

17<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Doctor,

Eli Lilly has recently announced the withdrawal of Axiron<sup>®</sup> (2% w/v transdermal testosterone solution)<sup>1</sup> from the Australian market. Lilly have stated that Axiron<sup>®</sup> will no longer be available from the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017, and that they expect pharmacies to exhaust their stock soon thereafter.

Besins Healthcare provides you with the following information, recognising that any patients you have on Axiron<sup>®</sup>, and who require continued testosterone replacement therapy, will need to visit you to have their therapy re-evaluated.

Testogel<sup>®</sup> (1% transdermal testosterone gel)<sup>2</sup>, supplied by Besins Healthcare, is one of several alternative testosterone formulations available for Australian patients.

This letter is intended to provide you with general guidance on prescribing Testogel<sup>®</sup> should you consider transferring your patients to Testogel<sup>®</sup>, as a suitable alternative to Axiron<sup>®</sup>.

#### PRESCRIBING TESTOGEL<sup>®</sup>

Any change in prescription for your patients will require a new Authority from the PBS, whether it is switching from Axiron<sup>®</sup>, or switching between presentations of Testogel<sup>®</sup>. The information in the table below is provided to assist you in determining the appropriate dose of Testogel<sup>®</sup>:

	<b>Axiron<sup>®1</sup></b>	<b>Testogel<sup>®2</sup></b>
Indication	Androgen replacement therapy for confirmed testosterone deficiency in males	Testosterone replacement therapy for male hypogonadism when testosterone deficiency has been confirmed by clinical features and biochemical tests
Presentation	2% transdermal solution	1% transdermal gel
Packaging	Metered-dose pump containing 110 mL of solution	Testogel is available as i) individual doses in a <u>sachet</u> (50 mg of testosterone) or; ii) as a <u>metered-dose pump pack</u> (delivering 60 actuations)
Starting Dose	60 mg per day (two pump actuations)	50 mg per day ( <u>four</u> pump actuations or <u>one</u> sachet)
Maximum Daily Dose	120 mg (four pump actuations)	100 mg ( <u>eight</u> pump actuations or <u>two</u> sachets)
Application Site(s)	Axilla	Shoulder, Upper Arm, Abdomen

The unexpected deletion of Axiron® is likely to increase demand for all other testosterone replacement therapies.

We have sufficient supplies of the Testogel® metered-dose pump pack, but it is anticipated that there could be short-term shortages of Testogel® sachets through December 2017 and January 2018.

The Testogel® metered-dose pump pack contains testosterone in the same strength and provides the same dose range as Testogel® sachets, but in a metered dose presentation.

Please consider initiating patients, or transferring existing patients, to the Testogel® metered-dose pump should your patients be unable to obtain Axiron® or Testogel® sachets.

Please refer to the full product information before prescribing Testogel®. For more information or to discuss any concerns, please contact Besins' Medical Information at 1800 BESINS [1800 237 467] or [medinfo.au@besins-healthcare.com](mailto:medinfo.au@besins-healthcare.com).

Any concerns or adverse events associated with the use of Testogel® should be reported to the Therapeutic Goods Administration and to Besins Healthcare at the following:

The Secretary, ADRACP  
Pharmacovigilance  
Reply Paid 100  
Woden ACT 2606  
Ph: 1800 044 114  
Email: [adrac@tga.gov.au](mailto:adrac@tga.gov.au)

Besins Healthcare Australia Pty Ltd  
Ph: 1800 BESINS [1800 237 467]  
Email: [medinfo.au@besins-healthcare.com](mailto:medinfo.au@besins-healthcare.com).

Kind regards



Geoff Blundell  
Managing Director

#### References

1. Axiron® Product Information
2. Testogel® Product Information