

Fosamax[®]
(Alendronate Sodium)

Indications

- Treatment & prevention of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women.
- Treatment of osteoporosis in men to reduce the incidence of fractures.
- Treatment & prevention of glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis in men and women.
- Treatment of Paget's disease of bone in men and women.

EDS Criteria

10 mg tablet or 70 mg tablet : For treatment of:
 (a) Osteoporosis in patients unresponsive to etidronate disodium/calcium (Didrocal) after receiving it for one year.
 (b) Osteoporosis in patients intolerant to etidronate disodium/calcium (Didrocal).
 (c) Osteoporosis in patients with pre-existing and/or recent fractures, and:
 (d) Glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis in patients who have received systemic glucocorticoid treatment for at least 3 months.

40 mg tablet: For treatment of symptomatic Paget's disease of the bone.

70mg/75mL oral solution: For treatment of osteoporosis in patients with the inability to swallow.

Fosavance[®]
(Alendronate Sodium/Vitamin D3)

Indications

- Treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women.
- Treatment of osteoporosis in men.

EDS Criteria

70mg/5600IU tablet: For treatment of osteoporosis.

| Name | Form | Strength | Price per Unit |
|---|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Fosamax[®] (Alendronate Sodium) | Tablet | 10 mg | 1.1057 |
| | | 40 mg | 2.6097 |
| | | 70 mg | 5.5750 |
| | Oral Solution | 75 mg/70 mL | 10.9124 |
| Fosavance[®] (Alendronate Sodium/ Vitamin D3) | Tablet | 70mg/2800IU* | 4.8025 |
| | | 70mg/5600IU | 4.8012 |

*Fosavance[®] 70mg/2800IU tablets are **not** listed on the Saskatchewan Formulary

Summary

Fosavance[®] (Alendronate Sodium/Vitamin D3) is less expensive and has less stringent EDS criteria than Fosamax[®] (Alendronate Sodium) and therefore should be considered a valid option for those patients who have an appropriate indication for its use.

References

1. Merck Frosst Canada Ltd. [Fosamax \(Product Monograph\)](http://www.merckfrosst.ca/assets/en/pdf/products/FOSAMAX-0911-a_131996_E.pdf). October 8, 2009. <http://www.merckfrosst.ca/assets/en/pdf/products/FOSAMAX-0911-a_131996_E.pdf>
2. Merck Frosst Canada Ltd. [Fosavance \(Product Monograph\)](http://www.merckfrosst.ca/assets/en/pdf/products/FOSAVANCE-0911-a_132000_E.pdf). October 8, 2009. <http://www.merckfrosst.ca/assets/en/pdf/products/FOSAVANCE-0911-a_132000_E.pdf>
3. Government of Saskatchewan. [Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch \(Online Formulary\)](http://formulary.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca/). February 1, 2010. <http://formulary.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca/>