



# UHNBC Drug Shortage

Etomidate 2 mg/mL X 10 mL vials

Special Access Programme Medication

**The Issue:** The sole source provider for the Special Access Programme (SAP) medication, etomidate 2 mg/mL X 10 mL vials, is experiencing shipping delays and some stock at UHNBC is expiring as of September 30, 2019. UHNBC has approximately 2 week supply remaining and new stock will not arrive for another 2 weeks.

**Clinical Use:** Etomidate 2 mg/mL X 10 mL vials is approved for use in rapid-sequence intubation (RSI) and procedural sedation as per SAP criteria.

**Practice Implications:** Clinicians should be aware of this potential gap in supply and utilize alternative sedating agents for both RSI and procedural sedation where clinically appropriate. It is recommended that the remaining etomidate vials at UHNBC be reserved for the RSI indication when alternatives are not suitable.

## **Alternatives\*:**

- IV propofol
- IV ketamine
- IV midazolam

<b>September 27, 2019</b>  <b>For the information of physicians, nurses and pharmacists</b>  <b>PLEASE POST</b>	<b>For further information contact:</b>	
	<b>Drug Shortage</b>	✓
	<b>Expiring Stock</b>	✓
	<b>Prevention + Conservation</b>	✓
	NH Medication Use Management Pharmacists:  Jessica Brecknock (250-267-5940) Ryan Doerksen (778-349-5108) <a href="mailto:mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca">mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca</a>	