

**Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care**

Emergency Management Branch
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**Ministère de la Santé
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April 2, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: Community Health Service Organizations

FROM: Gerilynnne Carroll
Director, Ministry Emergency Operations Centre

RE: SANDOZ CANADA INC. DRUG SHORTAGE ISSUE

The following information is intended for health care providers, including pharmacists, who work with injectable medications that are impacted by the production slow down by Sandoz Canada Inc.

As part of the ministry's [Action Plan](#), a redistribution plan has been developed to ensure that the drug products are available across the health system to support service delivery.

The Drug Redistribution Plan

The Drug Redistribution Plan is intended to guide decision making about the redistribution of drug products during this current period of drug shortages. The plan describes how organizations, LHINs and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (ministry) can work together to share products across the health system. This plan should be read in conjunction with the ethical framework and does not constitute a legally binding instrument.

The Drug Redistribution Plan has been developed in consultation with health system partners and has been endorsed in principle by LHIN CEOs and the ministry.

Individual health care organizations may wish to contact their provincial association with any concerns or questions. Health care providers can also call the ministry's Health Care Provider Hotline toll-free at 1-866-212-2272 if they have any questions or

concerns. Note that this hotline is intended to provide guidance and support to health care providers and is not a service to provide general information to the public.

Members of the public who have question about the drug shortages can contact Service Ontario at 1-866-532-3161.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Gerilynne Carroll
Director
Emergency Management Branch

Attachment

c: Diane McArthur, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ontario Public Drug Programs
Division
Kevin Finnerty, Assistant Deputy Minister, Communications and Information
Branch
Rachel Kampus, Assistant Deputy Minister/A, Health System Accountability &
Performance Division