



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

**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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

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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
<b>Under 35kg</b>	Rifinah 150/100® - 2 tablets daily <b>PLUS</b> pyrazinamide 1000mg	
<b>35-49kg</b>	Rifinah 150/100® - 2 tablets daily <b>PLUS</b> a single rifampicin 150mg capsule <b>PLUS</b> pyrazinamide 1000mg	
<b>50-64kg</b>	Rifinah 300/150® - 2 tablets daily <b>PLUS</b> pyrazinamide 1500mg	
<b>65kg &amp; over</b>	Rifinah 300/150® - 2 tablets daily <b>PLUS</b> a single rifampicin 150mg capsule <b>PLUS</b> 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**