



DISCONTINUATION of DRUG:

Iron Dextran 50 mg/mL X 2 mL injection

The issue: Iron dextran injection has been discontinued by the sole source producer with no other vendors currently available on the market in Canada.

Implications for Practice: **Low-Medium**

Northern Health stocks a small amount of iron dextran injection; however, the use of alternative injectable iron products with less side-effects for treatment of iron deficiency anemia have caused iron dextran use to decline over the years.

It is unknown if another vendor will come to market with this medication; however, it appears to be unlikely. Clinicians should be aware of this drug discontinuation and consider alternative options, as clinically appropriate.

Alternatives*

- Iron sucrose 20 mg/mL X 5 mL vial ([formulary product](#))
- Sodium ferric gluconate 12.5 mg/mL X 5 mL vial ([formulary restricted product for chronic hemodialysis patients – indications outlined by and patients registered with the BC Renal Agency](#))

Date: July 19, 2019

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

For the information of:
physicians, nurses, pharmacists

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