



Ondansetron 4 mg Oral Disintegrating Tablets (Formulary Restricted Medication)

The Issue: ondansetron 4 mg oral disintegrating tablets (ODT) are currently not available to order and NH pharmacy has low supply. Some sites may stock out of this strength before the estimated resupply date.

Estimated Availability: November 2022

Practice Implications:

- Clinicians should be aware of this drug shortage and formulary alternatives.
- **REMINDER:** ondansetron ODTs are formulary restricted to patients **unable to tolerate other available dosage forms (regular oral tablets, liquid, or injection).**
 - ondansetron ODTs do not offer an absorption advantage over regular oral tablets as they still require GI absorption (not absorbed via oral mucosa, must still be swallowed)
 - ondansetron ODTs are significantly more expensive than the other formats (**approximately 20 times the cost of the regular oral tablets and 3 times the cost of the injectable**)
- Ondansetron 8 mg ODTs remain available (**also formulary restricted**).

Potential Formulary Alternatives*:

- ondansetron regular oral tablets (4 mg and 8 mg)
- ondansetron 0.8 mg/mL oral solution
- ondansetron 2 mg/mL injection (2 mL and 4 mL)
- ondansetron oral disintegrating tablets (8 mg) (**formulary restricted**)

September 23, 2022 For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists. PLEASE POST	Drug Shortage	✓	For further information contact: Medication Use Management Pharmacists mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca
	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.