Metoclopramide 5 mg/mL injection shortage - Update

Due to the Sandoz drug shortage, Metoclopramide 5 mg/mL injection is currently available in limited quantities.

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

- Switch metoclopramide injection to the oral route in all cases except when IV, SC or IM are the only appropriate options
- If patient cannot take tablets, consider metoclopramide 1 mg/mL oral solution

The following alternatives* are also currently available:

- Dimenhydrinate (Gravol®)
- Dexamethasone
- Promethazine**
- Ondansetron (Zofran®)

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

** Please note that the injectable formulation of promethazine is also impacted by the current Sandoz drug shortage situation.

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: Caroline Ibrahim, DUE Pharmacist

The information contained in this document, and as amended from time to time, was created expressly for use by Alberta Health Services and persons acting on behalf of the Alberta Health Services for guiding actions and decisions taken on behalf of Alberta Health Services. Any adoption/use/ modification of this document are done so at the risk of the adopting organization. Alberta Health Services accepts no responsibility for any modification and/or redistribution and is not liable in any way for any actions taken by individuals based on the information herein, or for any inaccuracies, errors, or omissions in the information in this document.