

To:	Patient Care Managers (please forward to CNEs, CNSs, and NP), Physicians
CC:	
From:	Scott Ginther, Pharmacy Technology and Distribution Systems Manager
RE:	Betaject® -Betamethasone Acetate – Betamethasone Sodium Phosphate 6mg/mL Injection Backorder
Date:	August 11, 2009

Betaject® -Betamethasone Acetate – Betamethasone Sodium Phosphate 6mg/mL Injection Backorder

Products Affected

Betaject® -Betamethasone Acetate – Betamethasone Sodium Phosphate 6mg/mL Injection (1mL and 5mL vials) are currently on backorder from manufacturer (Sandoz Canada). The manufacturer has not yet provided an expected date of availability.

The Change

Pharmacy has limited supply of Betaject® available. It is anticipated that all pharmacy inventory of this product will be depleted within a week.

The Alternative

Prescribers will be required to use alternative therapies once stock has been depleted. *Depending upon the clinical indication* other formulary alternatives *may* include injectable products containing: *Dexamethasone, Hydrocortisone, Methylprednisolone, or Triamcinolone.*

Information regarding other formulary alternatives is available at:

http://www.intranet2.capitalhealth.ca/pharmacy/Formulary/showformulary.asp?tx_choice=1%2C&tx_department=18&ch_choice=1&Section=68&r_gname=r_contain&DName=&B1=Submit

For antenatal corticosteroid requirements:

<http://www.intranet2.capitalhealth.ca/pharmacy/Formulary/Links.asp?FormularyID=822>

Cost Implications

Differences in cost will depend upon the alternate therapy chosen.

Actions by Pharmacy

Pharmacy will provide information regarding therapeutic alternatives upon request.

Required Actions by Users

Nurses and physicians please make note of the above changes and inform your staff as you see fit.

Please contact your site pharmacy department with any questions or concerns. The above information is also accessible to registered users on the Edmonton Zone Pharmacy Website:

www.intranet.cha.ab.ca/pharmacy

Please post for all staff