

# Evorel hormone replacement therapy (HRT) patch range - supply disruption

[June 2020]



There have been on-going supply issues with many HRT products.

The Evorel range (Evorel, Evorel Conti and Evorel Sequi) are all affected and we do not have dates for when these products will be readily available.

For women using **Evorel Conti and Sequi patches**, the only other combination transdermal patches on the market are **FemSeven Conti and Sequi** containing estradiol and a different progestogen, levonorgestrel. **However these products are also out of stock until the second quarter of 2020.**

Other brands of estradiol patches are available but there are no progestogen patches. Therefore, one alternative treatment options is switching to a combined **oral HRT product**.

NICE HRT guidance recommends transdermal rather than oral HRT for menopausal women who are at increased risk of venous thromboembolism (VTE), including those with a BMI over 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. It also notes that taking oral (but not transdermal) oestrogen is associated with a small increase in the risk of stroke though the baseline population risk of stroke in women aged under 60 years is very low.

**If a decision is made to switch from a transdermal to an oral product this risk needs to be discussed with the patient.**

Care is required when switching from any HRT product as the range of products available contain different strengths, ratios and types of oestrogens and progestogens that are not equivalent.

The British Menopause Society has issued a useful update on the current availability of HRT products and provides some guidance to support clinical practitioners in managing the ongoing HRT shortages

<https://thebms.org.uk/2020/05/british-menopause-society-further-update-on-hrt-supply-shortages-30-april-2020/>

For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Teams on

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