



9 November 2021  
EMA/584312/2021

<b>Shortage of Kevzara (sarilumab)</b> <b>Pre-filled syringe and pre-filled pen, solution for subcutaneous injection (150 mg, 200 mg)</b>	
<b>Indication</b>	Kevzara (sarilumab) is used to treat moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in adult patients who have responded inadequately to, or who are intolerant to one or more disease modifying anti rheumatic drugs (DMARDs).
<b>Reason for shortage</b>	The company holding the marketing authorisation is facing an increase in demand for Kevzara, which outweighs current production capacities and is expected to lead to shortages. The increase in demand is due to an increase in the global demand for medicines of this class (so-called IL-6 receptor blockers) and the temporary tocilizumab shortage.
<b>Member States affected</b>	<p>The shortage may affect all Member States in which the product is currently marketed.</p> <p>The Member States affected may change. For accurate information about the status of a medicine shortage in a particular Member State, the national competent authority should be contacted.</p>
<b>Information to healthcare professionals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An increase in demand for Kevzara may lead to a temporary supply shortage of Kevzara solution for injection in pre-filled syringes / pre-filled pens for subcutaneous use.</li><li>• The shortage is expected to last until early 2022.</li><li>• During the shortage patients will need to be switched to a suitable alternative based on availability.</li><li>• Depending on the alternative, patients may have to be retrained to self-inject, or attend their hospital/clinic to receive alternative treatment.</li><li>• A direct healthcare professional communication (DHPC) will be sent to healthcare professionals in affected member states. The DHPC is also available on the <a href="#">EMA website</a>.</li><li>• Additional advice may be available from the <a href="#">national competent authority</a>.</li></ul>



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<b>Information to patients</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An increase in demand for Kevzara may lead to a temporary supply shortage of Kevzara’s pre-filled syringes and pre-filled pens for injection under the skin.</li><li>• Your doctor will prescribe a treatment alternative if Kevzara is not available.</li><li>• If you use Kevzara pre-filled syringes or pre-filled pens, let your doctor know how many you have left.</li><li>• Depending on the alternative, you may have to be retrained to self-inject, or attend a hospital/clinic to receive alternative treatment.</li><li>• Additional advice may be available from the <a href="#">national competent authority</a>.</li></ul>
<b>Status</b>	Ongoing