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| 29 March 2023**Private and Confidential** |  | **Pharmacy Department**Farnham Road HospitalGuildfordGU2 7LXT: 01483 443717E: pharmacy@sabp.nhs.uk |

**Change to methylphenidate brand**

Prescribers at Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SABP) are now recommending switching people prescribed Concerta XL® (18mg, 27mg, 36mg and 54mg) to a branded generic – either Delmosart XL®, Xaggitin XL®, or Xenidate XL®, at the same strength and dose as the previous Concerta XL® dose, prescribed by brand name.

From studies reported by the manufacturer, it appears these products have the same release characteristics and the same available strengths as the reference product Concerta XL®.

They provide a duration of action of up to 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. 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 one of these preferred brands.

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

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®, Delmosart XL® , Xaggitin XL® and Xenidate 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.

These branded generics both have UK marketing authorisation and have been shown to be clinically bioequivalent to Concerta® XL.

Delmosart XL® , Xaggitin XL® and Xenidate XL® are 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 approximately 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 November 2020

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Extended-release-methylphenidate-3.pdf>