



Drug Shortage & Product Change Notice



Calcium Chloride 100 mg/mL Pre-filled Syringes (PFS)

The Issue: Pfizer has announced a shortage of the LifeShield™ calcium chloride 100 mg/mL (10%) X 10 mL pre-filled syringes (PFS) and will soon be unable to meet NH usage requirements. There is now another vendor (SteriMax) marketing a clinically equivalent and more cost-effective calcium chloride PFS in Canada. NH Pharmacy will be permanently switching over to this product to ensure continued access in NH.

Clinical Use: calcium chloride 100 mg/mL (10%) X 10 mL PFS has various indications including hypocalcemia, cardiac arrest or cardiotoxicity in the presence of hypocalcemia or hypermagnesemia, and severe hyperkalemia

Practice Implications:

- Clinicians should be aware of this product change.
- The Pfizer and SteriMax products are the same in terms of volume, concentration, storage requirements, and both are single-use/preservative-free.
- Difference: the SteriMax PFS come as a needle-less system with a luer lock tip.
- Staff may see both products in circulation as this product transition is made (in kits and wardstock areas).

Example of LifeShield™ Product:	Example of New (SteriMax) Product:
Calcium Chloride 100 mg/mL (10%) X 10 mL Pre-filled Syringe	
needle attached to syringe	needle-less syringe (luer lock tip)
requires cartridge and syringe assembly	provided in ready-to-use format (no assembly)
cardboard outer packaging	plastic outer case
stored at room temperature	stored at room temperature
single-use, preservative-free	single-use, preservative-free
	

March 4, 2022 For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists. PLEASE POST	Product Change	✓	For further information contact: Medication Use Management Pharmacists: mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca
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