

VENOM IMMUNOTHERAPY (VIT) PRODUCTS UPDATE – February 2020

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Please find below an update of current Hymenoptera® venom product availability in Australia & New Zealand:

Honey Bee venom

- In stock in Australia
- In stock in New Zealand

Paper Wasp venom

- In stock in Australia
- In stock in New Zealand

Yellow Jacket venom

- In stock in Australia
- In stock in New Zealand

The manufacturer of Hymenoptera venom products (Jubilant HollisterStier LLC) has advised us of a critical manufacturing issue, which will negatively impact their ability to ship venoms outside of the USA in the short term. A further update on supply will be available in April 2020.

For guidance on how to make decisions about the appropriate care for patients currently receiving venom immunotherapy, and measures to avoid interruptions to therapy in high-risk patients, you may wish to refer to the members section of the ASCIA website: www.allergy.org.au/members/allergen-immunotherapy. These recommendations are summarised below:

- Defer commencement of venom immunotherapy in new cases until continuation of venom supply is assured.
- Complete venom immunotherapy in lower-risk patients who have completed three years of maintenance therapy, instead of continuing for five years.

In high-risk patients the above measures should be subject to clinical discretion.

The following measures may be used to conserve bee venom supply:

- Consider increased interval between injections if they have been well tolerated, for example:
 - Increase to 6-weekly interval after 6 months of treatment
 - Increase to 8-weekly interval after 1 year of treatment
 - Increase to 3-monthly interval after 2 years of treatment
- Consider reducing maintenance dose to 0.5mL

For any further assistance, please contact your Stallergenes Greer territory manager

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For order enquiries:

- in Australia, please contact DHL on 1800 077 421 or by email at d2mcs@dhl.com
- in New Zealand, please contact Mary McIntyre by email at mary.mcintyre@stallergenesgreer.com

For medical information enquiries, please contact Dr. Martin Rees (APAC Regional Medical Director) on martin.rees@stallergenesgreer.com

To report adverse events, please email pv.apac@stallergenesgreer.com

Kind Regards,

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