



## SERIOUS SHORTAGE SUBSTITUTION NOTICE

<b>Notice Reference Number</b>	SSSN 21-03
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This Notice applies for the following dates

<b>From</b>	16/02/2021	<b>To</b>	30/06/2021
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This Notice applies only to the following medicines

<b>Name of medicines in shortage (including strength and formulation):</b>	Sertraline (as hydrochloride) film coated tablets blister pack – multiple strengths
<b>Schedule:</b>	S4: Prescription Only Medicine
<b>Duration of shortage:</b>	Resolution dates vary between the different brands in shortage. Some brands will start to come back into stock between February and April 2021.  For further and any updated information, see: <a href="https://apps.tga.gov.au/Prod/msi/Search/Details/sertraline-hydrochloride">https://apps.tga.gov.au/Prod/msi/Search/Details/sertraline-hydrochloride</a>

Details of medicine to be supplied under this SSSN

<b>Name of medicines (including strength and formulation) to be supplied</b>	Sertraline (as hydrochloride) film coated tablets blister pack – <b>alternative strength</b>
<b>Same formulation but different strength?</b>	Yes, see dosage substitution table below

<b>Same active but different salt?</b>	No
<b>Different dose form?</b>	No

### Dosage substitution table

<b>Original medicine dose</b>	50 mg	100 mg*
<b>Alternative strength to be supplied as a substitute</b>	100 mg	50 mg
	Ensure correct dose is provided – Follow dosage substitution regimen below	
<b>Dosage substitution regimen</b>	Calculate the number of tablets required to provide the prescribed dose noting that tablets may need to be cut in half (i.e. using 100mg tablets to obtain a 50mg dose); or that multiple tablets may be required (i.e. taking two 50mg tablets to make a 100mg dose). Patients should be advised to ensure that the dose is taken in full at the prescribed time and not split over a 24 hour period.	
<b>Any restrictions on this dose form (e.g. dose intervals)</b>	N/A	
<b>Any limitations on substitution</b>	N/A	

*\*Some brands of sertraline 100 mg are unscored. Ensure patient's ability to cut the tablets to obtain the correct dose*

### Conditions:

- Total quantity supplied under this protocol must be equivalent to the number of days supplied on original prescription.
- The patient/carer must provide a valid prescription for the original medicine that is in shortage.
- The patient/carer must consent to receiving a substitute medicine supplied pursuant to the notice.
- The pharmacist may, in their professional judgement, determine that the patient is not suitable to receive alternative medicine under the notice e.g. known previous hypersensitivity or severe adverse reaction to excipients.