

**Date:** June 27, 2022

**To:** Burlington Ontario Health Team (BOHT)  
Burlington-based physicians and clinical leaders

**From:** Dr. Belton, Chief, Diagnostic Imaging  
Jessy Samuel, Director of IPAC, Pharmacy, Laboratory Services &  
Diagnostic Imaging

**Subject:** **Shortage of GE Omnipaque Contrast**

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### What's new

Global supply chain issues related to the ongoing pandemic continue. There is currently a worldwide shortage of GE Omnipaque contrast used in many CT scans.

### What this means

- Joseph Brant Hospital has a very limited amount of this product in stock, and it must be used only in the most urgent cases as per the province's and region's direction.
- We anticipate this shortage to continue for the foreseeable future, as production and deliveries work to meet backlogged demands.

### Actions we are taking

Our teams are actively identifying strategies to address this shortage. These include:

- conversion to non-contrast CT for specific indications
- using other modalities to provide care once reviewed by our clinical team
- further reducing the wastage of contrast agents

### Next steps

- CT with contrast exam requisitions for all patients are being individually reviewed by our radiologists and in accordance with the provincial recommendations. An alternative and effective diagnostic test for these patients will be determined, where appropriate
- The Diagnostic Imaging program will be contacting patients to notify them of the change to their diagnostic testing along with the corresponding appointment date and time.

We continue to monitor the situation and assess options for mitigation and resolution. It is our commitment to keep the lines of communication open, and welcome your feedback. Please contact Jessy Samuel, Director of IPAC, Pharmacy, Diagnostic Imaging & Laboratory Services at [jsamuel@josephbranthospital.ca](mailto:jsamuel@josephbranthospital.ca)

We thank you for your attention and collaboration as we navigate this supply chain challenge.