

GLOBAL SHORTAGE OF BETANOID TABLETS

There is currently a global stock shortage of Betanoid (betamethasone) tablets. Betanoid is used in the Dexamethasone Suppression Test for screening of Cushing's Syndrome. PathCare will, until further notice, be unable to supply patients with Betanoid tablets.

Betanoid syrup has been suggested as an alternative. An equivalent dose to 1 mg Betanoid tablets (0.5 mg x 2) is 8,3 ml Betanoid syrup (0.6 mg/5ml) for the low dose (1mg) overnight Dexamethasone Suppression Test. There is, however, no data available to support the use of Betanoid Syrup.

Alternative screening tests for Cushing's Syndrome include:

- For patients with a low index of suspicion:
 - 24-hr urine free cortisol
 - Late-night salivary cortisol (2 measurements)
- For patients with a high index of suspicion:
 - Both 24-hr urine and late-night salivary cortisol should be performed
 - Each measurement obtained at least twice
 - In patients with mild/fluctuating disease, multiple measurements over weeks are required

We are in constant communication with suppliers and will send out a notification once Betanoid tablets become available again.

Best regards
PathCare Chemical Pathologists