Dimenhydrinate 50 mg/mL injection (1 mL)

Several injectable products from Sandoz Canada are in short supply. While we will continue to receive injectable products we will not receive enough to meet our current utilization.

**Dimenhydrinate 50 mg/mL – 1mL ampoule is considered to be at critical levels.**

The Sandoz product is on backorder with an April 2012 planned release date. We have been attempting to source from the other two Canadian manufacturers (Alveda and Church & Dwight) but they are also on backorder. The Alveda stock is expected to arrive on March 20th.

We are currently monitoring our supply of medication and gathering a provincial list of current stock on hand and list of alternatives. In order to conserve our stock to ensure it is available for those patients where alternatives do not exist, the following is recommended.

- Switch dimenhydrinate injection to the oral or rectal route if at all possible.
- If patient cannot take tablets, consider dimenhydrinate 3 mg/mL syrup.
- Dimenhydrinate suppositories are available in 25 mg, 50 mg & 100 mg strengths.

**Note:** Dimenhydrinate 50 mg/mL - 5 mL multidose vial is currently available. The multidose vial can be use for more then one patient when appropriate sterile technique is followed. Please ensure a different syringe and needle is used to withdraw medication for each patient.

The following alternatives are also currently available:

- Metoclopramide – Use oral route if at all possible, preserve IV stock for critical uses.
- Prochlorperazine – Use oral or rectal route if at all possible, preserve IV stock for critical uses.
- Ondansetron oral tablets, oral solution and ODT (stock of IV formulation is at critical levels)
- Granisetron – use the oral route if at all possible. If patient cannot take tablets, consider ondansetron ODT or ondansetron oral solution before using granisetron IV.

**Action:** Please post this notice in your area and ensure all staff is informed.

**Contact:** Site Pharmacy Department for any questions or concerns.

Prepared by: