



2022/03/18

Extension of the shelf-life of Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes, 1 mg/10 mL – DIN 00710814) by three (3) months, in order to mitigate the shortage of this product in Canada.

Audience

Healthcare professionals including anesthesiologists, allergists and immunologists, cardiologists; critical care professionals; family physicians, emergency and internal medicine; pediatricians, surgeons, nurses and nurse practitioners, pharmacists, paramedics.

Dear Healthcare Professionals,

Issue

Pfizer is experiencing a shortage of Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes, 1 mg/10 mL – DIN 00710814). Given the medical necessity of this drug and the significant impact that a prolonged shortage of Epinephrine Injection could have on the Canadian health care system, Health Canada has accepted to extend the shelf-life of the below-listed lots of Epinephrine Injection for an additional three (3) months from their corresponding labelled expiry dates, as summarized in the table below:

Product	Lot#	Labelled Expiry Date	Extended Expiry Date
EPINEPHRINE 0.1mg/mL 10x10mL LSSYR	17360DK	2/1/2022	5/1/2022
EPINEPHRINE 0.1mg/mL 10x10mL LSSYR	17361DK	2/1/2022	5/1/2022
EPINEPHRINE 0.1mg/mL 10x10mL LSSYR	18150DK	3/1/2022	6/1/2022
EPINEPHRINE 0.1mg/mL 10x10mL LSSYR	19065DK	4/1/2022	7/1/2022
EPINEPHRINE 0.1mg/mL 10x10mL LSSYR	20222DK	5/1/2022	8/1/2022
EPINEPHRINE 0.1mg/mL 10x10mL LSSYR	20229DK	5/1/2022	8/1/2022

Key messages

- Health Canada has authorized a shelf-life extension, by three (3) months from 21 months to 24 months for certain lots of Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes, 1 mg/10 mL – DIN 00710814).
- The approved storage conditions remain unchanged.
- Healthcare professionals are advised that:
 - The expiration date of the pre-filled syringes must be verified prior to injection.
 - The Canadian Epinephrine Prescribing Information in French and English is available on Health Canada's [Drug Product Database](#).

Background

In general, the most common uses of parenteral epinephrine are to relieve respiratory distress due to bronchospasm, to provide rapid relief of hypersensitivity (anaphylactic or anaphylactoid) reactions to drugs, animal serums and other allergens, and to prolong the action of infiltration anesthetics. Its cardiac effects may be of use in restoring cardiac rhythm in cardiac arrest due to various causes, and attacks of transitory atrioventricular (AV) heart block and syncopal seizures (Stokes-Adams syndrome).

Health Canada has authorized a 3-month shelf-life extension for Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes). This 3-month shelf-life extension only applies to the specific lots listed in the table above.

The storage conditions between 20 and 25°C remain unchanged. The Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes should be protected from light, freezing and excessive heat. The pre-filled syringes should be retained in the carton until ready for use. The injection should not be used if its colour is pinkish or darker than slightly yellow or if it contains a precipitate. Furthermore, the injection should not be administered unless the solution is clear, and the seal is intact. Unused portion should be discarded.

Information for healthcare professionals

Healthcare professionals are advised that:

- On March 7, 2022, Health Canada authorized a shelf-life extension, from 21 months to 24 months for certain lots of Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes, 1 mg/10 mL – DIN 00710814).
- The expiration date of Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes, 1 mg/10 mL) must be verified prior to injection.
- The approved storage conditions remain unchanged.
- The Canadian Epinephrine Prescribing Information, in French and English, is available on Health Canada's [Drug Product Database](#) and should be used for complete product information.
- This communication in both French and English, as well as the French-translated Canadian Prescribing Information are available at [EPINEPHRINE INJECTION USP | Pfizer Canada](#).

Report health or safety concerns

Adverse drug reactions associated with the use of Epinephrine Injection (pre-filled syringes, 1 mg/10 mL) should be reported to Pfizer Canada ULC by calling 1-866-723-7111 or to Health Canada at <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html> or by calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

For Medical Inquiries, please contact Medical Information at 1-800-463-6001 or you can also access Medical Information via www.pfizermedinfo.ca. For Allocation Inquiries please contact our Allocation Specialist via email: allocation@pfizer.com, or by phone at 1-888-999-8750. For General Inquiries: Please contact our Customer Service Group at 1-800-387-4974.

Sincerely,



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Pfizer Canada ULC