



## Ranitidine 25 mg/mL X 2 mL injectable

**The Issue:** Ranitidine injectable is on backorder due to a Health Canada hold on distribution while further quality assurance testing is performed. This is related to the NDMA impurity found in oral ranitidine products earlier this year.

**Anticipated Availability:** Unknown resupply date at this time.

**Practice Implications:** Due to the unknown availability of ranitidine vials, all remaining ranitidine injectable supply will be restricted to the following indications until further notice:

- BC Cancer protocols requiring ranitidine injectable prior to paclitaxel administration
- Angioedema treatment
- Pre-op medication prior to C-sections/surgery in required patients

Clinicians should be aware of restrictions and utilize alternatives outside of the listed indications. Clinicians are asked to assess patient suitability for de-escalation of therapy (e.g. oral antacids) before increasing therapy to proton-pump inhibitors (PPIs). If IV acid suppression is required, IV pantoprazole is available. Wardstock areas that fall outside the restricted indications will have stock removed to conserve supply.

### Potential Alternatives\*:

- Antacids (e.g. TUMS, Gaviscon, Almagel, Pepto-Bismol): consider de-escalation as first line option
- Famotidine 20 mg tablets **restricted** to:
  - pediatric/neonatal patients (including those requiring a compounded oral suspension)
  - patients with allergy or absolute contraindications to PPI
- Pantoprazole (oral and IV): formulary unrestricted
- Esomeprazole/omeprazole/lansoprazole tablets/capsules: see formulary restriction criteria

<b>December 20, 2019</b> For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists. <b>PLEASE POST</b>	<b>Drug Shortage</b>	✓	<b>For further information contact:</b> Jessica Brecknock or Ryan Doerksen Medication Use Management Pharmacists <a href="mailto:mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca">mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca</a>
	Drug Discontinuation		
	Medication Change		
	Best Practice		

\*Alternates are provided for clinician information and may not be appropriate for all clinical situations. The information provided does not replace clinical judgment.