Due to the Sandoz drug shortage, furosemide 10 mg/mL injection is projected to be in short supply if current usage patterns continue. The other Canadian manufacturer of furosemide injection, Omega, is on backorder with an undetermined release date.

In order to conserve our stock to ensure it is available for those patients where alternatives do not exist, the following is recommended:

- Reserve furosemide IV only for patients where the oral route is not an option or clinically appropriate
- In addition to sodium and fluid restriction, and management of precipitating factors, alternative strategies to furosemide IV use include:
  - Converting to an oral furosemide dose: use oral furosemide at double the dose of desired IV furosemide (conversion 1 mg IV: 2 mg oral)
  - Increasing the dosing frequency of oral furosemide and consider combination diuretic therapy (eg. addition of metolazone or spironolactone)
  - Review conversion to oral furosemide after first IV dose and every 24 hours
  - Titrate oral doses to effect as tolerated
  - Switching to ethacrynic acid IV if appropriate (limited availability around the province)

*Alternatives are provided for clinician information and may not be appropriate for all clinical situations. The information provided does not replace clinician judgement.

**Action:**

Please post this notice in your area and ensure all staff is informed about the change.

**Contact:**

Please contact your site pharmacy department with any questions or concerns.

Prepared By: Jeremy Slobodan, Director, Therapeutics & Clinical Practice