

20th August 2019

Direct Healthcare Professional Communication

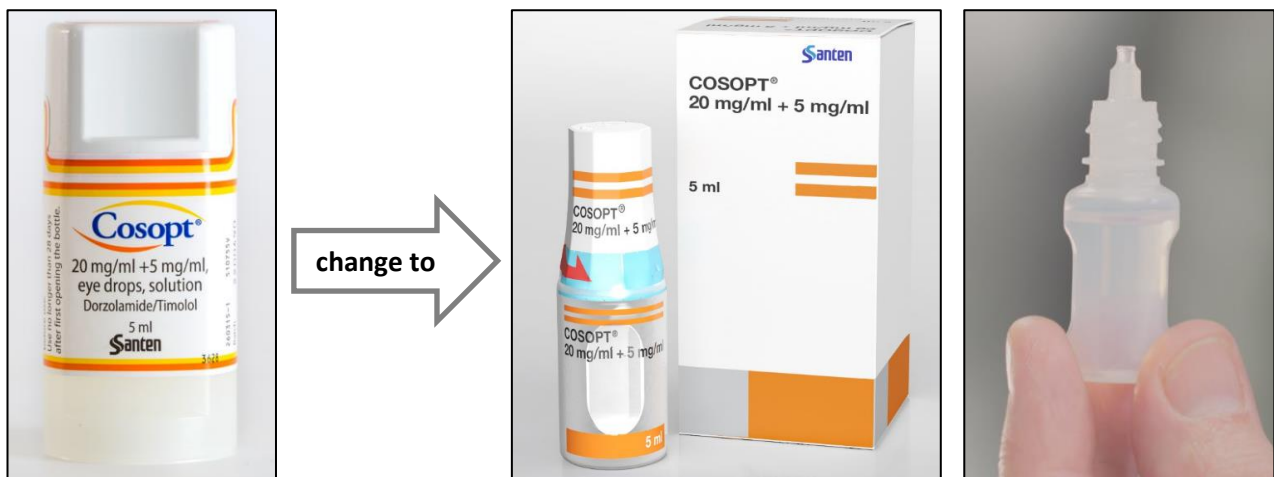
Santen eye drop products: risk of medication error in transition to new bottles

Dear Healthcare Professional.....(personalised)

New bottles will be introduced in the UK for the following eye drop products:

- **Cosopt (dorzolamide + timolol) 20 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml, eye drops, solution**
 - **Trusopt (dorzolamide) 20 mg/ml eye drops, solution**
 - **Timoptol (timolol) 0.25% w/v eye drops, solution**
 - **Timoptol (timolol) 0.5% w/v eye drops, solution**
 - **Timoptol (timolol) LA 0.25% w/v gel-forming eye drops, solution**
 - **Timoptol (timolol) LA 0.5% w/v gel-forming eye drops, solution**
- The new bottles will be introduced for these products between August 2019 and February 2020
 - Patients should be advised that administration instructions have changed for their products – these can be found in the product information leaflet that accompanies the drops

The decision to change bottle design was made for commercial reasons, however the new bottles have been established in other countries and have been found to be easy to use by patients with glaucoma¹. Images illustrating the old and new bottles are shown in the Cosopt example below.



Current bottle which is being replaced

New bottle both with and without cap

In order to support you in helping patients use the new bottle, a short video can be found at:

NP-CSPT-UK-0001

Date of preparation: June 2019

Santen UK Limited. Registered office: Salisbury Hall, St Albans, AL2 1BU. VAT number: GB 209484690. Company registration number: 09194443

- Cosopt - <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/5113/>
- Trusopt - <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/1009/>
- Timoptol - <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/5110/>
- Timoptol LA - <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/5111/>

Please view the video by clicking on the tab labelled 'Audio/Video'.

Call for reporting

Please continue to report suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs) to the MHRA through the Yellow Card Scheme.

Please report:

- all suspected ADRs that are serious or result in harm. Serious reactions are those that are fatal, life-threatening, disabling or incapacitating, those that cause a congenital abnormality or result in hospitalisation, and those that are considered medically significant for any other reason
- all suspected ADRs associated with new drugs and vaccines identified by the black triangle ▼

It is easiest and quickest to report ADRs online via the Yellow Cards website - <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/> or via the Yellow Card app available from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

Alternatively, prepaid Yellow Cards for reporting are available by writing to FREEPOST YELLOW CARD (no other address details necessary); by emailing yellowcard@mhra.gov.uk; at the back of the British National Formulary (BNF); by telephoning the Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) free phone line: 0800-731-6789; or by downloading and printing a form from the Yellow Card website.

If you have any questions about this please contact the Santen Medical Information Department (medinfo@santen.co.uk, tel: 0345 075 4863).

Yours sincerely,



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1. Influence of Eyedrop Bottle Shape on Handling; Takahashi M, Naitu T, Ohtsuki S, Yoshikawa K; (The 20th Japan Glaucoma Society, Original article) Atarashii Ganka (Journal of the Eye) 27(8):1107-1111,2010©