

Dear Dr Lim

Thank you for your patience in your query. I now have further information to share with you.

We have now heard back from NHS England about this, and they have advised as follows.

Ethicon updated their product codes from February which was reflected in the Drug Tariff and on dm+d. As per usual to allow for the old stock to be depleted, the old codes are listed until May 2019 with an indicator next to them "marked for deletion".

From 1st May the old products will be deleted from the Drug Tariff and their status will change in dm+d to "not allowed in the Drug Tariff". It is possible that the software systems have not been updated since the change occurred and therefore it is not reflected.

These software systems are updated regularly and these changes should be reflected on the GP systems. Unfortunately we would not be able to tell if these new codes are not showing on the GP system of choice, the practices will need to raise it with their system provider, as they manage and control changes and updates. If they don't get any joy from the system provider, NHSE would suggest that they ask NHS Digital to intervene. NHS England re hopeful that this issue will be sorted by 1 May at the very latest.

Kind regards,

Henna Riaz

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