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**Dear Patient** 

## Important information about your repeat prescription

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care in the United Kingdom, which is responsible for ensuring that medicines and medical devices work and are acceptably safe.

The MHRA have recently issued an alert to advise doctors on the risks of patients being on medicines such as Canagliflozin, Dapagliflozin or Empagliflozin and other medicines which work in a similar way may cause Fournier's gangrene. Symptoms include swelling and tenderness around the genital area with red or purple skin, severe pain, fever and generalised weakness. Although this is more common in men, it can occur in women as well and can be life threatening.

These medications belong to a class of medicines commonly referred to as sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors which is used to treat diabetes. It works by reducing the amount of sugar being absorbed in the kidneys so that it is passed out in the urine as well as reducing the amount of glucose in your blood.

In light of the recent alert, we are contacting patients who are on an SGLT2 inhibitor to ensure individuals are aware of the signs and symptoms of Fournier's gangrene. If you suspect that you may have Fournier's gangrene please contact your GP immediately. If you are unable to contact your GP, please call 111 immediately for assistance.

**Yours Sincerely** 

**Bretton Park Healthcare**