

To: All Community Pharmacists

Tel : 028 9536 3375

Fax : 028 9536 1166

Web Site:

www.hscboard.hscni.net

26th January 2017

Dear Colleague

**Re: L-ornithine-L-aspartate granules (Hepa-merz® sachets) for
Hepatic Encephalopathy**

Pharmacists are encouraged to ensure that Health and Social Care Northern Ireland secures good value from its expenditure. I am writing to request that you take into account the information below when ordering Hepa-Merz®.

Hepa-Merz® is a combination of the amino acids ornithine and aspartate which is used in the management of hepatic encephalopathy. It is licensed in other European countries but not in the UK which means that it must be supplied as an 'Import' item.

The costs of imports such as Hepa-Merz® sachets can vary significantly, depending on the supplier used. Pharmacists should bear this in mind when ordering Hepa-Merz® sachets.

Hepa-Merz® granules are available as 5g sachets which come in pack sizes of 30, 50 or 100 sachets. Whilst the product can be ordered from a range of suppliers, over-labelled packs of 30 are readily available in N. Ireland for community pharmacies to order from Movianto Northern Ireland (contact details below) at a current price of £26.00 per pack of 30.

Available locally from:

Movianto Northern Ireland,
Sandyknowes Business Park,
605 Antrim Road,
BELFAST
BT36 4RY

Tel: 028-9079-5799
Fax: 028-9079-4004
Email: orders.nireland@movianto.com

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Brogan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mr Joe Brogan
Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy & Medicines Management