



Subject: HSE Interim guidance to manage shortage of rifampicin-containing products.
Version 3.0

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For: Consultant Microbiologists, Infectious Disease Physicians, Antimicrobial Pharmacists, Infectious Disease Pharmacists, Chief Pharmacists, Public Health Specialists, Respiratory Physicians, Community Pharmacists, Acute Operations, Community Operations

From: Prof Martin Cormican Clinical Lead AMRIC, Dr Eimear Brannigan, Deputy Clinical Lead AMRIC, Marie Philbin, Chief Antimicrobial Pharmacist AMRIC

Currently Rifater® (rifampicin + isoniazid + pyrazinamide) is in short supply with an expected return of mid-late October 2021. The shortage is due to a quality issue and multiple countries are affected. HSE-AMRIC provides suggested alternative formulation regimens in Table 1 to manage supply to patients during this shortage.

Supplies of Rifinah 300/150® (rifampicin 300mg + isoniazid 150mg) and Rifinah 150/100® (rifampicin 150mg + isoniazid 100mg) are available. Oral and parenteral formulations of rifampicin (300mg capsule, 150mg capsule & liquid) are also in stock.

This is a general guide and is not intended to replace clinical judgement.

Suggest that where a service manages a cohort of patients with TB, that the cohort is reviewed so as to optimally manage medication supplies for affected patients over coming months/ until supply lines return.

Table 1: Suggested dosing options for TB treatment intensive phase in adults# in context of shortage of Rifater® (rifampicin + isoniazid + pyrazinamide)

Patient weight	Suggested regimen*	Comments
Under 35kg	Rifinah 150/100® - 2 tablets daily PLUS pyrazinamide 1000mg	
35-49kg	Rifinah 150/100® - 2 tablets daily PLUS a single rifampicin 150mg capsule PLUS pyrazinamide 1000mg	
50-64kg	Rifinah 300/150® - 2 tablets daily PLUS pyrazinamide 1500mg	
65kg & over	Rifinah 300/150® - 2 tablets daily PLUS a single rifampicin 150mg capsule PLUS pyrazinamide 2000mg	

* Aiming for: rifampicin 10mg/kg + isoniazid 5mg/kg (max. 300mg) + pyrazinamide 25mg/kg (taking availability of whole tablets/capsules, and quoted dose ranges in the literature in to consideration)
#Seek specialist advice for children

ENDS