginal tablet](#)

[British Menopause Society HRT preparations and equivalent alternatives](#)

[HRT- Practical Prescribing](#)

[CKS- Intravaginal oestrogens](#)

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.