Gloucestershire Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Nifedipine Substitution Policy

The BNF states that '*Different versions of modified-release preparations may not have the same clinical effect. To avoid confusion between these different formulations of nifedipine, prescribers should specify the brand to be dispensed*'.

Local interpretation of this advice, following assessment of the published pharmacokinetics of various preparations, is that products with different drug release profiles (and thus dosing schedules) should not be used interchangeably (e.g. a twice-daily preparation should not be used in place of a once-daily preparation).

However, nifedipine products with the same dosing schedule may be used interchangeably (e.g. any of the preparations listed in the boxes below may be substituted with any other preparation from the same box at the same dose). This allows Pharmacy procurement to react to contract/price changes to ensure that we stock the most cost effective brands, and avoids missed doses.

Drug release profile	**Formulary choice**	**Preparations which may be used interchangeably at the same dose**
Once-daily	**Coracten XL®** capsules: 30mg, 60mg	**Adalat LA®** tablets: 30mg **Adipine XL®** tablets: 30mg, 60mg **Adanif XL®** tablets: 30mg, 60mg **Coracten XL®** capsules: 30mg, 60mg **Fortipine LA®** tablets: 40mg **Neozipine XL®** tablets: 30mg, 60mg **Valni XL®** tablets: 30mg, 60mg
Twice-daily	**Nifedipress MR®** tablets: 10mg, 20mg	**Adipine MR®** tablets: 10mg, 20mg **Coracten SR®** capsules: 10mg, 20mg **Dexipress MR®** tablets: 20mg **Nifedipress MR®** tablets: 10mg, 20mg **Tensipine MR®** tablets: 10mg, 20mg **Valni Retard®** tablets: 20mg
Thrice- daily	**Nifedipine capsules** (generic): 5mg, 10mg	**Nifedipine capsules** (generic): 5mg, 10mg

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