

MEDICATION SHORTAGE BULLETIN



Intravenous Solutions

November 2024

Background

On September 29, 2024, Baxter International (Baxter US) announced that its North Cove manufacturing facility in Marion, North Carolina, was damaged by flooding caused by Hurricane Helene.¹ This U.S. facility mainly manufactures intravenous and peritoneal dialysis solutions. This facility was responsible for a significant proportion of the intravenous fluids supply in the United States.

Baxter Canada confirmed that a limited number of Canadian drugs come from this U.S. facility (most of Baxter's intravenous supply is manufactured at its Alliston plant in Ontario). Although inventories of these drugs are currently healthy, Baxter Canada has recommended that health systems take measures to conserve available supplies.

Canadian Product Codes Made in North Cove	Description	DIN	Suggested Substitute
2B2454X	40 MEQ/L KCL IN 5% DEX & 0.9% NAACL INJ USP 1L	00786306	JB1064 5% DEX & 0.9% NAACL INJ USP 1L Hospital to add own KCL
2B7231	0.9% NAACL IRRIGATION, USP 1L	00786160	JB7127 0.9% NAACL IRRIGATION USP 3L JB7124 0.9% NAACL IRRIGATION USP 1L

4B7874Q	12.0% NACL SOLN PROCESSING SOLN 150ML	00783625	NO SUB
4B7878	0.2% DEX & 0.9% NACL SOLN 2L	00783641	NO SUB
2B0306	STER WATER FOR INJ USP 2L	02014882	JB0304 STER WATER FOR INJ USP 1L
2B0296H	70% DEXTROSE INJECTION INJ USP 2L	02014874	JB0297 70% DEXTROSE INJ USP 3L
JB1357	20 MMOL/L POTASSIUM CHLORIDE IN 0.45% NACL 1L	02269414	JB1314 0.45% NACL INJ USP 1L Hospital to add KCL

What We're Doing

Health Canada has been swift to assess the situation, and a drug supply notice has been published online:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-shortages/information-consumers/supply-notices/baxter-facility-hurricane-damage.html>

CAS is keeping close communication with the Drug Shortages Unit at Health Canada and new information will be shared with you as it becomes available.

CAS encourages its members to share this info with their colleagues. We do not foresee any impact on patients at the moment, but we urge our members to stay diligent about a potential shortage until the situation comes back to normal.

References

1. <https://www.baxter.com/baxter-newsroom/hurricane-helene-updates>