

## Drug Shortages: Prazosin

Health Canada has approved the temporary importation of a limited supply of US-labelled prazosin 1mg, 2mg and 5mg capsules by Sterimax, to help alleviate the current shortage of this product. The US-labelled prazosin hydrochloride can be used in a comparable way to the approved Canadian product (i.e., has the same active ingredient and concentration as the current products approved by Health Canada).

Effective October 1, 2023, the US-labelled prazosin 1mg, 2mg and 5mg capsules will be listed temporarily as a **non-interchangeable full Formulary benefit** with the currently listed product on the Saskatchewan Formulary. The Sterimax product line of prazosin hydrochloride capsules is expected to be available for order the week of October 9, 2023.

PseudoDIN	Strength	Product Name	Dosage Form
09858281	1mg	US-Labelled Prazosin Hydrochloride	Capsules
09858282	2mg	US-Labelled Prazosin Hydrochloride	Capsules
09858283	5mg	US-Labelled Prazosin Hydrochloride	Capsules

The US-labelled product differs from the Canadian marketed product in the following ways:

- The US-labelled product is available as capsules while the Canadian marketed products are available as tablets.
  - The US-labelled 1 mg capsule cannot be split into a 0.5 mg starting or titration dose.
- The US-labelled capsules have a different product composition (non-medicinal ingredients) than the Canadian marketed products.

Information about the US-labelled Prazosin Hydrochloride Capsules, USP for healthcare professionals is available at: <https://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/fda/fdaDrugXsl.cfm?setid=d4af73d1-c97e-4418-9e24-007b10af0bd9&type=disp>

Additional information can also be found on the medSask website at <https://medsask.usask.ca/professional-practice/drug-shortages>.

**What will individuals pay for the US-labelled prazosin hydrochloride capsules?** Individuals will pay according to their usual coverage, deductible and/or copayment.

**Can I dispense the US-labelled prazosin hydrochloride capsules instead of the existing products listed on the Formulary?** *Pharmacies should continue to dispense the approved Health Canada products listed on the Saskatchewan Formulary if it is available.* However, if the Canadian product is not available, Health Canada has temporarily approved the US-labelled prazosin capsules for use in Canada.

- If the prescription authorizes the dispensing of a particular strength and dosage of prazosin without specifying a specific brand or product name, then a pharmacist may dispense the US-labelled prazosin hydrochloride capsules.
- Because this product is non-interchangeable, if a prescription directs the dispensing of specific brand of prazosin (e.g., Teva-Prazosin®), a new prescription would be required to dispense US-labelled prazosin capsules.

**Who to Call:** If you have any questions or issues with submitting claims for adjudication, call:

- DPEBB at 306-787-3317 (Regina) or 1-800-667-7581