

Hyoscine butylbromide (Buscopan®) Shortage

Suppliers of hyoscine butylbromide 10 mg tablets in Canada.¹

DIN	Brand Name	Manufacturer
00363812	Buscopan	BOE

Indications for hyoscine butylbromide oral tablets²:

- The relief of smooth muscle spasm of the gastrointestinal and genitourinary systems.

Hyoscine butylbromide alternatives:

- Hyoscine butylbromide is also available as 20 mg/ml, 1 ml ampoules.¹ It is reasonable to administer this product orally, which would be off-label.
 - The cost of generic injectable is close to 7x that of the tablets on a mg per mg basis.³
 - Injectable hyoscine butylbromide is not covered by the Saskatchewan Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (SDPEBB).⁴
 - Injectable hyoscine butylbromide is covered by Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB).⁵
- Bulk powder for compounding is not available.

Therapeutic alternatives:

- Due to cost and off-label administration of injectable hyoscine butylbromide, **switching to a therapeutic alternative is preferred.**

Alternative	Dose ⁶	Comments ⁶	\$ ^{3*}
Dicyclomine ⁶⁻⁸	10-20 mg PO QID up to 40 mg PO QID	- generally given PRN before meals - same MOA as hyoscine butylbromide (anticholinergic) - formulary for SDPEBB, not NIHB	\$46.61 20 mg QID
Pinaverium ⁶⁻⁸	50-100 mg PO TID	- avoid lying down immediately after taking - take with food or water - MOA = GI calcium antagonist - non-formulary for SDPEBB & NIHB	\$54.50 50 mg TID
Trimebutine ^{6,7}	100-200 mg PO TID	- MOA = peripheral opiate - non-formulary for SDPEBB & NIHB	\$44.20 100 mg TID
Peppermint oil ⁶⁻⁸	0.2-0.4 ml PO TID	- use enteric coated capsules - MOA unknown - non-formulary for SDPEBB & NIHB	N/A
MOA = mechanism of action; N/A = information not available *Based on 34 day supply of least expensive product for dosing regimen indicated; includes mark-ups and professional fee.			

References:

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