

8th April 2013

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Re: WOCKHARDT Morphine Sulphate Injection 10mg/1mL

As part of our on-going commitment to keeping our customers informed and updated regarding the on-going supply shortage of DBL™ Morphine Sulfate 10mg/1mL, we wish to take this opportunity to remind customers of the differences with the **WOCKHARDT Morphine Sulphate 10mg/1mL** currently being supplied as an alternative to the DBL product.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Code	Product	Pack Size	PBS Item Number
618192DAU	WOCKHARDT Morphine Sulphate 10mg/1mL (10's)	10	2332R

WOCKHARDT Morphine Sulphate 10mg/1mL contains preservative and therefore CANNOT be used for epidural or intrathecal administration. Please refer to previous communications including Posters and Warnings regarding the clinical use of this product. Information is also available on the TGA website

<http://www.tga.gov.au/hp/information-medicines-morphine-sulfate-products.htm>

The **WOCKHARDT** Morphine sulphate injection 10mg/1mL has an over-sticker on the front, outer packaging, warning clinicians that this product can be used for SC, IV and IM use only. Refer to **Figure 1** for an illustration of the packaging's front panel with the over-sticker.

Furthermore, a poster highlighting the differences in clinical use between **DBL™ Morphine sulfate injection BP 10mg/1mL** injection and the **WOCKHARDT** morphine product accompany this letter. As per previous communications, please ensure this poster is printed out in colour and displayed prominently in areas where morphine ampoules are stored or administered throughout your institution e.g. on controlled drug safes/ cabinets, on pages within the controlled drugs register where morphine 10mg ampoule entries are made.

The WOCKHARDT Morphine Sulphate 10mg/1mL is also now PBS listed.



Figure 1



As previously communicated, we advise hospitals to continue to **reserve** and use their DBL™ Morphine Sulfate Injection BP 10mg/1mL for indications requiring epidural or intrathecal administration.

Hospira continue to monitor purchasing activities of Hospitals and other institutions and discourage the practice of "bulk buying". Such practice will inevitably impact patient care in other institutions. Hospira will continue to work closely with our Wholesale partners to minimize the impact on your patients by maintaining product supply during this period.

If you have any queries regarding this matter please contact us on the below details.

Hospira Customer Service	1300 046 774 – Option 1 CustomerService.au@hospira.com	Customer Support including product availability
Medical Information Team	1300 046 774 – Option 2 or medicalinformationAUS@hospira.com	Medical enquiries

Thank you for your patience and understanding and we apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Kind Regards,

Alex Pedrana
Customer Service Manager