



alteplase 100 mg vials

The Issue: due to supply constraints and a batch expiry, availability of alteplase 100 mg vials will be limited from Hoffman la-Roche until at least February 2025. NH sites currently have stock on hand, but resupply quantities are unclear for the coming months. Alteplase 50 mg vials are not routinely stocked in NH but remain available to order with no anticipated shortage. NH pharmacy will bring in this alternate strength as needed to prevent any supply gaps.

Clinical Use: thrombolysis in acute ischemic stroke or in acute massive pulmonary embolism; treatment of severe frostbite

Anticipated Availability: February 2025

Practice Implications:

- Clinicians should be aware of this shortage and potential formulary alternatives.
- NH pharmacy will supply alteplase 50 mg vials as needed.
 - The [NH parenteral drug administration manual monograph and infusion charts](#) for alteplase include information about both the 100mg and 50 mg vials.
- Tenecteplase 50 mg vials remain available and can be considered an alternative for thrombolysis in acute ischemic stroke as needed.

Potential Alternatives*:

- [alteplase 50 mg vials](#) (not routinely stocked in NH; pharmacy will supply as needed)
- [tenecteplase 50 mg vials](#)

Note: [alteplase is a high risk/high alert medication requiring an independent double check](#)

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| December 6, 2024 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.