



Pabrinex® shortage



IV Pabrinex® will be out of stock from August 2024

- Pabrinex® Intramuscular (IM) injection has been discontinued
- Thiamine 50mg and 100mg tablets remain available

There are **no** licensed parenteral alternatives to Pabrinex® in the UK

Unlicensed IV/IM thiamine alternatives have been sourced.

- If prescribing an unlicensed medicine, you must consider relevant professional guidance e.g. [Prescribing unlicensed medicines - professional standards - GMC \(gmc-uk.org\)](#), your local NHS organisation's guidance & governance procedures & individual professional guidance. Unlicensed imports **do not** undergo any central quality assessment or suitability evaluation.
- Depletion of thiamine occurs most frequently in alcohol dependent patients. Severe depletion can lead to Wernicke's encephalopathy. NICE CG100 [Overview](#) | [Alcohol-use disorders: diagnosis and management of physical complications](#) | [Guidance](#) | [NICE](#)
- Current [dosing guidance](#):
 - Wernicke's prophylaxis:** IV/IM thiamine 200-300mg ONCE daily
 - Wernicke's treatment:** IV/IM thiamine 300-500mg THREE times a day
- What you can do:
 - **Assess** your patient for Wernicke's as per NICE CG100 and only START prophylactic/treatment doses when indicated. STOP if/when no longer indicated.
 - **Be aware** of the alternative agent for use at your locality with the dosing and administration needs. This may differ between organisations.
 - **Engage** with your hospital and pharmacy to review local guidance.

For further information: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/using-and-prescribing-thiamine-in-alcohol-dependence/>

For Safety Alerts and RCEM issued Safety Flashes see:
<https://rcem.ac.uk/safety-3/>