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13th September 2018

Dear Doctor/Pharmacist,

Shortage in the Supply of 'Sinemet'®

MSD is anticipating a stock shortage of some SINEMET® (Carbidopa/ Levodopa) products in the Irish market in the coming months due to global manufacturing delays in production and resupply of these products.

As of today's date, the following products are subject to delays in resupply:

Product Name	Anticipated Out of Stock (OOS)	Anticipated Resupply
SINEMET 25/250 MG 100 TABS TABLETS (PA1286/9/5)	October 2018	Before end March 2019
SINEMET PLUS 25/100 MG 100 TABS (PA1286/9/4)	October 2018	Before end March 2019

The products listed below and also within the same range are currently unaffected:

- **SINEMET 12.5/50 MG 90 TABS (PA1286/9/2)**
- **SINEMET 10/100 MG 100 TABS (PA1286/9/3)**
- **SINEMET (HALF) CR 25/100 MG 60 TABS (PA1286/9/1)**
- **SINEMET CR 50/200 MG 60 TABS (PA1286/9/6)**

'Sinemet'® and 'Sinemet'® CR are indicated for the treatment of Parkinson's disease and syndrome.
'Sinemet'® CR is a controlled release formulation of 'Sinemet'® to treat idiopathic Parkinson's disease.

We recommend that any prescription for carbidopa/levodopa is written generically as supplies of alternative carbidopa-levodopa may be available from wholesalers. The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) has advised MSD that this alternative carbidopa/levodopa supply will be through the exempt medicines (unlicensed medicines) scheme.

The most up to date information with regard to specific MSD product supply details is available on www.msd.ie.
This website will be regularly updated in relation to the supply situation outlined above.

We understand that SINEMET® is an important part of the management of Parkinson's disease for many patients in Ireland. MSD would like to assure you that we are working to resolve this situation as soon as reasonably possible and anticipate these products will be resupplied in **Q1 2019**.

If you have any further queries, please call **01-2998700**.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Colm Galligan
Medical Director