



Formulary Restriction Reminder

Ondansetron Oral Disintegrating Tablets

Issue:

Ondansetron 4 mg and 8 mg oral disintegrating tablets (ODT) are [formulary restricted](#) in BC for use in *patients who are unable to tolerate other available dosage forms (regular oral tablets, oral liquid, and injection)*. It has been identified that use of ondansetron ODTs in NH facilities is high compared to some other areas of the province.

Rationale for Provincial Restriction Criteria:

- ondansetron ODTs do not offer an absorption advantage over regular oral tablets as they also require GI absorption (not absorbed via oral mucosa, must still be swallowed)
- ondansetron ODTs are significantly more expensive than the other dosage forms
 - **approximately 20 times the cost of the regular oral tablets and 3 times the cost of the injectable**

Implications:

- Clinicians should be aware of the BC formulary restriction for ondansetron ODTs and reserve use for patients who meet criteria.
- Wardstock quantities should be minimal and limited to clinical areas where eligible patients may be located.
 - *NH pharmacies should review wardstock quantities and locations with clinical leads in their facility, and remove or adjust as appropriate.*
- Pharmacists should review orders for ondansetron ODTs to ensure patients meet restriction criteria for dispensing.

<p>October 26, 2022</p> <p>For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.</p> <p>PLEASE POST</p>	Formulary Restriction	/	<p>For further information contact:</p> <p>Local Pharmacy Manager or Medication Use Management Pharmacists: mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca</p>
	Drug Discontinuation		
	Medication Change		