



June 16, 2009

Dear health care professionals,

This letter concerns ZINECARD® (Sterile Dexrazoxane 250 mg & 500 mg vials + M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection USP 25mL & 50mL vials).

Pfizer Canada Inc. is currently facing a backorder for this product's diluent, M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection USP. As a result, Pfizer Canada's medical team has been assessing ZINECARD orders on a case by-case basis since end March 2009 to ensure that all patients' needs are met in the short-term.

ZINECARD (dexrazoxane) is indicated for reducing (preventing) the incidence and severity of cardiotoxicity associated with doxorubicin administration for the treatment of breast cancer in patients who have already experienced a partial response or at least maintained stable disease. ZINECARD should be used only with chemotherapy regimens containing doxorubicin. ZINECARD should be used only after tolerance to a full dose doxorubicin has been established.

As a result of this backorder, Pfizer Canada is not able to provide customers with M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection, USP as part of the approved ZINECARD packaging at this time. Considering the medical necessity of this drug for the Canadian patients, Pfizer Canada has made exceptional arrangements with the Health Canada Special Access Programme and Baxter Corporation to ensure the availability of this diluent in Canada until the situation is resolved. Baxter Corporation has agreed to supply M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection, USP 1 liter bags.

Beginning immediately, in order to have access to ZINECARD for patients in need of this medication only, orders must exceptionally be made to the Pfizer Canada Medical Information service at 1 800 463-6001. The request should cover the needs of active patients for a 2 month-period as our inventory is limited.

Health care professionals will also have to secure approval of the diluent, Baxter M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection USP 1 liter bags, via the Health Canada Special Access Programme by using either Form A – Patient specific request or Form B-Future use request. These forms can be accessed on the Health Canada-Special Access Programme's website at the following address: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/acces/drugs-drogues/index-eng.php>. Health Canada Special Access Programme can also be contacted at (613) 941-2108.

Once approved, Pfizer Canada will manage the distribution of both ZINECARD and Baxter M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection, USP 1 liter bags at regular wholesale cost of ZINECARD. A single 1 liter bag of M/6 Sodium Lactate will be distributed with each ZINECARD vial ordered, which must be taken into account while securing SAP approval (Ex: if 10 vials of ZINECARD are ordered for your patients, you must secure SAP approval for 10 bags of M/6 Sodium Lactate for Pfizer Canada to ship your order).

Although we cannot speculate accurately how long this situation will last, we expect it to be probably applicable for the next 6 months. We understand the critical importance of the situation and sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this temporary process may cause you. Rest assured that Pfizer Canada Inc. will keep you informed on the ZINECARD supply situation as it evolves and you will received a follow-up communication from us to advise when you can return to normal ordering procedure.

Reconstitution instructions:

The same reconstitution instructions described in the Product Monograph must be followed. ZINECARD should be reconstituted as explained below with M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection, USP, to give a concentration of 10 mg ZINECARD for each mL of sodium lactate.

Reconstitution Table		
Vial Size	Diluent (M/6 Sodium Lactate Injection, USP) to be Added to ZINECARD Vial (mL)	Nominal Concentration (mg/mL)
250 mg	25	10
500 mg	50	10

The reconstituted solution should be stored for a maximum of 6 hours under refrigeration, 2°-8°C. Unused solutions should be discarded. Unless specific compatibility data are available, ZINECARD should not be mixed with other drugs. The reconstituted solution should be given by slow I.V. push or rapid drip intravenous infusion from an empty I.V. bag to which the solution has been added. No further dilution is necessary.

Any unused portion of the M/6 Sodium Lactate 1L bag from Baxter should be discarded after the reconstitution of ZINECARD.

Should you have any medical inquiries regarding ZINECARD or wish to receive a copy of the complete prescribing information, please do not hesitate to contact our Medical Information service at 1 800 463-6001.

Yours sincerely,



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