

TACROLIMUS BRAND CHANGE

UPDATED MAY 2020

BC Transplant is changing suppliers of immediate release tacrolimus from Prograf tacrolimus to Sandoz tacrolimus. Your transplant clinic has a thorough process in place to manage this medication brand change with your safety as our top priority.

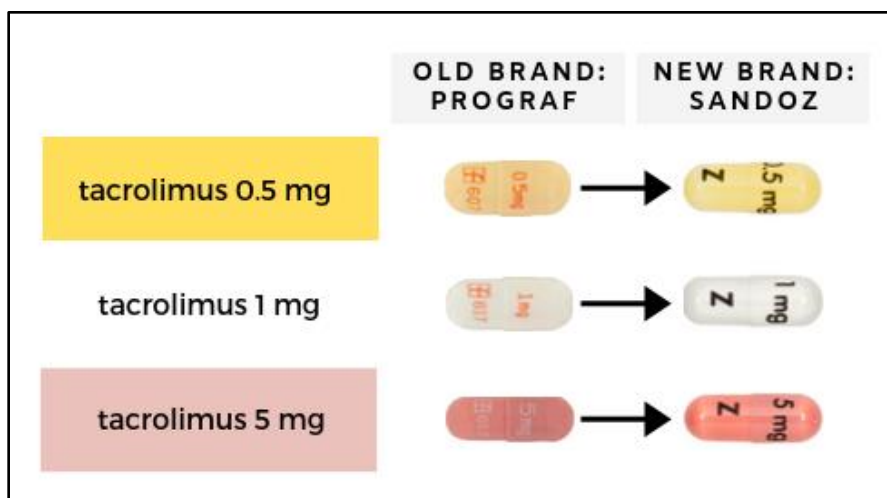
SAFETY AND EFFICACY

Sandoz tacrolimus is approved by Health Canada and is already in widespread use in other provinces. Health Canada regulates drugs and other health products to make sure they are safe, effective and of high quality. There are many different brands of the same medication available in Canada and they are all rigorously tested to ensure they have the same clinical benefits.

WHY CHANGE SUPPLIERS?

This brand change from Prograf to Sandoz tacrolimus allows us an opportunity to maximize resources, expand coverage for new treatments, and improve patient access to more medications. The decision has been extensively reviewed and approved by the medical transplant experts in BC to ensure optimal health for all patients.

AFFECTED DRUGS



Prograf is the current brand of the immediate release tacrolimus covered by BC Transplant.

Sandoz tacrolimus is the new brand that will be covered by BC Transplant.

The process of conversion will be as follows:

- Your transplant team will review the brand change with you either by phone, video-chat or at your next clinic appointment.
- Your conversion date to Sandoz tacrolimus will be based on your remaining home supply of Prograf.
- On your next refill, your transplant pharmacy will dispense Sandoz tacrolimus. **Please do not start taking Sandoz tacrolimus until your conversion date.**
- Your tacrolimus levels will be checked when you get your next routine lab blood test.
- If necessary, your clinic will follow up with you to adjust your dose and monitor for side effects
- If you are not scheduled for follow up at the clinic soon, your clinic will call you to discuss this process over the phone.
- Any remaining Prograf you have at home after your switch should be returned to your pharmacy for proper disposal.



Tacrolimus Conversion Schedule

Your Sandoz tacrolimus Conversion Date:



POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS

We do not expect you will experience any new side effects after switching to the Sandoz tacrolimus brand. **As with any change in medication, if you experience any new and persistent symptoms - such as headaches, tremors or diarrhea - please contact your transplant team as soon as possible.**

If you have any signs of an allergic reaction - a rash, swollen lips, neck or throat, or difficulty breathing - contact your transplant clinic or call emergency services (911) right away.

MORE INFORMATION

- Visit the BC Transplant webpage at www.transplant.bc.ca/tacrolimusswitch.
- Contact your transplant clinic.