



7th October 2014

Discontinuation of Piportil Depot® (pipotiazine palmitate)

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Sanofi would like to inform you of the following:

- Based on current estimates it is anticipated that the following Piportil Depot® formulations will no longer be available: from the end of March 2015:
 - Piportil Depot® (pipotiazine palmitate) 10 x 1ml (50mg/ml) amp
 - Piportil Depot® (pipotiazine palmitate) 10 x 2ml (50mg/ml) amp
- No new patients should be initiated on pipotiazine palmitate
- Patients currently prescribed pipotiazine palmitate should be switched to alternative treatments

There is a global shortage of the active pharmaceutical ingredient pipotiazine palmitate and Sanofi is therefore unable to manufacture further supplies of Piportil Depot injection.

Patients currently prescribed pipotiazine palmitate injection (Piportil Depot®) must be transferred to alternative treatments. This should only be done with appropriate medical supervision, therefore clinicians should review patients currently receiving pipotiazine palmitate injection (Piportil Depot®) as soon as possible and discuss alternative treatment options with them.

The British National Formulary (BNF) suggests the following dose equivalents for depot antipsychotics:

Equivalent doses of depot antipsychotics

These equivalences are intended **only** as an approximate guide; individual dosage instructions should **also** be checked; patients should be carefully monitored after **any** change in medication

Antipsychotic drug	Dose (mg)	Interval
Flupentixol decanoate	40	2 weeks
Fluphenazine decanoate	25	2 weeks
Haloperidol (as decanoate)	100	4 weeks
Pipotiazine palmitate	50	4 weeks
Zuclopenthixol decanoate	200	2 weeks

Important These equivalences must **not** be extrapolated beyond the maximum dose for the drug

Adapted from BNF

Call for reporting

Please continue to report suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs) to the MHRA through the Yellow Card Scheme. Please report:

- all suspected ADRs that are serious or result in harm. Serious reactions are those that are fatal, life-threatening, disabling or incapacitating, those that cause a

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congenital abnormality or result in hospitalisation, and those that are considered medically significant for any other reason.

- all suspected ADRs associated with new drugs and vaccines identified by the black triangle ▼

It is easiest and quickest to report ADRs online via the Yellow Cards website:

www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard

Alternatively, prepaid Yellow Cards for reporting are available:

- by writing to FREEPOST YELLOW CARD (no other address details necessary)
- by emailing yellowcard@mhra.gsi.gov.uk
- at the back of the British National Formulary (BNF)
- by telephoning the Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) free phone line: 0800-731-6789
- or by [downloading and printing a form from the Yellow Card section of the MHRA website](#)

When reporting please provide as much information as possible, including information about medical history, any concomitant medication, onset, treatment dates, and product brand name.

Company contact point

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our **Medical Information Department**:

- **Tel:** 0845 372 7101
- **E-mail:** UK-medicalinformation@sanofi.com

If you have any questions relating to product stock, please contact **Customer Services**:

- **Tel:** 0800 854 430
- **E-mail:** gb-customerservices@sanofi.com

Yours faithfully,

Dr Mark Toms
Medical Director
Aventis Pharma Limited (trading as Sanofi)