



# ADHD Medication Shortage October 2023

We have been advised today that there is a national shortage of several ADHD medications. The following medications are affected:

| Brand         | Generic          | Presentations affected         | Out of stock until (estimated)   |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Xaggitin XL   | Methylphenidate  | 18mg and 36mg sust-release tab | 1st February 2023 (HC4K note: We think this should be 2024)                        |
| Concerta XL   | Methylphenidate  | 54mg sust-release tab          | 6th October 2023   |
| Equasym       | Methylphenidate  | 10mg and 20mg cap              | 30th October 2023  |
| Xenidate XL   | Methylphenidate  | 27mg sust-release tab          | 2nd October 2023   |
| Elvanse Adult | Lisdexamfetamine | 30mg, 50mg and 70mg cap        | 3rd November 2023  |
| Elvanse       | Lisdexamfetamine | 50mg, 60mg and 70mg cap        | 13th October 2023 (50mg)/<br>20th October 2023 (60mg)/<br>27th October 2023 (70mg) |
| Intuniv       | Guanfacine       | 4mg modified-release tab       | End of November/early December 2023  |
| Strattera     | Atomoxetine      | 4mg/ml oral soln               | 13th October 2023  |

The National Patient Safety Alert suggests, at present, the supply disruptions are expected to resolve at various dates between October and December 2023. Please note that the 'Out of stock until' date in the table above is estimated and is not a guarantee that any supply issues will be resolved by this point.

We cannot advise on stock levels in specific areas or pharmacies, so please do call a number of pharmacies in your area to check stock before taking a prescription in. We are relying on the National Patient Safety Alert system for updates.

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#### Clinics:

**Healthcare4Kids Services Ltd,**

Supersonic House, 23 Adelaide Road, Leamington Spa, CV31 3PD, Tel: 01926 624 235

**The Tudor Medical Group,**

Stratford Healthcare, Arden Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6HJ, Tel: 01789 200 935

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### **Private Prescriptions:**

We suggest that you request a prescription for ADHD medication earlier than you usually would to allow time to try to find a pharmacy with the medication in stock.

<https://healthcare4kids.co.uk/repeat-prescription-form/>

Depending on your child and which medication they are taking or can tolerate, our clinicians may be able to prescribe “sustained release methylphenidate” or “long, acting dexamphetamine” rather than brand names, as there are still some versions that are available as generic forms.

Some patients may have to rely on multiple doses of short-acting Methylphenidate until stock levels are back to normal.

### **Shared Care with a GP:**

As with private prescriptions, we suggest that you ask your GP for your prescription for ADHD medication earlier than you usually would to allow time to try to find a pharmacy with the medication in stock. Ask for a printed prescription, rather than having it sent to your nominated pharmacy, as then you will be able to try different pharmacies and check their stock levels.

If you cannot find the medication your child usually takes, please let us know and if possible (depending on your child and the medication they are taking), we can contact your GP and ask them to specify “sustained release methylphenidate” or “long, acting dexamphetamine” as there are still some versions that are available as generic forms.

If you are still struggling to find the medication, please email your clinician on [nurse@healthcare4kids.co.uk](mailto:nurse@healthcare4kids.co.uk) (Ellie) or [doctorjojones@healthcare4kids.co.uk](mailto:doctorjojones@healthcare4kids.co.uk) (Jo) and we can provide advice.

We will be in touch with updates as and when we receive them but please note that pharmacies will have a better idea of their stock levels and how their situation is progressing.

With Best Wishes,

from the Healthcare4Kids Team