



Information for Patients

Ranitidine/Zantac Availability

You may have heard recent media reports concerning the safety of '**Zantac**' which is a brand of the drug **ranitidine**. Supplies of zantac have been withdrawn and as a result it is anticipated that all brands of ranitidine are likely to be unavailable in the UK for the foreseeable future.

Our patients take ranitidine for a wide variety of reason and in many cases it will be safe to simply stop the medication or change it to simple over the counter preparation such as anti-acids, gaviscon or, for occasional use, Nexium. There are a smaller number of situations when it would not be advisable to stop your ranitidine without a prescribed alternative. For example when the medicine is taken alongside another medicine such as antidepressants or anti-inflammatory or when the medicine is taken for particularly severe gastric, stomach or food-pipe problems.

It is likely that further ranitidine supplies will not be immediately available on prescription. In the circumstances our advice in the first instance is to discuss with the pharmacist whether an over the counter alternative is appropriate but if they indicate that it may not be then please make an appointment at the practice for a medication review.

Partners: Dr John Reid
Dr David Tooth
Dr Neil Thorman

Dr Rejia Ullah
Dr Sarah Yacomeni
Dr Wazim Kazi

Associates: Dr Andrew Grafton
Dr Ben Harris
Dr Gillian Turner
Dr John Powell

Manager: Marsha Raynes

