



Spironolactone Shortage

Updated 01 Sep 2017

Suppliers of spironolactone tablets in Canada¹:

Product	Strength	DIN	Mfr
Spironolactone only			
Aldactone	25 mg	00028606	PFI
	100 mg	00285455	
Teva-Spironolactone	25 mg	00613215	TEV
	100 mg	00613223	
Spironolactone/Hydrochlorothiazide Combination			
Aldactazide 25	25 mg/25 mg	00180408	PFI
Aldactazide 50	50 mg/50 mg	00594377	
Teva-Spironolactone/HCTZ	25 mg/25 mg	00613231	TEV
	50 mg/50 mg*	00657182	

*The only product with inventory at McKesson.

Options:

- Switch to combination product if suitable and available.
- If one tablet strength is available, use for all doses. For low doses that cannot feasibly be obtained by dividing 100 mg tablets, compound an oral suspension.
<http://www.sickkids.ca/pdfs/Pharmacy/2695-Spironolactone.pdf>
- Bulk powder is currently not available through Medisca.
 - o Compounding pharmacies may be able to (temporarily?) access bulk powder though have not necessarily ordered it in; check with your local compounding pharmacy.

Therapeutic Alternatives²:

Note: spironolactone is an aldosterone antagonist; considering eplerenone (Inspra[®]) has the same mechanism of action--though is more selective and therefore better tolerated³-- eplerenone is a natural substitute for *most* indications of spironolactone. However, the acquisition cost of Inspra[®] is nearly 20x that of spironolactone for therapeutically equivalent doses.⁴ Generic forms of eplerenone approved the end of August 2017¹ are not currently available, but could potentially be at any time.

Approved Indications:

- Primary hyperaldosteronism
 - o alternatives - eplerenone⁵⁻⁷; amiloride^{5,6}
- Edematous states:
 - o congestive heart failure^{8,9}
 - alternative – eplerenone

- Cirrhosis of the liver accompanied by edema and/or ascites¹⁰
 - spironolactone is useful because of high plasma aldosterone levels and is often used in combination with furosemide and possibly metolazone.
 - alternative – amiloride
- The nephrotic syndrome
 - complicated; call with specific information
- Essential hypertension
 - Even though indicated for essential hypertension,^{2,11} spironolactone is generally reserved for patients with resistant hypertension^{12,13} or concomitant heart failure⁷; eplerenone may be an alternative in resistant hypertension.¹³
- Hypokalemia when other measures are considered inappropriate or inadequate
 - alternative - amiloride, triamterene¹⁴

Off-label Use:

- Acne in adult women^{15,16}
 - alternatives - combination hormonal contraceptives, especially containing cyproterone or drospirenone

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