



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2025/036U

UPDATE to communication (MSN/2025/036) issued on 16 June 2025 in **bold**.

Levemir® (insulin detemir) FlexPen® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens and

Levemir® (insulin detemir) Penfill 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml cartridges

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 14/08/2025

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Levemir® (insulin detemir) FlexPen® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens and Levemir® (insulin detemir) Penfill® 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml cartridges are being discontinued; stock is anticipated to be exhausted by the end of 2026.
- [Clinical guidance](#) has been produced by clinical experts (see Supporting information).**
- Current supply positions and ability of alternative insulins to support an increase in demand is summarised below. Any changes to availability will be communicated via the [SPS Medicines Supply Tool](#).**

Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- not initiate new patients on any Levemir® product; and
- begin implementing insulin switches for all existing Levemir® patients in line with the [clinical guidance](#) (see Supporting information).**

Local teams should avoid initiating widespread switches without checking the current supply overview of alternative insulins to reduce the risk of precipitating a supply disruption of these products (see Supporting information).

As recommended in the [clinical guidance](#), clinicians should aim to diversify prescribing across available alternatives to reduce supply risk where possible.

In addition to consulting the [clinical guidance](#), when prescribing alternatives, consider manual dexterity, vision, and whether additional support is required for administration, and:

- ensure that all patients/carers are counselled on dose to be administered, provided with training on the use of their new device, as well as appropriate ancillaries, including signposting to training videos; and
- advise patients that closer monitoring of blood glucose levels is required initially, and their insulin dose may need to be adjusted.

Seek advice from specialist diabetes teams where required.

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

Supporting information

Supply summary table

Levemir is a long-acting insulin analogue **with a prolonged duration of effect** used as a basal insulin. It is licensed for the treatment of diabetes mellitus in adults, adolescents and children aged 1 year and above. **It can be used alone as the basal insulin or in combination with bolus insulin. It can also be used in combination with oral antidiabetic medicinal products and/or GLP-1 receptor agonists.**

As insulin glargine is available in two strengths, these products must be prescribed BY BRAND to minimise the risk of product mis-selection.

Insulin type		Supply overview	
Insulin type	Brand name and devices	Stock status	Ability to support increased demand
Insulin glargine U100 (Long acting)	Abasaglar® KwikPen®	In stock	Cannot support
	Abasaglar® cartridges	In stock	Cannot support
	Lantus® SoloStar®	In stock	Can support
	Lantus® cartridges	In stock	Can support
	Semglee® pre-filled pens (biosimilar)	In stock	Can support
Insulin glargine U300 (Ultralong acting)	Toujeo® SoloStar®	In stock	Can support
	Toujeo® DoubleStar®	In stock	Can support
Insulin degludec (Ultralong acting)	Tresiba® U100 FlexTouch®	Out of stock until early January 2026	Cannot support
	Tresiba® U100 cartridges	In stock	Can support
	Tresiba® U200 FlexTouch®	In stock	Can support
Human isophane insulin (intermediate acting)	Humulin I® KwikPen®	In stock	Cannot support
	Humulin I® cartridges	In stock	Cannot support

Links to further information

[Clinical Guideline: Discontinuation of Levemir®](#)
[BNF Insulin detemir](#)
[BNF Insulin preparations](#)
[NICE guidance: Type 1 diabetes in adults \(insulin therapy\)](#)
[NICE CKS- Insulin therapy in type 1 diabetes](#)
[NICE CKS- Insulin therapy in type 2 diabetes](#)
[SmPC Levemir®](#)
[SmPC Lantus®](#)

[SmPC Toujeo®](#)
[SmPC Abasaglar®](#)
[SmPC Semglee®](#)
[SmPC Tresiba®](#)
[SmPC Humulin® I](#)
[SPS Medicines Supply Tool - Shortage of Tresiba \(insulin degludec\) FlexTouch 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens](#)

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.