





## Lorazepam 4 mg/mL X 1 mL Vials

**The Issue:** Due to the shortage of Canadian-labelled lorazepam 4 mg/mL X 1 mL vials from Sandoz, Health Canada has authorized the importation of a US-labelled product from [Hikma](#). NH pharmacy may need to bring in supply of this US-labelled product available if the resolution date gets extended past November.

### Practice Implications:

- Clinicians should be aware of this (potential) temporary product change.
- Staff may see both the Canadian-labelled and US-labelled products in circulation.
- The concentration, vial size, preservative content (benzyl alcohol), and latex-free status are the same between the Canadian-labelled and US-labelled products.
- **PRODUCT DIFFERENCES:**
  - The US-labelled product does not have a Drug Identification Number (DIN) on the vial and does not contain any information in French.
  - The US-labelled product is for **single-use only**, and must be **stored only in the fridge** (no stability data is available for storage at room temperature).
    - The NH Parenteral Drug Administration Manual [monograph](#) has been updated on OurNH.
  - The US-labelled product can be used in the same manner as the Canadian marketed product. Clinicians should refer to the [Canadian Product Monograph](#) available from Health Canada.

### Product Comparison:

| <b>Usual Product</b><br><b>(Sandoz; Canadian-labelled)</b><br>lorazepam 4 mg/mL X 1 mL vial               | <b>Temporary New Product</b><br><b>(Hikma; US-labelled)</b><br>lorazepam 4 mg/mL X 1 mL vial                  |
|---|---|
|                        |                          |
| <b>multi-dose vial</b>  | <b>single-dose vial</b>   |
| store in fridge; <i>unopened vials may be stored at room temperature for 60 days</i> ; protect from light | store in fridge <b>only</b> (no stability data available for storage at room temperature); protect from light |

|  |                                 |   |  |
|--|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>October 28, 2022</b><br>For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.<br><b>PLEASE POST</b> | Drug Shortage                   |   | <b>For further information contact:</b><br>Medication Use Management Pharmacists<br>mum pharmacist@northernhealth.ca |
|  | Drug Discontinuation            |   |  |
|  | <b>Temporary Product Change</b> | ✓ |  |
|  | Best Practice                   |   |  |