Introduction of octaplex®
(Human Prothrombin Complex)

Customer Letter #2008-11

2008-04-09

This Customer Letter pertains to the introduction of octaplex® (Human Prothrombin Complex).

Please find enclosed the following:

1. Dear Healthcare Professional letter dated March 25, 2008 from Octapharma, containing important information concerning the introduction of octaplex®.

Background:

Canadian Blood Services will begin distributing Octapharma’s octaplex® (Human Prothrombin Complex – Human Coagulation Factor II, VII, IX and X in combination), a new plasma-derived prothrombin complex concentrate (PCC) which is licensed by Health Canada. Octaplex® will not require Health Canada’s Special Access Programme authorization.

Octaplex® will be offered lyophilized in a single vial size containing 500 IU of Factor IX to be reconstituted in 20 mL of solvent (provided).

Availability of octaplex®

Octaplex® is expected to be available from Canadian Blood Services Sites by early May 2008. In the interim, Baxter’s Prothromplex Partial will continue to be available from Canadian Blood Services. Baxter’s Prothromplex Partial requires Health Canada's Special Access Programme authorization.

Healthcare providers should contact their local Canadian Blood Services Site to ensure product availability before ordering.

The Plasma Protein Order Form, which is used by hospital customers to order plasma protein products, will be revised shortly to reflect the addition of octaplex®. Until the revised form is available, orders for octaplex® may be written on the form in the comments section using the following CBS Code: 1000104792
If you have any questions about octaplex® (Human Prothrombin Complex) or to request a copy of the product monograph, please contact Octapharma Canada at (416) 531-5533 or by e-mail at anu.bhucher@octapharma.ca

This Customer Letter and the enclosures can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the “Hospitals” section.

If you have questions about this Customer Letter, please contact Canadian Blood Services Plasma Products and Services at (613) 739-2392.

Sincerely,

Ian Mumford
Chief Operating Officer