

Suggestions if you are affected by the Sinemet shortage:

- If your insurance carrier has a mail order medication program, call it to see if brand-name SINEMET is in stock.
- Before driving to your pharmacy, contact your pharmacy by phone to see if they have brand-name SINEMET in stock.
- If your pharmacy does not have brand-name SINEMET and SINEMET CR in stock, use the information listed directly below to write down the medication name, strength (dosage), and NDC# that you require.
SINEMET and SINEMET CR come in the following dosages:
 - 1) SINEMET 10/100 regular release, NDC#: 00056-0647-68
 - 2) SINEMET 25/100 regular release, NDC 0056-0650-68
 - 3) SINEMET 25/250 regular release, NDC#: 00056-0654-68
 - 4) SINEMET CR, 25/100 control release, NDC#: 00056-0601-68
 - 5) SINEMET CR, 50/200 control release, NDC# 00056-0521-68
- Ask the pharmacist to order the medication for you. Shipments are coming to stores rather sporadically; therefore, patients who require brand-name SINEMET and SINEMET CR should ask their pharmacist to contact secondary suppliers and to try and order it every day. If the particular strength that you require is not available, then you may want to ask your pharmacist to order a different strength and then work with your doctor on adjusting medication dosages and/or intervals.
- You can also ask the pharmacist to do a "medication availability" check. The pharmacist can use the computer to see if any of its other stores in the surrounding area have it in stock. If the store is not too far away, you can pick it up. If another store has it but is too far away (perhaps in another state), your pharmacist can request a transfer to your local store. If you still cannot find the medication in stock or if your pharmacy can not order it, it may be helpful to try another chain pharmacy or another store not in the original store's surrounding area. Again, using the phone to call can save you a driving trip out to a pharmacy that does not have the medication in stock.
- You can also try a hospital pharmacy. Hospitals only deal with brand name drugs, so they may have access to it.
- Also, call your doctor to let him or her know that you are unable to order brand-name SINEMET and SINEMET CR. The doctor may have some samples available.
- If you are still unable to find brand-name SINEMET and SINEMET CR, contact the National Parkinson Foundation Helpline at 1-800-473-4636 (1-800-4PD-INFO). NPF is monitoring this situation via reports we are receiving from the Helpline as well as through the Ask the Pharmacist forum on our website.
<http://forum.parkinson.org/>
- If you would like to learn more about other medications used to treat Parkinson's disease, please contact the National Parkinson Foundation Helpline at 1-800-473-4636 (1-800-4PD-INFO) to ask questions and/or order the NPF's Medications booklet.