

Editor's note: This English translation was done by a third party. The original letter can be accessed at the [ANSM website](#).

Finasteride 1 mg: A Shared Information Form Will Soon Be Required for Every Prescription

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Oral medications containing finasteride 1 mg carry risks of psychiatric disorders and sexual dysfunction, which can lead to suicidal thoughts. In addition to the European measures announced in September 2025, ANSM (French National Agency for the Safety of Medicines and Health Products) is strengthening patient information regarding these medications.

Specifically, it is implementing an annual [shared information certificate](#) that must be co-signed by both the doctor and the patient.

Beginning April 16, 2026, for any new treatment course, presentation of this certificate to the pharmacist, in addition to the doctor's prescription, will be required for dispensing finasteride 1 mg.

Patients whose treatment is being renewed will have to present this co-signed certificate starting June 16, 2026, to allow them time to see their doctor.

The prescribing and dispensing conditions for these medications, indicated for the treatment of early stages of androgenetic alopecia in men aged 18 to 41, are being modified to make it mandatory for both the doctor and the patient to sign a shared information certificate before any initiation of treatment with finasteride 1 mg. This certificate replaces the patient information document that we implemented in 2019.

The certificate, valid for one year and renewable annually, must be presented by the patient to the pharmacist along with the prescription so that the pharmacist can dispense the finasteride 1 mg medication. It ensures that the doctor and the patient have together discussed the risks associated with the treatment and the precautions to be taken, including:

- Psychiatric disorders (depressed mood, depression, suicidal thoughts);
- Sexual dysfunction (including erectile dysfunction, ejaculation disorders, decreased libido);
- The possible persistence of certain effects after discontinuation of treatment;
- The course of action to take if these effects occur (discontinuation of treatment and urgent medical consultation in case of psychiatric disorders, medical consultation and possible discontinuation of treatment in case of sexual dysfunction);
- The importance of allowing time for reflection before starting treatment;
- The need for regular medical follow-up during treatment.

The doctor will give a copy of the certificate to the patient and save it in the patient's medical record. For better follow-up, we recommend adding this document to the patient's shared medical record.

A letter to healthcare professionals will be sent to the relevant prescribers by the pharmaceutical companies to inform them of these new procedures.

This new information measure is in addition to those already taken, both at the national and European levels.

The re-evaluation of the benefit/risk ratio of these medications by the European Medicines Agency in 2025, at our request, confirmed the risk of suicidal thoughts in treated patients. A patient card is being rolled out in all boxes of finasteride 1 mg.

Today, the information system aims to ensure that patients are informed both before and during the prescription, as well as at the time of dispensing or taking the medication:

[Shared information certificate](#)

[Patient card inside the finasteride 1 mg boxes;](#)

Warning notice on the boxes, accompanied by a QR code that links to our [thematic information page](#):

WARNING: This medication may cause side effects, including psychiatric and/or sexual disorders. For more information about these effects and how to report them, please consult the package leaflet and scan this QR code.