

SASKATCHEWAN FORMULARY BULLETIN

Interim Measures Related to Exception Drug Status (EDS) During COVID-19 Pandemic – *Updated criteria for Low Molecular Weight Heparins*

Effective immediately, the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch is temporarily increasing access to agents used for deep vein thrombosis (DVT) prophylaxis for long term care residents who may be affected by COVID-19. These temporary changes will help ensure timely access to treatment for patients who are in long-term care facilities in which there are suspected COVID-19 cases, or in a facility with a COVID-19 outbreak where patients are required to self-isolate.

To accommodate the timely access to treatment for patients who are in long-term care facilities with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infections, the following interim EDS criteria will be implemented for low molecular weight heparins during the COVID-19 pandemic:

For DVT prophylaxis for long term care residents who are identified as COVID-19 positive or who are under investigation for COVID-19 infection.

This interim EDS criteria will apply to the following medications:

- dalteparin sodium, pre-filled syringe, 2500IU (0.2mL), 3500IU (0.28mL), 5000IU (0.2mL), 7500IU (0.3mL), 10,000 (0.4mL), 12,500IU(0.5mL), 15,000IU(0.6mL), 18,000 (0.72mL): injection solution, 10,000IU/mL (1mL), 25,000IU/mL (3.8mL) (Fragmin-PFI)
- enoxaparin, syringe, 30mg/mL, 40mg/mL, 60mg/mL, 80mg/mL, 100mg/mL, 120mg/mL (Lovenox-AVT); injection solution, 100mg/mL (3mL); 150mg/mL (Lovenox HP-AVT)
- nadroparin calcium, syringe, 9,500IU/mL (0.3mL, 0.4mL, 0.6mL, 0.8mL, 1.0mL) (Fraxiparine-ASC); syringe, 19,000IU/mL (0.6mL, 0.8mL, 1mL) (Fraxiparine Forte-ASC)
- tinzaparin sodium, syringe, 10,000IU/mL (0.25mL, 0.35mL, 0.45mL), 20,000IU/mL (0.4mL, 0.5mL, 0.6mL, 0.7mL, 0.8mL, 0.9mL); injection solution, 10,000IU/mL (2mL), 20,000IU/mL (2mL) (Innohep-LEO)

Prescribers and pharmacists are encouraged to carefully review patients in long term care facilities to determine which patients may require DVT prophylaxis.

The duration of these changes to the listing status of the low molecular weight heparins will be informed by the timeframe of pandemic resolution in Saskatchewan. Any EDS changes will be noted in Appendix A of the Saskatchewan Formulary, as well as through Formulary Bulletins to prescribers and pharmacists.

Please continue to monitor the What's New section of the Saskatchewan Formulary website and bulletins for additional drug listing updates during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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