

MEDICATION SHORTAGE BULLETIN



Chloroprocaine Update

November 2024

Background

Chloroprocaine was withdrawn from the Canadian market in 2012 due to a corporate decision by its manufacturer, citing a shortage of essential raw materials needed for production. However, chloroprocaine remained in production and widely available in the United States and Europe. In December 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Health Canada temporarily authorized the importation and sale of chloroprocaine approved in foreign markets. This authorization was limited to pandemic-related needs and has since expired.

What Are We Doing

While Health Canada extended the exceptional importation eligibility of Hikma's US-authorized Chloroprocaine from September 30, 2024, to December 31, 2024, Hikma confirmed that it would not be able to access additional supplies due to shortages in the US. We are happy to inform you that Chlorotekal (Chloroprocaine 1%) has now been approved in Canada and will not require a special import license. B. Braun plans to launch it on the Canadian market in January/February 2025 and steady supplies should be available thereafter.