



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/056

Sodium cromoglicate (Intal[®]) CFC-free 5mg inhaler

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 18/11/2021

Link: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/shortages/discontinuation-of-sodium-cromoglicate-5mg-dose-inhaler-cfc-free>

Summary

- Sanofi are discontinuing Intal[®] CFC-free 5mg inhalers with stock expected to be exhausted by the end of January 2022.
- No alternate chromone inhalers are available.

Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- review all patients prescribed Intal[®] CFC-free 5mg inhalers whilst not initiating any new patients; and
- be aware that inhaled corticosteroids are the first-choice preventer drug and refer to [BTS guidelines](#) when deciding how to manage these patients once they have stopped treatment with sodium cromoglicate.

Supporting Information

[Sodium cromoglicate inhaler](#) is licensed for the preventative treatment of bronchial asthma, in adults and children.

[BTS guideline](#) considers inhaled corticosteroids to be the first-choice preventer drug, whilst sodium cromoglicate is an alternative but less effective preventer therapy.

[The Global Initiative for Asthma \(GINA\)](#) does not recommend the use of chromones (nedocromil sodium and sodium cromoglicate) in children age 6-11 years because of low efficacy and does not include this class of agent as a treatment option in adults.

Enquiries

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

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

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