**Private & Confidential**

<Patient Name>

<Patient Address>

|  |
| --- |
| NHS Number: <NHS number> |
| <Todays date> |

Dear <Patient Name>

You are receiving this letter because we have identified you as being prescribed a group of medicines called GLP-1 analogues for your diabetes.

GLP-1 analogues include:

Dulaglutide **(Trulicity®)**

Exenatide **(Byetta® or Bydureon®)**

Semaglutide **(Ozempic® or Rybelsus ®)**

Liragllutide **(Victoza®)**

Lixisenatide **(Lyxumia®)**

We have been made aware of an important nationwide stock supply issue with this type of medication and understand this may impact you in obtaining further supplies of this medicine until end of 2024.

We will of course keep you updated as soon as we receive further information, however in the meantime please see the attached letter below for more details on this issue.

Please discard this letter if you feel you no longer take any of the above listed medicines.

Yours Sincerely

<Sender name>

<Sender details>

# Patient Information Leaflet – Stock Shortages – Injectable and Oral GLP-1 Analogues (Dulaglutide, Exenatide, Semaglutide, Liraglutide, Lixisenatide)

The leaflet is designed for people taking a GLP-1 analogue for type 2 diabetes.

## Why have I been sent this leaflet?

You have been sent this leaflet as we have identified you are taking a GLP-1 analogue for type 2 diabetes. GLP-1 analogues include: Dulaglutide (Trulicity®), Exenatide (Byetta® or Bydureon®), Semaglutide (Ozempic® or Rybelsus ®), Liragllutide (Victoza®), Lixisenatide (Lyxumia®)

Unfortunately, there are widespread national stock shortages with all of these agents.

## Why are there drug shortages?

Shortages are due to increased demand for these drugs.

## When will these shortages be resolved?

Supply is not expected to return until at least the end of 2024 but these dates are subject to change.

## What should you I do during this time with my diabetes medications?

You should continue taking all your diabetes medication as normal, including your GLP-1 analogue if you have supply.

## Will I need a review for my diabetes?

You may need an earlier review for your diabetes. However due to the limited availability of appointments at this time we will do our best to facilitate timely reviews. We may ask for a monitoring blood test sooner than planned.

## Will my diabetes treatment need to change?

Your diabetes treatment may need to be changed in view of the shortage. A member of the team will contact you if this is necessary and discuss options.

## Where can I get further information about this?

We currently do not have any further information about the shortage or return to stock dates and we are dealing with a high volume of calls. Please bear this in mind before considering contacting your GP or Specialist Diabetes Team.

## What do I do if I feel unwell?

If you feel unwell with symptoms of high blood glucose, e.g., feeling very thirsty, peeing a lot, feeling weak or tired, blurred vision or losing weight, please seek a GP appointment at the earliest opportunity.

Please call 111 for help if you think you have high blood glucose levels and; you’re feeling sick, being sick or have stomach pain, you’re breathing more quickly than usual or your heart is beating faster than usual, you feel drowsy or are struggling to stay awake, you breath have a fruity smell (like pear drop sweets), you feel confused or have difficulty concentrating, you have a high level of ketones in your blood or pee. These could be signs you are becoming very unwell.