



29th September 2011

Dear Doctor,

SUPPLY SHORTAGE: Apidra (insulin glulisine) SoloStar & 3mL cartridges for ClikSTAR

Sanofi would like to inform you of a temporary supply shortage of the following Apidra presentations:

- Apidra SoloStar prefilled pens
- Apidra 3 mL cartridges for use with ClikSTAR

Our current stock of these presentations is likely to be depleted from mid October 2011. Sanofi are making every effort to resolve the issue and we anticipate re-supply in early 2012.

The shortage is due to a technical incident affecting a filling line for Apidra cartridges at our Sanofi manufacturing site in Frankfurt, Germany. This has led to a temporary disruption to the production of these presentations. Please note, this incident does not affect Apidra currently in the Australian market or other Sanofi insulin products (Lantus).

The following Apidra presentation remains available:

- Apidra vials 100 IU/mL (10mL)

In order to minimise disruption during this period, we seek your assistance managing your Apidra patients:

- Patients who wish to **CONTINUE ON APIDRA** – consider immediate transition to Apidra 10mL vials and syringes (there is no need for dose adjustments, changes in timing of injection or site of injection). The Apidra Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) leaflet provides details on how to prepare and administer a dose using the 10mL vial.

PBS reimbursement: Apidra 10mL vials - item code 9224L (max quantity 5 and 2 repeats)

- Patients who wish to **CONTINUE WITH A PEN DELIVERY DEVICE** – consider immediate transition to an alternative rapid acting insulin analogue (dose and timing adjustment may be required, close monitoring of blood glucose levels is recommended)

If there are unique circumstances preventing a patient from transitioning to either of the above options, please contact Sanofi Medical Information department to discuss whether arrangements can be made for your patient.

For patients you are initiating on Apidra, please only prescribe Apidra vials during this period of supply disruption.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Sanofi Medical Information department on 1 800 818 806.

We apologise for the inconvenience this temporary supply shortage of Apidra may cause and appreciate your understanding and support during this interim period.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Condoleon".

Dr Alex Condoleon
Medical Director
Australia & New Zealand

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