



Medication Posting

Important news and alerts about pharmacy products



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October 1, 2014

- Best Practice
- Drug Discontinuation
- Label Change
- Medication Change
- Recall
- Vendor Change
- Drug Shortage

For distribution by:
Pharmacy Managers/Directors

For the information of:
Pharmacy Staff
Patient Care Managers
Clinical Nurse Educators
Physicians

Tenecteplase (TNKase®) injection shortage

The Issue:

1. The Canadian manufacturer of tenecteplase (TNKase®), Roche Canada, has advised of a backorder of this product from October 1, 2014 through January 2015. Stock levels will not meet current demand and will be depleted prior to the resolution of this backorder.
2. The alternative thrombolytic for ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) is alteplase (Activase®)
3. **To conserve AHS's limited remaining supply, tenecteplase use will be restricted to Emergency Medical Services and rural and remote hospitals, effective October 15, 2014.**

What staff using alteplase needs to know:

- Alteplase administration in STEMI is different from the administration of both tenecteplase for STEMI and alteplase in acute stroke
- Staff need to be familiar with the STEMI Alteplase Thrombolytic Protocol and the required monitoring for alteplase, as outlined in each zone's parenteral monograph (recently updated to contain details for AMI administration)
 - A STEMI Alteplase Thrombolytic [Protocol](#) with appropriate anticoagulation and antiplatelet therapy is available
- If alteplase infusion for STEMI is not in the drug library of your infusion pump, an independent second check prior to administration will be required

Contact:

Please contact your site pharmacy department with any questions or concerns.

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