

BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash Launch – Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the formulation for BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash?

BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash contains the following ingredients:

diphenhydrAMINE liquid (12.5 mg/5 mL)	300 mL
hydrocortisone injection (100 mg/2 mL)	2 mL
nystatin suspension (100,000 units/mL)	100 mL
distilled water	qs to 1000 mL

Direction: 20 mL swish and spit q4-6h PRN or 20 mL swish and swallow q4-6h PRN

An example of this prescription is available through the BC Cancer website at: www.bccancer.bc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/chemotherapy-protocols/supportive-care

2. Why is BC Cancer recommending one Magic Mouthwash formulation?

There are currently various Magic Mouthwash formulations prescribed at BC Cancer. The difference in practice is based on historical preferences of oncology prescribers or regional centres. In order to harmonize these clinical practices, Provincial Drug Information reviewed the best available evidence and solicited the expert opinions within BC Cancer to make the final recommendation. Currently, this BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation is the most frequently prescribed magic mouthwash formulation at BC Cancer.

3. This BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash is slightly different from the formulation currently in use at my practice site. Why should we consider switching to this formulation?

BC Cancer's Provincial Systemic Therapy Program endorses this BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation and encourages prescribers to switch to this formulation.

Effective 1 May 2019, BC PharmaCare has also agreed to grant oncology prescribers Special Authority exemption for this specific Magic Mouthwash formulation. Oncology prescribers at the BC Cancer and Communities Oncology Network who currently receive practitioner exemption for ondansetron will automatically receive Special Authority exemption for this BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation. Other Magic Mouthwash formulations will still be subject to PharmaCare Special Authority review prior to dispensing and prescription coverage is not guaranteed.

Additionally, BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash is the default magic mouthwash formulation built in Cerner® for BC Cancer as part of the Clinical Systems & Transformation (CST) project for Vancouver Coastal Health, Provincial Health Services Authority, and Providence Health Care.

4. Why aren't some of the commonly seen ingredients such as lidocaine or tetracycline included in BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation?

Our expert reviewers commented that lidocaine-containing magic mouthwash formulations are not as well-accepted by patients due to the numbing sensation. Tetracycline lacks evidence for its use in magic mouthwash to prevent or to treat bacterial infection. Also, tetracycline may cause allergic reactions and teeth staining.

5. The final volume for this BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation is 1000 mL. Can I prescribe a different volume?

If the prescription is to be covered through PharmaCare, then the final volume cannot be altered. It is specified by the PharmaCare to justify an approximately one week supply.

6. What is the PharmaCare Special Authority PIN?

Magic mouthwash is a compounded prescription which requires PharmaCare Special Authority approval. BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation has been assigned this Product Identification Number (PIN) 22123334. This PIN is required when dispensing pharmacies submit a claim to PharmaCare.

7. When is the effective date for BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash launch?

Effective 1 May 2019, BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash will be the preferred magic mouthwash formulation at BC Cancer.

BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash prescription pads are available for order through Printing Services <https://hssbcprinting.healthbc.org/>.

BC Cancer Centres	PHSA Printing Services Form Numbers
BC Cancer – Abbotsford	BCC198
BC Cancer – Kelowna	BCC199
BC Cancer – Prince George	BCC200
BC Cancer – Surrey	BCC201
BC Cancer – Vancouver	BCC202
BC Cancer – Victoria	BCC203

Oncology prescribers at the Communities Oncology Network may access the BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation and PIN on the BC Cancer website. See Q1 for details.

8. Who can I contact if I have further questions regarding the BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash formulation?

Please contact Provincial Drug Information at druginfo@bccancer.bc.ca or (604) 877-6275.

9. What expiry date should I assign for the BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash?

There is no stability data for extemporaneously prepared diphenhydrAMINE-hydrocortisone-nystatin mixture in literature and BC Cancer has no in-house stability data. In the absence of stability data that is applicable to a specific non-sterile compounded preparation, the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) recommends a beyond-use date to be not later than 14 days with storage at controlled cold temperatures.

10. Can I use Sterile Water for Irrigation instead of Distilled Water to compound the BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash?

If applying the NAPRA's recommendation for beyond-use date, then there is no difference whether Sterile Water for Irrigation or Distilled Water is used to compound the BC Cancer Magic Mouthwash.