

Prescriber Updates:

Perindopril (Coversyl) formulation and strength changes

From 1st September 2026, the current Coversyl formulation (perindopril erbumine) will be replaced by a new Coversyl formulation containing perindopril arginine, while the equivalent dose is the same, they have different weights so each script needs re-writing (pharmacists cannot substitute between them).

Medsafe has approved the new Coversyl formulation and determined that the salts are interchangeable. As the two salts have different weights, the labelled tablet strengths will change, but the equivalent doses contain the same amount of active perindopril and are expected to have the same clinical effect.

Current Coversyl	New Coversyl – perindopril arginine
Coversyl 2 mg	Coversyl 2.5 mg
Coversyl 4 mg	Coversyl 5 mg
Coversyl 8 mg	Coversyl 10 mg

Prescriber action needed:

A **new prescription is required**, as pharmacists cannot substitute between the erbumine and arginine due to different labelled strength.

Patients taking Coversyl 2 mg or 8 mg:

From **1st September 2026**, please transition patients to:

- Coversyl 2 mg → Coversyl 2.5 mg
- Coversyl 8 mg → Coversyl 10 mg

Patients taking Coversyl 4 mg:

The current Coversyl 4 mg formulation will remain available for longer. From 1st October 2026, please transition patients to:

- Coversyl 4 mg → Coversyl 5 mg

Please note: Coversyl 5mg is not expected to be available until mid to late September.

Practice audit: Practices are recommended to identify patients currently prescribed Coversyl 2 mg, 4 mg, or 8 mg to ensure that prescriptions are updated at the appropriate time.

Further information: <https://www.pharmac.govt.nz/medicine-funding-and-supply/medicine-notice/coversyl>