



NH December Formulary Update Effective December 19, 2017

Additions:

Formulary: Morphine oral solid 24 hour slow release preparations : Kadian®

Kadian®, an oral solid 24 hour slow release morphine preparation used in the management of severe opioid responsive pain requiring daily continuous long term treatment, has been on the market for over a decade. Recently, the BC Center on Substance Use requested addition of this morphine formulation to formulary for treatment of opioid use disorder in patients who have been unsuccessful with or have contraindications to first and second line options (e.g. buprenorphine-naloxone and methadone). Only the 24 hour/once daily slow release oral morphine has been studied in clinical trials for opioid use disorder.

Safety Alert!! Be Aware!

- Both morphine slow release 12 hour “M-Eslon®” and morphine slow release 24 hour “Kadian®” medications are formulary (no restrictions).
- There medications are **not interchangeable**
- **Double check for brand name on Medication Reconciliation:** A BC Health Authority has reported medication reconciliation errors between morphine oral solid 24 hour slow release (Kadian®) and morphine oral solid 12 hour slow release (M-Eslon®) on admission.
- **Computerized medication administration record will show the brand name** of each of these products to help ensure clarity! Kadian® will be dispensed as a patient specific issue.

Formulary Restricted

- Idelalisib tablets (Zydelig®): Restricted to indications outlined in the BCCA Benefit Drug List AND patients who are registered with BCCA
- Elvitegravir-cobicistat-emtricitabine-tenofovir alafenamide (Genvoya®): Restricted to approval of the Centre for Excellence (CFE) in HIV/AIDS

Excluded Medications

- Acetaminophen extended release tablets
(note: regular release acetaminophen products remain formulary)
- Salbutamol/ipratropium solution for oral inhalation (spray): Combivent Respimat®

Medications removed from formulary:

Delavirdine, acetic acid (“vinegar” – this product continues to be available through stores)

December 14, 2017
For the information of
physicians, nurses and
pharmacists
PLEASE POST

Best Practice	
Drug Discontinuation	
Medication Change	
Drug Shortage	
Formulary changes	✓

For further information contact:
Nancy Dyck or Gordon Harper
Medication Use Management
Pharmacists
mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca