

Importation of USA - Cortef 10 mg Tablet due to shortage

Due to the shortage of Cortef (hydrocortisone) 10 mg tablets in Canada, Health Canada has allowed the importation of Pfizer's US-labelled Cortef 10 mg Tablet. This medication has been added to Health Canada's List of Drugs for Exceptional Importation and Sale in Canada.

Please note: A temporary Product Identification Number has been assigned to Cortef 10 mg Tablets (PIN 09858155) effective as of July 12, 2022

US-labelled Cortef 10 mg tablets, manufactured by Pfizer Canada, contains the same active ingredient, dosage form and route of administration as the Canadian-labelled Cortef 10 mg tablets that were authorized and marketed for sale in Canada, but the products differ with respect to the packaging.

The differences in packaging between the US-labelled and Canadian authorized product are bolded in the table below:

Packaging of the US-labelled CORTEF	Packaging of the Canadian-authorized CORTEF
60 mL white plastic bottle with a white squeeze and turn cap	40 mL amber glass round bottle with a white seal cap

Pharmacists and other health care professionals are reminded of the following:

- The US-labelled Cortef 10 mg tablets are labelled in English only. The French-translated text of the US label and a link to the French-translated US Prescribing information of the label is available on Pfizer Canada's website at pfizer.ca/sites/default/files/202206/DHCPL_CORTEF_06Jun2022_FR.pdf.
- To consult the Canadian Product Monograph for Contraindications, Serious Warnings and Precautions Box, and Warnings and Precautions for Cortef 10 mg tablets on Health Canada's Product Monograph at pdf.hres.ca/dpd_pm/00064868.PDF.
- To review Pfizer Canada's Dear Health Professional letter issued June 6, 2022, for further details regarding their US-labelled Cortef 10 mg tablets at pfizer.ca/sites/default/files/202206/DHCPL_CORTEF_06Jun2022_EN.pdf.

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

Due to the unavailability of the following product, Cortef 10 mg tablets (Temporary PIN 09858155) will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

DIN	Product description
00030910	Cortef 10 mg tablets

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PHARMACY BENEFACT

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As of **July 12, 2022**, all claims for the following product will be adjudicated to the price of **\$0.2185 per tablet**.

PIN	Product description
09858155	(US) Cortef 10 mg tablets

Alberta Blue Cross will continue to monitor the availability of the 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

