

# Provincial High-alert Medication List



The following Provincial High-alert Medication List includes medications from the AHS Drug Formulary. Any non-formulary medications that fall under the following categories will not be listed specifically but must also be considered high-alert when used in AHS settings.

Adapted from [Institute for Safe Medication Practices](#).

Categories of Medications and Specific Medications
<b>acetylcysteine: parenteral</b>
<b>adrenergic agonists: parenteral</b> (e.g., EPINEPHrine, ePHEDrine, isoproterenol, PHENYLEphrine, norepinephrine, DOBUTamine, DOPamine, salbutamol)
<b>anesthetic agents, general: inhaled and parenteral</b> (e.g., propofol, ketamine, sevoflurane, isoflurane, desflurane, etomidate)
<b>antiarrhythmics: parenteral</b> (e.g., lidocaine, amiodarone, procainamide, adenosine, ibutilide, vernakalant)
<b>antineoplastic agents (AHFS Class 10:00): all routes</b>
<b>antithrombotic agents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>anticoagulants</b> (e.g., warfarin, acenocoumarol, tinzaparin, enoxaparin, danaparoid, unfractionated heparin, sodium citrate)</li> <li>• <b>factor Xa inhibitors</b> (e.g., apixaban, edoxaban, fondaparinux, rivaroxaban)</li> <li>• <b>direct thrombin inhibitors</b> (e.g., argatroban, bivalirudin, dabigatran)</li> <li>• <b>thrombolytics</b> (e.g., alteplase, tenecteplase)</li> <li>• <b>glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitors</b> (e.g., eptifibatide, tirofiban)</li> </ul>
<b>beta-adrenergic antagonists: parenteral</b> (e.g., propranolol, metoPROLOL, labetalol, esmolol)
<b>cardioplegic solutions</b>
<b>dextrose: parenteral, 20% or greater</b> (hypertonic)
<b>dialysis solutions: peritoneal and hemodialysis</b>
<b>electrolytes: parenteral</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>calcium chloride</b> or <b>calcium gluconate</b> greater than or equal to 10% (100 mg/mL)</li> <li>• <b>magnesium sulfate</b> greater than or equal to 20% (200 mg/mL)</li> <li>• <b>potassium phosphates</b> or <b>potassium acetate</b> greater than or equal to 1 mmol/mL of potassium</li> <li>• <b>potassium chloride</b> greater than or equal to 0.1 mmol/mL of potassium (e.g., 10 mmol/100 mL)</li> <li>• <b>sodium acetate</b> or <b>sodium phosphate</b> greater than or equal to 4 mmol/mL of sodium</li> <li>• <b>sodium chloride</b> greater than 0.9% (hypertonic)</li> </ul>
<b>epidural or intrathecal medications</b>
<b>inotropic medications: parenteral</b> (e.g., digoxin, milrinone)
<b>insulin: parenteral</b>
<b>lidocaine: parenteral</b>
<b>liposomal forms of drugs and conventional counterparts</b> (e.g., amphotericin B; amphotericin B, lipid complex; amphotericin B, liposomal; DOXOrubicin; DOXOrubicin, pegylated liposomal; PACLitaxel; PACLitaxel, nab)
<b>moderate sedation agents: parenteral</b> (e.g., dexMEDEtomidine, diazePAM, LORazepam, midazolam)
<b>moderate sedation agents: oral, for children</b> (e.g., chloral hydrate)
<b>neuromuscular blocking agents: parenteral</b> (e.g., succinylcholine, rocuronium, cisatracurium)
<b>nitroprusside: parenteral</b>
<b>opioids: all routes</b>
<b>oxytocin: parenteral</b>
<b>parenteral nutrition preparations</b>
<b>sterile water for injection, inhalation, and irrigation (excluding pour bottles) in containers of 100 mL or more</b>
<b>sulfonylureas: oral</b> (e.g., GLICLAzide, glyBURIDE)
<b>tranexamic acid: parenteral</b>
<b>vasodilating agents: parenteral</b> (e.g., epoprostenol, iloprost, treprostinil)
<b>vasopressin: parenteral</b>