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| **Alert No: 35                                Date: 27 November 2018**

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| **RISK OF CLOZAPINE OVERDOSE (clozapine liquid)** |

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| Clozapine liquid supplied by St Georges University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has changed the formulation of clozapine liquid.  **The new strength of Clozapine liquid is now 50mg/ml.**  This product is for all patients currently monitored by ZTAS. Patients who take Denzapine liquid are not affected by this change.  This is a change from 100mg/5ml (20mg/ml), and will result in a change to the volume of liquid (ml) that the patient is required to take to achieve the same dose (mg). The volume required will be LESS than before.  Actions:1. **Consultants**:  Ensure patients prescribed clozapine liquid are aware that their dose remains the same but the volume of liquid that they consume will change. Include carers and supported accommodation staff in discussion and explore whether Medicines Administration Record (MAR) charts in use at the home need to be adjusted.
2. **Nurses**:  Nurses administering clozapine liquid to inpatients will need to ensure careful calculation of the volume of liquid needed, in order to administer the prescribed dose.  Please speak to your ward pharmacist or the on-call pharmacist if you are unsure.
3. **Clozapine clinic**: The volume to take will be clearly stated on the label.   Ensure they explain the change in volume to patients. Include carers and supported accommodation staff in discussion and that any Medicines Administration Record (MAR) charts in use at the home are adjusted.
4. **Care –coordinators:** Ensure your patients prescribed clozapine liquid are aware that their dose remains the same but the volume of liquid that they consume will change. Include carers and supported accommodation staff in discussion.

For further information please contact your ward pharmacist or pharmacy team. https://i.emlfiles4.com/cmpimg/4/5/4/5/8/files/3638215_greenstripsandlogo.png |

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