

## Importation of US-labelled Calcitriol 1 mcg/mL injection, USP due to the shortage of the Canadian-authorized Calcitriol 1 mcg/mL injection

Due to the shortage of Calcitriol 1 mcg/mL injection (calcitriol) in Canada, Health Canada has allowed the temporary importation of SteriMax Inc. (STM), US-labelled **Calcitriol 1 mcg/mL injection** with English-only labels.

This medication has been added to Health Canada's list of drugs for exceptional importation and sale in Canada.

**A temporary Product Identification Number (PIN) has been assigned to the following product effective July 22, 2024.**

PIN	Product description
09858344	Calcitriol 1 mcg/mL Injection

The US-labelled product has the **same active ingredient, strength (calcitriol 1 mcg per mL), dosage form (solution) and route of administration (intravenous)** as the Canadian marketed product; however, the US-labelled product has a **different product composition (non-medicinal ingredients)** than the Canadian marketed product.

**The US-labelled product contains butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) and butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) as antioxidants, while the Canadian marketed product has sodium ascorbate as an antioxidant.** Other non-medicinal ingredients remain the same.

The US-labelled product also has a **different packaging format**. The **US-labelled product is available as 1 mL solution in single-use amber glass vials sealed with rubber stoppers**, while the Canadian marketed product is available as 1 mL solution in single-use amber glass ampoules.

Additional information for pharmacists and health care providers:

- The US-labelled product can be used in the same manner as the Canadian marketed product. Please refer to the Canadian product monograph for Calcitriol injection, USP (1 mg/mL) available in English and French on the Health Canada product database (<https://health-products.canada.ca/dpd-bdpp/info?lang=eng&code=88422>)
- Further information about the US-labelled Calcitriol 1 mcg/mL injection for reference by health care professionals is available in English at [HPRC-EN-US-labelled-Calcitriol-Injection.pdf \(sterimaxinc.com\)](#)
- Health care professionals are advised that aspects of the inner and outer labels and packaging of the US-labelled product may differ from the marketed Calcitriol injection, USP product in Canada. **Proper selection of the intended product must be verified to avoid confusion with other products and prevent medication errors.**

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## Temporary benefit added to the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*

To ensure coverage is provided for this product, for members of eligible government-sponsored drug programs, the below product will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *ADBL*.

As of **July 22, 2024**, all claims for this product will be adjudicated to the price indicated per **mL**.

PIN	Product description	Price per mL
09858344	Calcitriol 1 mcg/mL injection	<b>\$9.4337</b>

Alberta Blue Cross will continue to monitor the availability of shorted products and potential alternatives, in addition to working with other provinces and territories, manufacturers and Health Canada to address this shortage and minimize the impact on Albertans.

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area)  
403-294-4041 (Calgary and area)  
1-800-361-9632 (toll free)  
FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area)  
FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims.

Visit [ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php](https://ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

