



Calcium Carbonate 500 mg Chew Tablets

The Issue: Calcium carbonate (Tums®) 500 mg chew tablets (mint flavour) are on backorder. NH has approximately four to five weeks of supply remaining. If required, NH pharmacy will bring in a supply of calcium carbonate 1000 mg chew tablets (fruit flavour) to bridge gaps in supply.


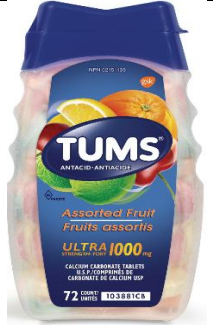
Anticipated Availability: July 2021

Clinical Use: The main indications for calcium carbonate chew tablets include acid reflux, calcium supplementation, and hyperphosphatemia in chronic kidney disease.

Practice Implications: Clinicians should be aware of this shortage and formulary alternatives. If we begin to stock out of the calcium carbonate 500 mg chew tablets, NH pharmacy will switch patients to the calcium carbonate 1000 mg chew tablets as well as change over wardstock products as required.

Potential Alternatives*:

- calcium carbonate 1000 mg chew tablet (provides 400 mg elemental calcium; fruit flavoured)
- calcium elemental 500 mg oral tablet
- calcium elemental 20 mg/mL oral liquid
- calcium acetate 667 mg oral tablet
- calcium citrate 300 mg oral tablet

Calcium Carbonate 500 mg chew tablet	Calcium Carbonate 1000 mg chew tablet
200 mg elemental calcium per tablet Mint flavoured	400 mg elemental calcium per tablet Fruit flavoured
	

<p>May 7, 2021 For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists. PLEASE POST</p>	Drug Shortage	✓	<p>For further information contact: Medication Use Management Pharmacists mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca</p>
	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.