

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Clopine® 50 mg/mL oral suspension brand is being replaced by Versacloz™ 50 mg/mL oral suspension

Douglas would like to notify you of an important medication brand change that may impact some of your patients.

Summary:

- Douglas has received Consent to Distribute for a new brand of clozapine suspension, Versacloz™ 50 mg/mL oral suspension.
- Versacloz suspension will be launched during March 2021 and will replace Clopine suspension once stock of the latter has been depleted.
- Both Clopine suspension and Versacloz suspension have been shown to be bioequivalent to the original innovator clozapine tablet. However, as per labelled advice, brand swapping between clozapine products is discouraged and should only occur on the advice of a clinician. Therefore, any switching of brands may require individualised monitoring and vigilance for relapse of symptoms and tolerability.
- The last available batch of Clopine Suspension in the market is due to expire May 2021 and remaining supplies are expected to be exhausted by April 2021. Douglas will communicate any new ordering codes as they are launched. Please continue to order as per your normal processes until further notice.

Further information and recommendations to healthcare professionals

Versacloz has been shown to have better stability and therefore, it offers a much longer shelf-life. There are some differences between Clopine and Versacloz Suspensions which prescribers will need to be aware of, a summary of these can be found in the table below:

		Clopine Suspension	Versacloz Suspension
Shelf Life	Unopened	6 months from date of manufacture.	24 months
	Opened	3 months	100 days
Excipients (present in that brand only)		monobasic sodium phosphate dihydrate.	sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate.
Storage		Store at or below 25°C.	Store at or below 25°C. Protect from light. Do not refrigerate or freeze.

Reporting adverse events

Reporting suspected adverse reactions has an important role in monitoring the benefit/risk balance of medicines. Please report any suspected adverse events via email to Douglas Pharmaceuticals Ltd at drugsafety@douglas.co.nz. Alternatively, suspected adverse events may be reported to the Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring (CARM) at <https://nzphvc.otago.nz/>.

The Product Data Sheet for Versacloz Suspension is available at:

<https://medsafe.govt.nz/profs/Datasheet/v/Versaclozsusp.pdf>. If you have any question related to this notification, please contact Douglas Medical Information via Customer Services on 0800 DOUGLAS, 0800 368452.

Kind regards,
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