






Methadone Chart: Formulation Information, Differences, and Preparation Details (1/2)

REGULAR PHARMACARE BENEFIT FORMULATIONS

NON-BENEFIT FORMULATIONS

	REGULAR PHARMACARE BENEFIT FORMULATIONS			NON-BENEFIT FORMULATIONS	
	Methadose (Mallinckrodt)	Sandoz Methadone (Sterinova)	Metadol-D (Paladin)	EXCEPTIONAL, LAST-RESORT Compounded methadone	SPECIAL AUTHORITY Methadose Sugar-Free (Mallinckrodt)
Properties	 Pink, cherry-flavoured, contains sugar	 Blue, cherry-flavoured, sugar-free	 No colour, unflavoured, contains sugar	 No colour, unflavoured, sugar-free	 No colour, unflavoured, sugar-free
Concentration	10mg/mL	10mg/mL	10mg/mL	10mg/mL	10mg/mL
Formulation	Commercially concentrated	Commercially concentrated	Commercially concentrated	Compounded by the Product Distribution Centre and delivered to the patient's pharmacy	Commercially concentrated
Coverage	Regular PharmaCare benefit formulation. Covered under plans: B, C, G, P, W, and Fair PharmaCare.			Non-benefit, exceptional, last-resort coverage; determined on a case-by-case basis following trials of Metadol-D and one other methadone formulation.	Non-benefit. Special authority coverage required under plans B, C, G, P, W, and Fair PharmaCare.
Interchangeability ^a	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Additional notes	Described as “not having legs” by some patients; others may prefer this formulation.	Generic version of Methadose made with a different dye and sugar-free sweetener (xylitol).	Metadol is the same formulation but does not require dilution and is dispensed in hospitals instead.	From receipt of prescription, it takes ~48 hours to process and deliver the product to the dispensing pharmacy.	Introduced as an option for patients who could not tolerate Methadose. Few patients in BC remain on this formulation.
Hospital use	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗

^aMethadose, Metadol-D, and Sandoz Methadone meet the Health Professions Act definition of an interchangeable drug (i.e., they contain the same amount of the same active ingredients, comparable pharmacokinetics, same clinically significant formulation characteristics, and are administered in the same way as the drug prescribed). For individuals who are stable on a given formulation, changes should only be made after consultation between the patient and their prescriber. If the prescriber has indicated a specific product or has indicated no substitutions, the formulation should not be interchanged. Patients may prefer one commercially available product over another. Members of the care team should ask about patient preference and take this into account when considering formulation.

Methadone Chart: Formulation Information, Differences, and Preparation Details (2/2)

REGULAR PHARMACARE BENEFIT FORMULATIONS

NON-BENEFIT FORMULATIONS

	Methadose (Mallinckrodt)	Sandoz Methadone (Sterinova)	Metadol-D (Paladin)	Compounded methadone	Methadose Sugar-Free (Mallinckrodt)
	REGULAR PHARMACARE BENEFIT FORMULATIONS			EXCEPTIONAL, LAST-RESORT	SPECIAL AUTHORITY
Dilution required	X	X	✓	✓	✓
Compatible diluent	Not required	Not required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange flavoured Tang • Kool Aid Grape • Allen's apple juice • Crystal Light tangerine-grapefruit flavoured • Crystal Light lemonade flavoured 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange flavoured Tang • Kool-Aid Grape • Allen's apple juice • Crystal Light grape flavoured 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange flavoured Tang • Kool-Aid Grape • Allen's apple juice • Crystal Light tangerine-grapefruit flavoured • Crystal Light lemonade flavoured
Dispensing method	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measure out dose 2. Provide to patient 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measure out dose 2. Provide to patient 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measure out dose 2. Mix with compatible diluent to 100mL 3. Provide the 100mL solution to the patient 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compounded solution delivered weekly to pharmacy, labelled for a specific patient 2. Measure out dose 3. Mix with compatible diluent to 100mL 4. Provide the 100mL solution to the patient 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measure out dose 2. Mix with compatible diluent to 100mL 3. Provide the 100mL solution to the patient
Example dose: 100mg	10mL Methadose	10mL Sandoz Methadone	10mL Metadol-D + 90mL diluent	10mL compounded methadone + 90mL diluent	10mL Methadose Sugar-Free + 90mL diluent
Opioid agonist treatment drug identification numbers (DINs) and product identification numbers (PINs). PINs not to be used for pain indications.					
DIN	2394596	2481979	2244290	N/A	2394618
PIN: Direct interaction^b	66999997	67000017	67000005	67000013	67000001
PIN: No direct interaction^c	66999998	67000020	67000006	67000016	67000002
PIN: Delivery, direct interaction^b	66999999	67000018	67000007	67000014	67000003
PIN: Delivery, no direct interaction^c	67000000	67000019	67000008	67000015	67000004

^bDaily witnessed ingestion; ^cNo daily witnessed ingestion.

Adapted with thanks from Mona Kwong's work.