

MEDIA STATEMENT • MEDIA STATEMENT • MEDIA STATEMENT**For media enquiries, please contact:****Press Office 01276 698691****Carolyn Brown 01276 698620
07774 235284****Changes to distribution arrangements of Novartis products**

Following a recent review of its distribution arrangements, Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd is making changes to the way a number of its brands will be distributed going forward. These brands are typically ordered in very low volume by community pharmacy and dispensing doctors and represent less than one percent of the volume of Novartis products dispensed in the community.

Novartis regularly reviews the way in which it distributes its medicines in order to provide an efficient service for its customers. The changes will affect ten brands, all of which represent very low volumes in the community. From 1 June 2010, these brands will need to be ordered directly from Novartis through the Patient Priority Supply Service which is being extended to accommodate this service.

The brands affected are as follows:

Aclasta
Afinitor
Exjade
GlivecMyfortic
Sandimmun
Sandostatin LAR
TasignaTobi
Zometa

Novartis has been operating the Patient Priority Supply Service since September 2009 to ensure patients are able to receive the medicines that they need when they need them. The changes are expected to have a minimal impact on customers but will enable Novartis to manage the stock of these medicines more effectively, minimising the risk of 'out of stock' and ensuring patients receive their medicines when they need them. All other Novartis medicines, including all brands that are typically ordered in high volumes, will continue to be distributed through the regular wholesale route.

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