



# Lorazepam 4 mg/mL Injectable

**The issue:** lorazepam 4 mg/mL X 1 mL injectable is currently on backorder from the sole source vendor in Canada. NH has approximately 4 to 6 weeks of stock in pharmacies and clinical areas.

**Clinical Use:** benzodiazepine typically used for treatment of anxiety disorders, severe agitation, active seizures including status epilepticus, and alcohol withdrawal

**Estimated Resolution:** November 2022

**Practice Implications:**

- Clinicians should be aware of this drug shortage and potential formulary alternatives.
- Existing supply of lorazepam 4 mg/mL injectable should be reserved for use when oral lorazepam or injectable alternatives are not clinically appropriate.

**Potential Formulary Alternatives\*:**

- *Benzodiazepines:*
  - lorazepam oral and sublingual tablets
  - diazepam injectable
  - midazolam injectable
- *Non-benzodiazepine anti-seizure options:*
  - phenytoin injectable
  - levetiracetam injectable
  - phenobarbital injectable

<b>September 23, 2022</b> For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists. <b>PLEASE POST</b>	<b>Drug Shortage</b>	✓	<b>For further information contact:</b>  Medication Use Management Pharmacists  <a href="mailto:mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca" style="color: white;">mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca</a>
	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.