



Ontario Health

Cancer Care Ontario

TO: Hospitals
Community Pharmacies
Regional Cancer Programs
Heads of Medical Oncology
Ontario Cancer Leads and Drug Advisory Committees
Chairs of Disease Site Groups
Regional Vice Presidents

FROM: Scott Gavura, Director, Provincial Drug Reimbursement Programs

CC: Dr. Leta Forbes, Provincial Head, Systemic Treatment Program
Dr. Kelvin Chan, Clinical Lead, Provincial Drug Reimbursement Programs
David Schachow, Director, Drug Programs Delivery Branch, Drugs and Devices Division, Ministry of Health

DATE: December 6, 2019

SUBJECT: **Provincial Drug Reimbursement Programs (PDRP) Update**
○ Tamoxifen Supply Status Update

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL COMMUNITY PHARMACIES
AND CANCER CARE PROVIDERS**

A. Tamoxifen Supply Status Update

Cancer Care Ontario, now part of Ontario Health, has been made aware of a recent change in the resupply dates of tamoxifen. The supply status in Canada is as follows:

- Tamoxifen is supplied in Canada by three manufacturers (Apotex, AstraZeneca and Teva Canada) as 10 mg and 20 mg tablets. See *Appendix 1* for the supply status of the various products.
- Apotex is reporting a resupply date of December 31, 2019 but was able to expedite release of some product, which should be available at pharmacies by **December 16, 2019**. At that time, Apotex expects to have released **full coverage of the 10 mg tablets** and approximately **one-month supply of the 20 mg tablets**. An additional release of 20 mg tablets, providing 2.5 months' worth of coverage, is expected by the end of December.
- Teva Canada had previously reallocated 600,000 of the 20 mg tablets in mid-November to provide improved coverage, primarily for community pharmacies. Teva continues to report an estimated end date of January 20, 2020.
- AstraZeneca has been able to secure an additional 360,000 of the 20 mg tablets, which will be available on allocation at the beginning of December 2019. This supply is expected to provide at

least one full week of normal market coverage. As a result of this expedited resupply, additional supply is not expected to be received until April 2020.

- In the 3rd week of December, Apotex is expected to provide an update on resupply quantities and dates for the month of January 2020. Until that supply is confirmed, it is suggested that hospitals/cancer centre pharmacies and community pharmacies continue to limit quantities dispensed to a maximum of one-month supply.

B. Drug Shortage Questions?

Please direct any questions for Cancer Care Ontario on drug shortages to Ron Fung, Clinical Program Manager, Provincial Drug Reimbursement Programs at ron.fung@cancercare.on.ca or Trip Gill, Team Lead, Provincial Drug Reimbursement Programs at tripat.gill@cancercare.on.ca.



Appendix 1

Table 1: Manufacturer Supply Status of Tamoxifen as of December 6, 2019*

Brand	DIN	Dosage Form	Availability	Estimated Resupply Date
Apotex Inc.	00812404	10 mg tablet	Out of stock	December 16, 2019
Apotex Inc.	00812390	20 mg tablet	Out of stock	December 16, 2019 (limited initial quantity with additional release of supply by December 31)
AstraZeneca Canada Inc.	02048485	20 mg tablet	Out of stock (may be limited supply at distributors)	December 6, 2019 (limited quantities will be available on allocation)
Teva Canada	00851965	10 mg tablet	Available on allocation	January 31, 2020
Teva Canada	00851973	20 mg tablet	Available on allocation	January 31, 2020

***Local supply levels may vary. For the most up-to-date information on supply status and ordering procedures, please contact the manufacturer and/or distributors directly.**