



National Drug Shortage – UPDATE

Bupivacaine HCl 0.25% **with EPINEPHrine** 1:200,000 injection and
 Bupivacaine HCl 0.5% **with EPINEPHrine** 1:200,000 injection

The issue: Bupivacaine HCl 0.25% with EPINEPHrine 1:200,000 injection *and* bupivacaine HCl 0.5% with EPINEPHrine 1:200,000 injection remain on backorder with both Canadian suppliers. NH is currently stocking out of both products.

Anticipated Availability: Estimated resupply of mid-July and mid-June 2018 respectively.

UPDATE to Practice Implications: No other pre-manufactured products are available that contain bupivacaine with EPINEPHrine.

In consultation with the Department of Anesthesia, the following recommendations have been brought forward:

1. Compounding of bupivacaine with EPINEPHrine from its component parts should be **limited to Anesthetists ONLY**. This is a high-risk activity with a high margin for error only to be used during drug shortage.
2. Practitioners outside of anesthesia can utilize bupivacaine PLAIN products, as noted below.
3. If a practitioner outside of anesthesia absolutely requires bupivacaine with EPINEPHrine, please contact your local site pharmacy manager for further information.

Alternatives:

Bupivacaine HCl 0.25% injection

Bupivacaine HCl 0.5% injection

March 2, 2018 For the information of physicians, nurses and pharmacists PLEASE POST	Best Practice		For further information contact: NH Medication Use Management Pharmacists Gordon Harper (778-349-3216) Jessica Brecknock (250-267-5940) mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca
	Label Change		
	Medication New Look!		
	Recall		
	Drug Shortage	✓	
	Formulary change		