





bupivacaine 0.5% with EPINEPHrine (1:200,000) X 20 mL vials

<u>The Issue:</u> Due to the ongoing shortage of bupivacaine 0.5% with EPINEPHrine (1:200,000) vials in Canada, Health Canada has approved the importation of an equivalent Danish-authorized product from Aspen Pharmacare Inc. NH pharmacy has brought in a supply of this product to prevent local stock outs.

Practice Implications:

- Staff may see both the Canadian and Danish labelled vials in circulation in the coming weeks.
- The Danish product has the same active ingredients, concentrations, volume and storage requirements as the Canadian product; however, the following label differences should be noted:

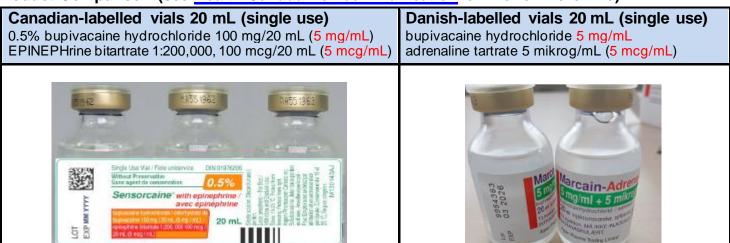
Product Naming:

- The Danish product uses the term "adrenaline tartrate", whereas "EPINEPHrine bitartrate" is used on the Canadian product labelling.
- EPINEPHrine bitartrate and adrenaline tartrate are identical substances

Expression of Strength:

- Despite having the same concentrations, there is no percentage expression of strength (i.e. 0.5%) or total quantity per total volume (i.e. 100 mg/20 mL) on the Danish product.
- On the Danish product, adrenaline (EPINEPHrine) is listed in mikrog/mL rather than mcg/mL and the ratio (1:200,000) is absent. The overall concentration remains the same between products: **5 mcg/mL**.

Product Comparison (see Health Canada risk communication online for more info):



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