

CONVERSION FROM KCl ORAL LIQUID TO EFFER-K

By recommendation of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee at their October 2018 meeting and by action of the Medical Executive Committee at their November 2018 meeting, Potassium Chloride 10% Oral Solution (20mEq/15ml) is removed from the East Jefferson General Hospital Formulary. In its place are **Potassium Bicarbonate 10mEq and 20mEq Effervescent Tablets (Effer-K)**. Please note that this product is listed in Cerner as “Citric Acid-Potassium Bicarbonate 10mEq EFF Tablet” and “Citric Acid-Potassium Bicarbonate 20mEq EFF Tablet.” And in Pyxis as POTASS BICARB-CITRIC ACID EFF 10 MEQ and POTASS BICARB-CITRIC ACID EFF 20 MEQ

Effective **Tuesday, January 29, 2019**, all Potassium Chloride 10% Oral Solution products will be removed from Pyxis and the product will no longer be available to order.



Preparation and dilution: Just as the KCl Oral Solution was required to be diluted in 3 to 4 ounces of fluid, the effervescent tablets need to be dissolved in water and diluted to a total volume of 3 to 4 ounces. Below is copied from the Effer-K package insert:

Dosage and administration

Effer-K 10 mEq. Adults - one tablet (Cherry Vanilla or Unflavored) each containing 10 mEq. (391 mg) of elemental potassium, 1 to 4 times daily, depending on the requirement of the patient. **Completely dissolve the Cherry Vanilla flavored tablet in 2 to 3 ounces (58 to 85 mL) of cold or ice water before drinking.**

Effer-K 20 mEq. Adults - one tablet (Orange Cream or Unflavored) each containing 20 mEq. (782 mg) of elemental potassium, 1 to 4 times daily, depending on the requirement of the patient. **Completely dissolve the Orange Cream flavored tablet in 3 to 4 ounces (85 to 115 mL) of cold or ice water before drinking.**

NOTE: It is suggested that any effervescent potassium tablet be taken with meals and sipped slowly over a 5 to 10 minute period.