

## BC Health Authorities Provincial Drug Shortage Memo

**Date:** June 14, 2024

**PLEASE POST**

### **Drug:**

Pantoprazole 40 mg vials

### **Classification:**

Proton pump inhibitor

### **Indication:**

Acute upper GI bleed; erosive esophagitis, peptic ulcer disease, stress ulcer prophylaxis in critically ill (in patients unable to receive oral medications)

### **Duration:**

Pantoprazole 40 mg vials are on backorder from all Canadian vendors with an earliest estimated resupply date of August 2024 (Auro).

Pharmacy currently has a good supply of vials, but conservation measures should be implemented due to ongoing uncertainty around future supply.

### **Conservation Strategy:**

- Remaining supply of pantoprazole 40 mg vials should be reserved for indications that require injectable therapy (such as acute upper GI bleed) and for patients who cannot tolerate alternatives.
- Clinicians should consider switching to oral products whenever clinically appropriate.

### **Suggested Alternatives\*:**

- Pantoprazole tablets
- Esomeprazole tablets/granules (formulary restricted for NG use or dysphagia patients)
- Famotidine injection

\*Alternative(s) are provided for clinician information and may not be appropriate for all clinical situations. The information provided does not replace clinician judgment.

### **Contact Information:**

Please direct any questions to:

NH Medication Use Management Pharmacists ([mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca](mailto:mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca))