

**Guidance on the availability of
Ergocalciferol / Cholecalciferol**

Doctors Davies and Selby in the Department of Medicine at Manchester Royal Infirmary often recommend a dosage of **ergocalciferol of 1.25mg once or twice monthly** for patients with primary Vitamin D deficiency. As I am sure you are aware, there is a continuing problem with supply of ergocalciferol tablets which are not being manufactured due to lack of natural ingredients.

Dr Selby has therefore proposed that **colecalfiferol at a dose of 2 x 20,000 unit capsules once or twice a month** will be a suitable alternative.

Colecalciferol is readily available and significantly cheaper.

The gelatin contained in capsules is permissible for Muslims to consume, as stated in a recommendation by the WHO and the Islamic Organisation for Medical Sciences.

The preferred supplier is IDIS Pharmaceuticals who can supply community pharmacies directly within 2 days.

Colecalciferol (Dekristol®) 20,000 units x 50 capsules (£16 approx)

Ergocalciferol capsules 1.25mg x 50 (£273 approx)

Idis Pharmaceuticals Ltd

Telephone number 01932 824100