

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY SUPPLY PROBLEM
Neo Mercazole, carbimazole, 5 mg, tablets, AUST R 194296

Link Healthcare would like to inform prescribers that there is a temporary but global shortage of **Neo Mercazole, carbimazole, 5 mg, tablets, AUSTR 194296**.

Link Healthcare has been able to source carbimazole 5mg tablets in bottles of 100 tablets for emergency use. The product is a generic product called **CARBIMAZOLE** which has been manufactured in Germany. The product is not registered in Australia.

Supply under the TGA Special Access Scheme, SAS

Medical practitioners will be able to supply these carbimazole 5mg tablets to patients through the TGA under the Special Access Scheme, SAS.

The SAS refers to arrangements which provide for the import and/or supply of an unapproved therapeutic good for a single patient, on a case by case basis. Patients are grouped into two categories under the scheme:

- **Category A** patients are defined as 'persons who are seriously ill with a condition from which death is reasonably likely to occur within a matter of months, or from which premature death is reasonably likely to occur in the absence of early treatment'.
 - Medical practitioners can supply goods to very seriously ill patients without the approval of the TGA as long as the medical practitioner notifies the TGA within 28 days, using a [Category A form](#).
- **Category B** patients are all other patients that do not fit the Category A definition
 - Approval of an application to supply a product is required from a delegate in the TGA or a delegate outside the TGA (known as an external delegate). Approval by the TGA is given on a patient by patient basis to reflect the needs of different patients. Wherever possible, applications should be made in writing (preferably on a [Category B form](#) or an appropriate format that contains the same information

Full information about this scheme, and application forms, is provided from the internet link below.

<http://www.tga.gov.au/hp/access-sas-applications.htm>

Supply of 5mg carbimazole from Link Healthcare under the Emergency Access Scheme

Once the prescriber has an approved SAS form, it is given to the patient who, with their prescription, presents the form to his or her pharmacy.

The pharmacy may then order the product from Link Healthcare who will facilitate the supply process to ensure the patient, via the pharmacy receives, the product as a matter of urgency.

Concessional Patients

As this product will be supplied outside the PBS please clearly identify the Concessional Status of the patient on the approved SAS form so that Link Healthcare can ensure the concessional payment of \$5.90 is maintained.

Link Healthcare customer service contact details

Link Healthcare can be contacted via phone on 1800 181 060

Or via email on customerservice@linkpharma.com.au

Link is committed to patient care and safety, apologies for this disruption in supply, and is doing their utmost to ensure normal supply is resumed as soon as possible.



LINK HEALTHCARE

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