Pharmacist Checklist - Guidance for dispensing Acitretin▼

Acitretin belongs to the retinoid class of drugs that cause severe birth defects. Foetal exposure to acitretin, even for short periods of time, presents a high risk of congenital malformations and miscarriage.

Acitretin is therefore strictly contraindicated during pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential, unless all conditions in the Acitretin Pregnancy Prevention Programme are fulfilled.

A negative pregnancy test, issuing a prescription and dispensing acitretin should ideally occur on the same day.

If you are aware that a pregnancy has occurred in a woman treated with acitretin, treatment should be stopped immediately and the woman should be promptly referred to the prescribing doctor.

If you are aware that a female patient has become pregnant within 3 years of stopping acitretin, she should be referred to her prescribing doctor.

As the pharmacist, you should only dispense acitretin after checking the following information:

For women of child-bearing potential:	
In order to support regular follow up, including pregnancy testing and monitoring, the prescription for acitretin should ideally be limited to a 30-day supply.	
All patients should be instructed:	
Never to give the acitretin to another person.	
To return any unused capsules to their pharmacist at the end of treatment.	
Not to donate blood during acitretin therapy and for three years after discontinuation due to the potential risk to the foetus of a pregnant transfusion recipient.	

▼This medicinal product is subject to additional monitoring, which will allow quick identification of new safety information. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions. Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at *www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard* or search MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. Pregnancies occurring during treatment and within 3 years following discontinuation of treatment should be reported to the MHRA and the company listed in the patient's package information leaflet who will follow up with you to record the pregnancy outcome.

Provided by Marketing Authorisation Holders of Acitretin in the UK