

## Drug Shortage Alert

Ministry of Health and Long – Term Care | Drugs and Devices Division | Drug Programs Delivery Branch

### Status

- The ministry has received the attached communication (s) on the supply status of certain products presented in LifeShield™ and ANSYR™ Syringes from Health Canada.
- Pfizer Canada informs that ordering restrictions will apply in order to prevent the premature depletion of stock and assure equitable distribution of the remaining inventories.
- Pfizer Canada strongly recommends that clinicians make every effort to reserve supplies for critical care uses only, redistribute stock between sites and use available alternatives whenever possible as our ability to ensure resupply at this time may be limited.

### Approach

- Please ensure that you read and circulate the attached information to address the potential impacts to your facility and to avoid and / or minimize patient impacts that may result from this supply interruption.
- Please disseminate the attachment (s) to health system partners.

### Resources

- **Drug Shortages Canada Website:** As of March 14, 2017, regulations require drug manufacturers to publicly report drug shortages and product discontinuations. Specifically, manufacturers must report an anticipated drug shortage, a discontinuation of a drug six months in advance, and any previously unreported shortage within five days of learning about it. This information will be reported on the Drug Shortages Canada website at: <https://www.drugshortagescanada.ca>.
- **Ontario's Drug Stock Monitoring:** <https://extra.sse.gov.on.ca/sites/mohltc-odsm/SitePages/MOH.aspx>
- **Ethical Framework for Resource Allocation During the Drug Supply Shortage:** [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/supply/docs/ethical\\_framework.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/supply/docs/ethical_framework.pdf)
- **Drug Shortages, A Guide for Assessment and Patient Management. Canadian Pharmacists Association:** <http://www.pharmacists.ca/cpha-ca/assets/File/cpha-on-the-issues/DrugShortagesGuide.pdf>
- **Drug Shortages and Medication Safety Concerns, The Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada Safety Bulletin:** [https://www.ismp-canada.org/download/safetyBulletins/2012/ISMPCSB2012-03\\_Drug\\_Shortages.pdf](https://www.ismp-canada.org/download/safetyBulletins/2012/ISMPCSB2012-03_Drug_Shortages.pdf)
- **Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee on Drug Shortages Toolkit:** [https://www.drugshortagescanada.ca/files/MSSC\\_Toolkit\\_2017.pdf](https://www.drugshortagescanada.ca/files/MSSC_Toolkit_2017.pdf)
- **Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee on Drug Shortages Protocol:** [https://www.drugshortagescanada.ca/files/MSSC\\_Protocol\\_2017.pdf](https://www.drugshortagescanada.ca/files/MSSC_Protocol_2017.pdf)
- **World Health Organization Model List of Essential Medicines:** [http://www.who.int/medicines/publications/essentialmedicines/20th\\_EML2017.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/medicines/publications/essentialmedicines/20th_EML2017.pdf?ua=1)

If you would like to add additional colleagues to the ministry's drug shortages distribution list or wish to be removed from it, please contact [drugprogramsdelivery@ontario.ca](mailto:drugprogramsdelivery@ontario.ca).