

COMMERCIALLY AVAILABLE METHADONE PRODUCTS FOR OPIOID AGONIST THERAPY (OAT): CHARACTERISTICS OF PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR USE IN SASKATCHEWAN November 2023

The Saskatchewan Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (SK DPEBB) and Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) formularies list SIX methadone oral concentrates (10 mg/mL), including three listed generic products. This document provides comparative product characteristics and interchangeability status in Saskatchewan.

Contents

- 2 Table 1: Methadone 10 mg/mL Oral Concentrate Products According to Interchangeability on the SK DPEBB Formulary
- 2 Table 2: Characteristics of Metadol-D® 10 mg/mL
- 3 Table 3: Characteristics of Methadose™ Sugar-Free 10 mg/mL and Interchangeable Products
- 4 Table 4: Characteristics of Methadose™ Cherry Flavoured 10 mg/mL and Interchangeable Product
- 5 References



Table 1: Methadone 10 mg/mL Oral Concentrate Products According to Interchangeability on the SK DPEBB Formulary

Brand Name Product	Interchangeable Product(s)
Metadol-D®	No interchangeable products
Methadose™ Sugar-Free	Odan-Methadone Sugar-Free
	JAMP Methadone Sugar-Free
Methadose™ Cherry Flavoured	Odan-Methadone Cherry Flavoured

Table 2: Characteristics of Metadol-D® 10 mg/mL

Product Name and Formulation	Metadol-D®^a	
DIN	02244290	
Package Size(s) Available	100 mL and 1000 mL	
Properties	Flavour	Unflavoured
	Sweetener	Dextrose (125 mg/mL) ^b
	Dye	Colourless
	Viscosity	No viscosity enhancers added
Dilution	Dilute to 100 mL with suitable diluent. Dilute to decrease ability to inject the liquid as well as to mask the bitter taste of methadone.	
Suitable Diluents	The same diluents used for compounded methadone solution (typically coloured, flavoured crystalline drink mix) may be used with these products. Examples: Orange Tang™, Grape Kool-Aid™, Grape/Lemonade/Tangerine-Grapefruit Crystal Light™. Diluting with plain water is not acceptable, as per the SCPP OAT Standards .	
Stability in Diluents	May be stored refrigerated in suitable diluent for up to 14 days.	
Interchangeability	This product is not interchangeable with any other products.	
<p>^a Metadol-D® is also available as a 1 mg/mL solution; however, only the 10 mg/mL concentrate is approved for use as OAT in SK. Maintaining a consistent single concentration decreases the potential for dosing errors.</p> <p>^b This dextrose concentration is low enough that it is unlikely to have clinical significance for people, such as those with diabetes or fermentable oligosaccharides, disaccharides, monosaccharides and polyols (FODMAP) intolerance (e.g., a Metadol-D® 100 mg dose provides 1.25 g of dextrose).</p>		

Table 3: Characteristics of Methadose™ Sugar-Free 10 mg/mL and Interchangeable Products

Product Name and Formulation		Methadose™ Sugar-Free	Odan-Methadone Sugar-Free	JAMP Methadone Sugar-Free
DIN		02394618	02495880	02495783
Package Size(s) Available		1000 mL	1000 mL	1000 mL
Properties	Flavour	Unflavoured	Unflavoured	Unflavoured
	Sweetener	None	None	Glycerol, Sorbitol (liquid non-crystalizing)
	Dye	Colourless	None	Brilliant blue FCF
	Viscosity	No viscosity enhancers added	No viscosity enhancers added	No viscosity enhancers added
Dilution		Dilution is not required for deterring injection; however diluting to 100 mL is recommended to retain consistent final volume among products and to reduce viscosity and “stickiness” (and therefore, potentially reduce adhesion to the vessel). The final diluted product will likely still be more viscous than the compounded product and other available formulations of methadone. The dispensing cup should be rinsed and liquid consumed to ensure the full dose is given.		
Suitable Diluents		The same diluents used for compounded methadone solution (typically coloured, flavoured crystalline drink mix) may be used with these products. Examples: Orange Tang™, Grape Kool-Aid™, Grape/Lemonade/Tangerine-Grapefruit Crystal Light™. Diluting with plain water is not acceptable, as per the SCPP OAT Standards .		
Stability in Diluents		The period of acceptable sterility for oral consumption under refrigeration is unknown. No information is provided in the product monograph (professional judgement required).		
Interchangeability		The products in this table are interchangeable with each other. These are NOT interchangeable with Metadol-D®, Methadose™ Cherry Flavoured, or Odan-Methadone Cherry Flavoured.		

Table 4: Characteristics of Methadose™ Cherry Flavoured 10 mg/mL and Interchangeable Product

Product Name and Formulation		Methadose™ Cherry Flavoured	Odan-Methadone Cherry Flavoured
DIN		02394596	02495872
Package Size(s) Available		1000 mL	1000 mL
Properties	Flavour	Cherry	Cherry
	Sweetener	Sucrose (400 mg/mL)	Sucrose (400 mg/mL)
	Dye	Red (FD&C Red No. 40, D&C Red No. 33)	Red (FD&C Red No. 40, D&C Red No. 33)
	Viscosity	Viscous/thickened (hypertonic, poloxamer 407 added)	Viscous/thickened (hypertonic, poloxamer 407 added)
Dilution		Dilution is not required for deterring injection; however, diluting to 100 mL is recommended to retain consistent final volume among products and to reduce viscosity and “stickiness” (and therefore, potentially reduce adhesion to the vessel). The final diluted product will likely still be more viscous than the compounded product and other available formulations of methadone. The dispensing cup should be rinsed and liquid consumed to ensure the full dose is given.	
Suitable Diluents		The same diluents used for compounded methadone solution (typically coloured, flavoured crystalline drink mix) may be used with these products. Examples: Orange Tang™, Grape Kool-Aid™, Grape/Lemonade/Tangerine-Grapefruit Crystal Light™. Diluting with plain water is not acceptable, as per the SCPP OAT Standards .	
Stability in Diluents		The period of acceptable sterility for oral consumption under refrigeration is unknown. No information is provided in the product monograph (professional judgement required).	
Interchangeability		The products in this table are interchangeable with each other. These are NOT interchangeable with Metadol-D®, Methadose™ Sugar-Free, Odan-Methadone Sugar-Free, or JAMP Methadone Sugar-Free.	

References

- Metadol-D. Product Monograph. Paladin Labs Inc.; 2021. Accessed October 25, 2023. https://pdf.hres.ca/dpd_pm/00060208.PDF
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- Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) Standards. Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals. October 2020. Accessed October 25, 2023. https://www.saskpharm.ca/document/5871/REF_OAT_Standards.pdf