

Dantrolene, Oral

Par Sterile Products, LLC is the sole supplier of dantrolene in Canada.¹

DIN	Company	Product	Active Ingredient	Strength
01997602	PAR STERILE PRODUCTS, LLC	DANTRIUM CAPSULES	Dantrolene sodium	25 MG
01997653	PAR STERILE PRODUCTS, LLC	DANTRIUM CAPSULES	Dantrolene sodium	100 MG

Indications²:

1. Chronic spasticity of skeletal muscle associated with spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, and stroke.
2. Pre-operative prophylaxis of malignant hyperthermia-susceptible surgical patients.
3. Post-crisis follow-up management of patients stabilized with the intravenous product.

Options for managing shortage of oral dantrolene:

Other forms of dantrolene:

- Parenteral product is available.³ May be suitable option for indications 2 & 3.
- Extemporaneous compounding: capsules can be compounded using dantrolene powder available from bulk chemical suppliers such as Medisca.⁴

Therapeutic Alternatives^{5,6,7}:

Indication	Alternative	Comments
Spasticity – spinal cord injury	First line - baclofen, tizanidine, diazepam Second line - clonidine, gabapentin, cannabinoids, cyproheptadine	Assess rationale for treatment - relative benefit of oral medications for this indication has not been established
Spasticity - cerebral palsy	Botulinum toxin Benzodiazepines (eg diazepam), baclofen	Weak evidence only for efficacy of oral antispasmodics. Less effective than Botox for this indication
Spasticity - multiple sclerosis	First line - baclofen, gabapentin Second line – tizanidine, cannabinoids, botulinum toxin	Limited evidence of efficacy
Spasticity – post-stroke	Botulinum toxin for upper limbs Baclofen, tizanidine	Best evidence is for botulinum toxin treatment of upper limb spasticity.

More study is needed on the use of others agents for post-stroke spasticity.
Avoid benzodiazepines – may interfere with recovery

Prepared by Karen Jensen MSc, BSP. Reviewed by Carmen Bell, BSP
20Jan2015

References:

1. Drug Product Database. Health Canada. Available at <http://webprod5.hc-sc.gc.ca/dpd-bdpp/index-eng.jsp>. Accessed 15Jan2015.
2. Dantrium monograph. Drug Product Database. Available at <http://webprod5.hc-sc.gc.ca/dpd-bdpp/info.do?code=14019&lang=eng>. Accessed 15Jan2015.
3. McKesson catalogue. Available at PharmaClik - https://clients.mckesson.ca/auth/Login?Template=login_template&GAREASONCODE=-1&GARESOURCEID=USRLOG&GAURI=https://clients.mckesson.ca/logon&Reason=-1&APPID=USRLOG&URI=https://clients.mckesson.ca/logon. Accessed 09Jan2015.
4. Medisca product list. Available at <https://www.medisca.ca/Pages/ProductsLanding.aspx> Accessed 15Jan2015
5. Abrams G. Wasaka M. Chronic complications of spinal cord injury and disease. In UpToDate online. Available at www.uptodate.com by subscription. Accessed 15Jan2014.
6. Miller G. Management and prognosis of cerebral palsy. In UpToDate online. Available at www.uptodate.com by subscription. Accessed 15Jan2014.
7. Olek M. Symptom management of multiple sclerosis in adults. In UpToDate online. Available at www.uptodate.com by subscription. Accessed 15Jan2014.
8. Dynamed. Spinal cord injury - chronic management. In DynaMed [database online]. EBSCO Information Services. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&site=DynaMed&id=113862> . Accessed March 16Jan2015.
9. Dynamed. Cerebral Palsy. In DynaMed [database online]. EBSCO Information Services. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&site=DynaMed&id=113862> . Accessed March 16Jan2015.
10. Dynamed. Multiple sclerosis. In DynaMed [database online]. EBSCO Information Services. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&site=DynaMed&id=113862> . Accessed March 16Jan2015.
11. Dynamed. Long term management of stroke. In DynaMed [database online]. EBSCO Information Services. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&site=DynaMed&id=113862> . Accessed March 16Jan2015.
12. Spasticity after stroke: Physiology, assessment and treatment. Brain Inj 2013 Informa UK Ltd. DOI: 10.3109/02699052.2013.804202 Available at http://www.coma.ulg.ac.be/papers/vs/Spastic_BI.pdf. Accessed 16Jan2015.