

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for switching preparations

Potential Generic Savings: Utrogestan® 100mg Capsules

Please note that this document has not been updated for the 2026-27 incentive scheme. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for medicines optimisation switches/reviews, along with other supporting materials, were originally developed for use by Medicines Optimisation Team staff within NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB). Other organisations or groups choosing to use this resource does so at their own risk and NHS SY ICB accepts no liability for its use or application.

Action(s) / Medication to be Switched	• Prescribe generic progesterone micronised 100mg capsules for all new patients who require treatment with progesterone micronised 100mg capsules • Review all patients currently prescribed brand Utrogestan® 100mg capsules • and switch, where appropriate, to generic progesterone micronised 100mg capsules It is recommended that any switches/changes to medication are only made by appropriately qualified, registered and authorised HCPs.
Rationale	Generic prescribing is recognised as a sign of good practice in terms of consistency and safety, as well as generally being more cost effective. It allows any suitable generic (or equivalent branded product) to be dispensed, reduces the number of items to be held as stock in the pharmacy and can potentially reduce the delays in supplying medicines to the patient. Quite often, the price difference between a brand and generic (as listed in the DT) is so significant that, in terms of cost-effectiveness, the generic is the most appropriate option to prescribe. In this instance, prescribing generic progesterone micronised 100mg capsules will save the NHS vital funds to be used elsewhere in the system without compromising patient care.

Price comparison <i>Cost correct as per Drug Tariff and NHS List price (Sept. 2025)</i>			
	Drug/Appliance (Brand / Branded generic)	Strength	Cost
	Progesterone micronised capsules x 30	100mg	£3.14
	Utrogestan® Capsules x 30	100mg	£6.60
Exclusions	• Patients identified as previously having difficulty accepting changes to medication regimes. (known pts to Practice) • Patients previously tried the switch with a documented reason for changing back • Patients with a documented allergy / intolerance to any excipients • Patients on the end of life/palliative care register should be switched at the discretion of their care providing GP.		
Cautions	Refer to the current BNF and SPC		

New Medication Added	Prescribe at same dose/frequency/quantity as previous preparation. Double-check prescribed quantity matches dose and script duration.
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Emis/S1 consultation entry	Read Code consultation entry – Drug changed to cost effective alternative (XaJKo) (SNOMED: 408374000) Consultation entry to make - • Utrogestan® 100mg capsules switched to generic progesterone micronised 100mg capsules • Patient repeat template updated • Patient informed of change via SMS / letter
Follow Up	None
Communication to Patients	Preferred method of communication with patients to be agreed with individual practice. • A sample patient letter is attached in Appendix 1. • Suggested wording to include in SMS included in Appendix 2.

Appendix 1 - Example letter only

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Patient Name, Address.

Date

Dear Title Surname,

Change to Your Prescription for Utrogestan® 100mg capsules).

Along with all other GP Practices across Rotherham we are reviewing patients who are currently prescribed **branded Utrogestan® 100mg capsules**. This is to ensure our patients continue to receive quality treatment but also use NHS resources in the most cost-effective manner.

You are currently prescribed **branded Utrogestan® 100mg capsules**.

This treatment has been reviewed and updated to the **generic progesterone micronised 100mg capsules**.

Please finish your current supply of medication before starting your new **progesterone micronised 100mg capsules**.

On behalf of the Doctors

Appendix 2 - Suggested text/AccuRx wording

Change to Your Prescription for Utrogestan® 100mg capsules

All GP Practices across Rotherham are reviewing patients who are currently prescribed **Utrogestan® 100mg capsules**. This is to ensure our patients continue to receive quality treatment but also use NHS resources in the most cost-effective manner. Your prescription for **Utrogestan® 100mg capsules** has been updated to the **generic progesterone micronised 100mg capsules** to save the NHS valuable funds to use elsewhere.