**14 February 2025**

**Managing Medicine Shortages:**

**Imported Creon® Alternative – Pangrol®**

**Please remember to try and order UK Creon® in the first instance, stock is released from the manufacturer to wholesalers three times a month.**

If patients are due to run out in the next 10 days and there is no licensed UK Creon® available, consider ordering Pangrol® and getting a new prescription to ensure full costs are covered.

Pangrol® is an alternative unlicensed brand to Creon®. It is a direct equivalent in strength. Pangrol® has been approved by NHS South East (SE) London for use.

**Pack sizes:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10,000 – 200 (2 x 100 packs banded together) | A white box with red and green text  AI-generated content may be incorrect. |
| 25,000 – 200 (2 x 100 packs banded together) |

**What does the prescription need to say?**

An FP10 paper prescription should be used detailing:

* **Name of medication including strength and formulation** (Imported):
	+ - *Imported Pangrol® capsules 10,000/ 25,000\* (delete as appropriate)*
* **Special Order**
* **Dosage** instructions for patient
* **Quantity** (note Pangrol® comes in 200 capsule packs)

When dispensing please print and include the relevant Patient Information Leaflet (PIL):

* [Pangrol 10,000](https://cpsc.org.uk/download_file/view/4869/3285%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)
* [Pangrol 25,000](https://cpsc.org.uk/download_file/view/4870/3285)

**Endorsing the Prescription** (as a non-Drug Tariff Part VIIIB special)

Refer to [How should I endorse a special, unlicensed or imported drug?](https://faq.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/knowledgebase/article/KA-03292/en-us)

Make sure any Pangrol® scripts are endorsed with the following information:

* **Amount dispensed over pack size** (e.g. 50/200) used;
* **Invoice price per pack size** from which the order was supplied less any discount or rebate, include delivery cost where applicable.
* Manufacturers’/importers’ (Target Healthcare) MHRA licence number which is: **MS43086/ WDA(H)43086**
* Batch number of the product supplied;
* The letters ‘**SP**’ to indicate it is a special.

**How to order imported Pangrol® stock?**

SE London ICB have been working with our local hospitals and community pharmacies to put systems in place to help patients access Creon® during the ongoing shortage.

SE London pharmacies are able to access centralised stock of Pangrol® ordered from the [Oxford Pharmacy Store](https://oxfordpharmacystore.co.uk/ordering-info/) (OPS). This stock has been underwritten allowing a bulk purchase to be placed to provide a shorter lead time for delivery (1-2 days).

The OPS should only be used when licensed stock is not available from a wholesaler and patient has 10 days or less stock left.

Pharmacies will be able to order Pangrol® from the OPS if they have an account set up with them. Existing customers should continue to place orders as usual.

* For new customers, [Register for a New Account](https://oxfordpharmacystore.co.uk/register-for-a-new-cccount/) or complete and return the completed [OPS New Customer Verification Form](file://nwlondon/icb/CMO/Meds%20Mgt/NWL%20Meds%20Management/Guidelines%20and%20pathways/PERT/FINAL/OPS-FORM-005%20New%20Customer%20Verification%20Form%20v12%20November%202024.docx) to set up an account with Oxford Pharmacy Store.

**Please note the following important details for returning the New Customer Verification Forms to OPS:**

* Ensure the Customer Details and Customer Verification sections are completed.
* Include the Supply of Unlicensed Medicinal Confirmation Form.
* OPS cannot accept typed name signatures; please ensure the documents have either an electronic or a wet signature.
* Return the signed forms along with a Purchase Order (PO) to  ops.orders@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk
* Without these forms and a PO, they will be unable to set up your account.

**Ordering imported stock from OPS**

Please send orders to ops.orders@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk or via online order form accessible via [Oxford Pharmacy Store: Order Information](https://oxfordpharmacystore.co.uk/ordering-info/)

When stock arrives, ensure it is kept separate from the ‘normal’ UK Creon® ordered from regular wholesalers.

When using stock ordered from OPS – remember that any scripts you use this stock to fill need to say either ‘XXX **IMPORTED’** in drug line (EPS) or ‘**Special order’** (handwritten) as per the [MSN: Pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy (PERT)](https://cpsc.org.uk/application/files/2217/1532/5141/MSN_2024_054__Pancreatic_enzyme_replacement_therapy.pdf)

Make sure to claim all costs associated with ordering this stock when you dispense it.

Patient facing communications from SE London ICB explaining the issue and solution are available here: [Information for Patients](https://www.nwlondonicb.nhs.uk/professionals/medicines/information-patients)

Acknowledgement: [Community Pharmacy Hampshire and Isle of Wight](https://www.cpsc.org.uk/news/latest-cpsc-news/imported-creon-alternative-pangrol)

Last updated 30/1/2025