

Press Release

IBSA launches Levothyroxine IBSA Soft Capsules in the UK, expanding treatment options for patients with hypothyroidism

Watford, 3 August 2026 – **New formulation offers an alternative for patients who experience difficulties with conventional levothyroxine tablets,^{1,2} supported by evidence demonstrating improvements in absorption – in circumstances where absorption may be impaired³ – and symptomatic benefit in patients.⁴**

Claims supported by:

- An open label study examining the efficacy of levothyroxine (L-T4) soft gelatine capsules vs. conventional L-T4 tablets in 45 thyroidectomised patients on treatment with both L-T4 and proton pump inhibitors.³
- A retrospective, non-interventional study of 99 patients who switched from a range of branded and generic L-T4 tablets to soft capsule formulation (no head-to-head comparison).⁴

Hypothyroidism is a common chronic disorder, affecting around 2% of the UK population and more than 5% of those over 60, and is most commonly treated with levothyroxine.^{5,6} Yet, there are limited treatment options for people with hypothyroidism who are unable to take or remain symptomatic on levothyroxine tablets.^{1,7}

IBSA have worked closely with patients and healthcare professionals to understand the challenges of treating hypothyroidism and they are proud to announce that **Levothyroxine IBSA Soft Capsules** are now available in the UK. This novel formulation is designed to provide healthcare professionals with an additional treatment option for patients with hypothyroidism and other thyroid disorders. The potential benefits were recognised in the 2025 European Thyroid Association (ETA) guidelines, where soft capsules are one of the recommended options for patients with persistent thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) values above the reference range, and for those at risk of malabsorption.²

The launch of this new formulation could address clinical limitations associated with conventional levothyroxine tablets, which may be difficult for some patients to tolerate or absorb effectively, and practical challenges with liquid formulations, which can present cost challenges for healthcare systems.^{2,3,8-14}

Tablet formulations of levothyroxine remain the standard treatment for hypothyroidism,^{2,15} yet potential “real life” barriers, like certain pre-existing gastrointestinal conditions, can affect clinical effectiveness.² What’s more, biochemical euthyroidism does not always result in symptom resolution^{1,14} and in a survey of 1,194 patients with hypothyroidism, 75% expressed a desire for improved treatment options.¹

Levothyroxine IBSA Soft Capsules are formulated as a liquid gel capsule and are composed of four ingredients.⁹ The formulation is available in a broad range of colour-coded dosage strengths from 13 micrograms to 200 micrograms, supporting individualised treatment approaches across a wide range of patients.⁹

Dr Peter Taylor, Consultant Endocrinologist and Thyroid Specialist, said:

"While levothyroxine tablets remain highly effective for many patients, endocrinologists regularly encounter individuals whose thyroid function remains difficult to stabilise despite good adherence. This can be particularly challenging in patients with gastrointestinal disorders, adherence issues, dietary habits or drug interactions."

"The availability of a soft capsule formulation in the UK provides clinicians with an additional evidence-based option when conventional tablets are not delivering the desired outcomes. Having access to a broader range of formulations allows us to tailor treatment more effectively to individual patient needs."

"Persistent symptoms and fluctuating thyroid function tests can result in repeated consultations, dose adjustments and frustration for both patients and clinicians. Alternative formulations such as soft capsules may help address some of these challenges in selected patients."

Levothyroxine IBSA Soft Capsules are indicated for hypothyroidism (including also acquired hypothyroidism in children and juvenile myxoedema), diffuse non toxic goitre, goitre associated with Hashimoto’s thyroiditis, and suppression therapy in thyroid carcinoma. Levothyroxine IBSA Soft Capsules are generally safe and well-tolerated when dosed and monitored appropriately, but can cause symptoms of excess thyroid treatment depending on relevant clinical factors. Please review the Levothyroxine IBSA Soft Capsules Summary of Product Characteristics for further information.⁹

The product is now available for prescribing across the UK.

ENDS

Notes to editors

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About IBSA

IBSA (Institut Biochimique SA) is a Swiss pharmaceutical multinational with 20 subsidiaries across Europe, China, and the United States. It employs over 2,500 personnel worldwide, its products are available in over 90 countries, and its R&D activities focus on 10 therapeutic areas. IBSA's growth and development can be attributed to its ability to innovate by refining well-known molecules, as well as to its commitment to looking to the future responsibly and transparently, thanks to the dedication and dynamism of its people. More information at www.ibsagroup.com

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