Update - Gentamicin injection shortage

There is a back order of gentamicin 10 mg/mL 2 mL vials and 40 mg/mL 2 mL and 20 mL vials. The only Canadian manufacturer of this product is Sandoz. The estimated release date for the 10 mg/mL 2 mL vials is end of May 2014. The estimated release date for the 40 mg/mL 2 mL vials is mid-July 2014 and end of June 2014 for the 20 mL vials. Current stock levels are low and will likely be depleted prior to the resolution of this back order.

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

- Tobramycin 40mg/mL – 2 mL injection

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

*For example, gentamicin should continue to be used/reserved for synergy in Enterococcus faecium infections, and for infections due to Serratia spp.

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.

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