

Please distribute to

Date: November 21, 2017

To: Anesthesiologists, All Surgeons, ICU MD's, ED MD's, Urgent Care MD's, Rural MD's and FP's offices, Dentists, Podiatrists, Midwives and NP's

From: Karen Horon, Senior Operating Officer, Pharmacy Services and Dr. Gerald Lazarenko, Provincial Pharmacy Medical Director, Pharmacy Services

Re: Emergent Drug Shortage – BUPivacaine and Lidocaine products

There is currently a national shortage for BUPivacaine 0.25% with epiNEPHrine 1:200 000 preservative free (PF) injection and lidocaine 2% with epiNEPHrine 1:200 000 preservative free (PF) injection, with an estimated release date of April 2018.

This shortage is national. As a result, strict restriction in usage is essential at this time. Physicians must IMPLEMENT the following conservation strategies when appropriate:

- Restrict the use of preservative free epinephrine containing products to epidural use only.
- Utilize available alternatives. Clinicians need to be aware of the shortages and potential changes to available products and be prepared to use what is available.
- Add epinephrine into the single entity lidocaine or bupivacaine products (only the 20mL vial formats) immediately prior to use according to directions in the medication posting.

We will monitor system counts (pharmacy stock on hand) and product availability. If the stock availability becomes more critical, we may need to move to physical inventory count. Escalation of strategies may be required as the situation changes. Please view the attached document to learn more about our current BUPivacaine and Lidocaine product availability.

For more information, please contact pharmacy services at your site or Provincial Pharmacy Medical Director, Dr. Gerald Lazarenko (403) 607-3937. Please share this information with your teams and colleagues.

Product Description	Provincial SOH	Provincial Monthly Usage	Weeks until inventory depleted	Product Availability
Bupivacaine 0.25% with Epinephrine 1:200,000 20 mL	878	5484	1	Aspen is on back order; no ETA.
Bupivacaine 0.25% preservative free 20 mL vial	4340	2957	6	Aspen has stock - no allocations or restrictions.
Bupivacaine 0.5% with Epinephrine 1:200,000 20 mL single use vial	1995	841	9	Aspen is on restricted allocation; sites can request more stock if allocation is not sufficient.
Bupivacaine 0.5% preservative free 20 mL vial PF	3521	2758	5	Aspen has stock - no allocations or restrictions.
Lidocaine 1% with Epinephrine 1:100,000 20 mL multidose vial	2032	4534	2	Aspen is on back order; no ETA.
Lidocaine 1% with Epinephrine 1:200,000 20 mL multidose vial	177	114	6	Aspen is on restricted allocation.
LIDOCAINE 2% with Epinephrine 1:200,000 Preservative free 20 mL	2340	710	13	Aspen on restricted allocation; sites can request more stock if allocation is not sufficient.
Lidocaine 1% 10 mL polyamp	6217	4764	5	Aspen has stock - no allocations or restrictions
Lidocaine 1% with preservative 20 mL vial	6556	5424	5	Aspen has stock - no allocations or restrictions.