



**Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhise Sláinte,  
Seirbhís Aisíocha Príomhchúraim**  
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15<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Circular 005/26

**RE: Metronidazole Tablets**

Dear Doctor,

Please find enclosed a memo from HSE Antimicrobial Resistance & Infection Control (AMRIC) in relation to the current shortage of metronidazole tablets.

Yours faithfully,

Shaun Flanagan  
Assistant National Director  
Primary Care Reimbursement Service



# Memo

**To:** Regional Executive Officers, Regional Clinical Directors.

**From:** Dr. Eimear Brannigan, AMRIC Clinical Lead  
Marie Philbin, AMRIC Chief Pharmacist

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Subject:** **Shortage of metronidazole tablets**

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Dear colleagues,

We have been informed by the HPRA there is a shortage of metronidazole tablets, with an expected return date of 31.01.26. There is limited availability of metronidazole oral suspension.

To preserve the use of metronidazole oral suspension for infections where there are no clear alternatives the following is recommended:

- If you are considering prescribing oral metronidazole please consult national or local antimicrobial prescribing guidelines. If there are recommended alternatives to oral metronidazole for the particular infection, acknowledging patient specific factors such as allergy, consider prescribing those in preference to metronidazole.
- Note for individual hospital sites: assess available stock and action accordingly.

National antimicrobial prescribing guidelines are available on [www.antibioticprescribing.ie](http://www.antibioticprescribing.ie)

For updates on metronidazole supply refer to the Medicine Shortages section on [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie)

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Eimear Brannigan

Marie Philbin

cc GPs  
Dentists  
Community Pharmacists  
Infectious Diseases Physicians  
Consultant Microbiologists  
Antimicrobial Pharmacists