

OPIOID AGONIST TREATMENT ALERT – MARCH 9, 2020
POTENTIAL SLOW RELEASE ORAL MORPHINE SHORTAGE

There is potential shortage of some dosage strengths of slow-release oral morphine (SROM) brand name Kadian for the treatment of opioid use disorder. More information can be accessed via the website <https://www.drugshortagescanada.ca>; search records for “Kadian”. There may be a backlog of orders yet to be delivered at select pharmacies, so your patients may be reporting that their pharmacies cannot fill their prescriptions.

This includes the following dosage strengths and the corresponding DIN PINs:

NAME	PIN	DIN
Kadian 50 mg capsule	22123347	2184443
Kadian 100 mg capsule	22123348	2184451

As of today, there is available Kadian supply in the 10 mg and 20 mg strengths.

In order to support patients on Kadian during this shortage, pharmacies are encouraged to:

1. Order 10 mg and 20 mg strength capsules.
2. Connect with a pharmacy that has supply of 50 mg and 100 mg capsules to see if transferring supply is an option.
3. Place orders for 50 mg and 100 mg capsules as soon as they become available (estimated dates in March and April).

Prescribers can discuss options with pharmacies for achieving the prescribed dose of Kadian. If a pharmacy is able to use 10 or 20mg capsules to get the full dose for the patient, the prescriber could consider not sprinkling these capsules to facilitate this.

If Kadian supply cannot be obtained:

- Contact patient, determine treatment plan and document in patient’s medical record
- If the decision is made to switch to M-ESLON in the short term, cancel existing SROM prescription

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The conversion to M-ESLON is a **temporary measure** to address potential shortages of KADIAN. When the shortage is resolved, **patients and providers should discuss the transition back to once-daily dispensed KADIAN.**

Converting Patients to M-ESLON

- Convert and write a prescription for 12-hour sustained-release oral morphine brand name M-ESLON (same therapeutic dosage of KADIAN, but divided into 2 doses)
 - e.g., KADIAN 400 mg/day is equivalent to M-ESLON 200 mg BID
- The first dose will be **DAILY WITNESSED AND DISPENSED** and the second dose may be a take-home carry. Prescribers can consider witnessing of the second dose and indicate such on the prescription. However, take into consideration the hours of the pharmacy and logistics for the patient, as 12 hours are needed between doses.



- See table below for information on available M-ESLON dosage strengths and DINs:

NAME	DIN
M-Eslon 10 mg capsule	02019930
M-Eslon 15 mg capsule	02177749
M-Eslon 30 mg capsule	02019949
M-Eslon 60 mg capsule	02019957
M-Eslon 100 mg capsule	02019965
M-Eslon 200 mg capsule	02177757

- NOTE: M-ESLON is eligible for coverage under PharmaCare Plans C, G, and I. Pharmacists should use the DIN to put through the prescription.
- An example prescription is provided below. Note that clinician may consider witnessing for the 2nd dose:

B.C. CONTROLLED PRESCRIPTION FORM
Take to pharmacy of choice.
PLEASE PRINT

PERSONAL HEALTH NO. 123456789		PRESCRIBING DATE 01 03 20 DAY MONTH YEAR		
FIRST PATIENT NAME Jill	INITIAL X	LAST Smith		
ADDRESS 123 45th St.				
CITY Any town	PROV. BC	DATE OF BIRTH 26 12 82 DAY MONTH YEAR		
Rx- DRUG NAME AND STRENGTH M-Eslon 200mg		ONLY ONE Rx PER FORM VOID if altered for OAT		
NUMERIC 2800mg	QUANTITY	ALPHA two thousand eight hundred mg		
DIRECTIONS FOR USE 200mg PO BID Daily dispense First dose: witness Second dose: carry Rx: Mar. 2 – Mar. 8/2020				
NO REFILLS PERMITTED VOID AFTER 5 DAYS UNLESS PRESCRIPTION FOR METHADONE MAINTENANCE		PRESCRIBER'S SIGNATURE 		
Dr. Wendy Osler 543 21st St. Any town BC V2K 2B6		COLLEGE ID # 12345 67		
		FOLIO 12345678		
PHARMACY USE ONLY				
RECEIVED BY - PATIENT OR AGENT SIGNATURE		SIGNATURE OF DISPENSING PHARMACIST		

PHARMACY COPY - COPYING OR DUPLICATING THIS FORM IN ANY WAY CONSTITUTES AN OFFENSE
PRESS HARD
YOU ARE MAKING 2 COPIES
PRINTED IN B.C.

- Consult the RACE Line for support as needed (M-F 0800-1700; 604-696-2131 or 1-877-696-2131; Press 1 for addiction medicine)
- When the shortage is over, discuss transition back to once-daily dispensed KADIAN