



# Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2020/058

## Salazopyrin En-Tabs<sup>®</sup> (sulfasalazine) 500mg tablets

Tier 1 – low impact\*

Date of issue: 21/10/2020

### Summary

- Pfizer are out of stock of Salazopyrin En-Tabs<sup>®</sup> until early December 2020.
- Generic versions of sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets remain available.
- UKMI have advised there are no known differences in bioavailability between the branded and generic products and they can be considered interchangeable.
- A Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) was issued on 20/10/2020.

### Actions Required

- For patients with insufficient supplies, community pharmacists may supply sulfasalazine gastro-resistant 500mg tablets against the SSP for eligible patients.

If the above option is not deemed appropriate, clinicians should:

- consider prescribing sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets generically to enable any manufacturer's product to be dispensed; and
- counsel patients regarding the switch from branded to generic at the point of dispensing.

### Supporting information

- Please see the link below for further information on the Salazopyrin En-Tabs 500mg tablet SSP: <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps>
- See SPCs below for further information  
[Salazopyrin En-Tabs<sup>®</sup> 500mg](#)  
[Sulfasalazine 500mg gastro-resistant tablets](#)

### Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact [DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto: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/>