



Famotidine 10 mg/mL X 2 mL Injectable

The Issue: famotidine 10 mg/mL X 2 mL injectable is on backorder from the sole source vendor in Canada. NH has approximately 8 to 10 weeks of remaining supply in pharmacies and patient care areas.

Anticipated Availability: End of October 2021

Practice Implications:

- Clinicians should be aware of this shortage and alternative options to consider if sites begin to stock out.
- **Clinicians are asked to assess patient suitability for de-escalation of therapy** (e.g. antacids) before switching therapy to proton-pump inhibitors (PPIs). Non-medication interventions should also be considered (e.g. avoid dietary triggers, elevate head of bed).
- Famotidine 20 mg oral tablets are currently excluded from formulary; however, NH pharmacy has brought in a supply to be used if necessary.

Potential Alternatives*:

- Antacids (e.g. TUMS®, Gaviscon®, Almagel®, Pepto-Bismol®): consider de-escalation as first line option
- Ranitidine 150 mg tablets: formulary, but also currently on shortage
- Famotidine 20 mg tablets: excluded, supply available during shortage
- Pantoprazole (oral and injectable): formulary
- Esomeprazole/omeprazole/lansoprazole tablets/capsules: [see formulary restriction](#)

September 2, 2021 For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists. PLEASE POST	Drug Shortage	✓	For further information contact: Medication Use Management Pharmacists mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca
	Drug Discontinuation		
	Medication Change		
	Best Practice		

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