

Information about changes to medicines or treatments on the NHS: **Changes to minocycline prescribing**

The NHS will be asking doctors to stop or greatly reduce the prescribing of some treatments. This is because the treatments are:

- Not as safe as other treatments OR
- Not as good (effective) as other treatments OR
- More expensive than other treatments that do the same thing.

This includes minocycline for acne.

This document will explain why the changes are happening and where you can get more information and support.

What is minocycline used for?

Minocycline is an antibiotic that can be used to treat several conditions but it is mainly used for the treatment of acne.

Why will minocycline not be prescribed anymore?

Minocycline has been associated with several serious side effects such as drug induced lupus, skin pigmentation and hepatitis. There is also no clear evidence that minocycline is more effective than other similar antibiotics.

What options are available instead?

There are alternative once daily antibiotics available that work in the same way as minocycline.

Your doctor will talk to you about the different options so that you can come to a joint decision about which treatment is best for you.

Where can I find more information and support?

- You can speak to your local pharmacist, GP or the person who prescribed the medication to you.
- The Patients Association can also offer support and advice: www.patients-association.org.uk/ or call 020 8423 8999

Find out more about the medicines that are being stopped or reduced:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/medicines/items-which-should-not-be-routinely-prescribed/>