



EXPIRY of DRUG:

Dimethyl sulfoxide 50% (Rimso-50) Intravesical Aqueous Solution

The Issue: Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) 50% intravesical aqueous solution is manufactured by Mylan Pharmaceuticals with no other suppliers available. The current product on the market is expiring with an anticipated gap in therapy of 30 day until new product enters the market in November.

Implications for Practice: Staff should be aware that the remaining stock will expire October 31st, 2019 and alternative treatment(s) may be required until new stock is available or patients may need rescheduling.

Alternatives*: The Canadian and American Urological Associations indicate treatment of interstitial cystitis must be individualized and they recommend using more conservative therapies first. The following oral medications are considered second line therapeutic alternatives:

- amitriptyline 25 to 75 mg PO qHS
- cimetidine 400 mg PO BID
- hydroxyzine 10 to 50 mg PO qHS

A therapeutic alternative for intravesicular administration that is being recommended by BC Health Authority pharmacies is a heparin/lidocaine/sodium bicarbonate compounded solution. The specific proportions of these medications are:

- heparin 10,000 units/mL x 2 mL, lidocaine 2% x 8 mL and sodium bicarbonate 8.4% x 4 mL. Total volume for administration = 14 mL.

The above solution should be prepared just prior to bladder instillation, using good aseptic procedures. Contact Pharmacy if you have questions on preparation.

Date: September 20, 2019

Best Practice	
Drug Expiry	✓
Label Change	
Medication Change	
Recall	
Vendor Change	
Drug Shortage	
Formulary Changes	

For the information of:
physicians, nurses,
pharmacists

For further information
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