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| 23 January 2020  **Private and Confidential** |  | **Pharmacy Department**  Farnham Road Hospital  Guildford  GU2 7LX  T: 01483 443717  E: [alison.marshall@sabp.nhs.uk](mailto:alison.marshall@sabp.nhs.uk)  pharmacy@sabp.nhs.uk |

Dear [INSERT NAME]

**Change to methylphenidate brand**

Prescribers at Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Trust (SABP) are now recommending switching patients prescribed Concerta XL® (18mg, 27mg, 36mg and 54mg) to the branded generic Delmosart XL® at the same strength and dose, prescribed by brand name.

Delmosart® XL is 1st line choice at SABP for a methylphenidate product providing a duration of action of 12 hours, with a peak at 1-2 hours, followed by a second peak at 6-8 hours. This switch can be undertaken in primary care but ideally switches should be undertaken with direct contact with patients (face to face). Communications should be done according to individual patient requirements.

If you prescribe for patients under the care of any other providers you may wish to discuss with them before making a switch.

New patients – Where methylphenidate modified release 18mg, 27mg, 36mg or 54mg is indicated SABP prescribers will start patients on the preferred brand Delmosart® XL.

Guidance from NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service advises that modified release methylphenidate formulations should be prescribed by brand.[1]

Methylphenidate is a schedule 2 controlled drug and is therefore subject to the regulations for controlled drugs (see BNF for more details). Supplies should be limited to no more than 30 days.

**Rationale:**

Concerta® XL and Delmosart® XL are indicated for use as part of a comprehensive treatment programme for ADHD, in children aged 6 years of age and over, when remedial measures alone prove insufficient.

Delmosart® XL has UK marketing authorisation and has been shown to be clinically bioequivalent to Concerta® XL.

Delmosart® XL is lower cost to prescribe than generic modified release methylphenidate (18mg, 27mg, 36mg and 54mg) and Concerta® XL. At the time of writing - approximately 50% lower in price than Concerta® XL.

**Further information**

Prescribing information is available via [www.medicines.org.uk](http://www.medicines.org.uk)

Information for people taking methylphenidate and their family/carer is available via [www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk](http://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk) or via [www.choiceandmedication.org/sabp](http://www.choiceandmedication.org/sabp).

The tablets are all 12mm long and just under 7mm wide.

**NB: This guidance does not apply to other strengths of modified release methylphenidate (including Equasym XL® and Medikinet XL® brands).**

Yours sincerely

Alison Marshall

Lead Pharmacist – Quality and Governance

Medicines Safety Officer

**References:**

1. NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service – Which medicines should be considered for brand-name prescribing in primary care?

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/UKMi_QA_Brand-name_prescribing_Update_Nov2017.pdf>

2. NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service – Extended release methylphenidate – A review of the pharmacokinetic profiles of the available preparations

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Methylphenidate-March-2018-revised.pdf>