

11 November 2020





Supply Update and Change to Tablet Appearance and Inactive Ingredients of SINEMET® CR (50mg carbidopa and 200mg levodopa)

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Merck Sharp & Dohme (New Zealand) Limited is pleased to announce the return to stock of SINEMET CR® 50/200 (50mg carbidopa and 200mg levodopa) modified-release tablets. Also, MSD wishes to inform you of changes to the shape, colour, markings and inactive ingredients of SINEMET CR®.

The new tablet appearance will have a non-functional score line. SINEMET® CR 200/50 should only be administered as whole tablets and should not be chewed or crushed, maintaining the controlled-release properties.

The table below contains a comparison of the current and new tablet appearances and inactive ingredients. Please note, tablets are not shown at actual size.

Tablet	Current tablet appearance	New tablet appearance
SINEMET CR® 50/200	 Dappled purple, oval-shaped tablet, engraved with 521 on one side and plain on the other	 Peach, oval -shaped tablet, deep score on one side, 521 on the other
	Current inactive ingredients Each tablet contains the following inactive ingredients: Hydroxypropyl cellulose, crospovidone, microcrystalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, pregelatinised starch, indigo carmine AL.	New inactive ingredients Each tablet contains the following inactive ingredients: Hyprollose, magnesium stearate, crotonic acid-polyvinylacetate copolymer, iron oxide red and quinoline yellow.

Please ensure that all your relevant staff are made aware of the contents of this letter and that the information is communicated to your patients.

Should you have any questions regarding the new presentation or formulation, please contact MSD Medical Information on 0800 500 673. For stock enquiries, please contact our Customer Services Department on 0800 800 673.

Kind regards,



Dr Gary Jankelowitz
 Medical Director
MSD Australia & New Zealand