

**Clinical Services Branch
Health Services Division**

March 29, 2006

Dr. L. S. Erlick
Chair/WSIB Steering Committee
Ontario Medical Association
525 University Ave, Suite 300
Toronto, ON M5G 2K7

Dear Doctor Erlick,

RE TRAMACET: Status in WSIB Drug Benefit Program. REVISED

In case you receive any enquiries I would like to share with you the status of Tramacet in the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) Drug Benefit Program

Tramacet (tramadol/acetaminophen) has not been added to WSIB Formularies due to the following reasons:

- ***Based on current available published evidence, Tramacet has not been found to be more effective than existing analgesics such as Tylenol #3, with respect to pain control.***
- ***As per Product Monograph, Tramacet may increase risk of seizure and/or serotonin syndrome when used concomitantly with certain classes of medications.***
- ***It is also important to know that the cost of Tramacet is significantly higher compared to Tylenol #3 (20-fold higher cost at equivalent doses).***

Tramacet will be considered for acute pain only. The initial prescription up to a maximum of 40 tablets will be allowed. Medical literature will be reviewed on a regular basis and formulary status will be reconsidered when substantive new evidence is available.

Acknowledgment:

It is recognized that the prescribing physician uses clinical experience and individual needs of the patient however, "...the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best practice in making decisions about the care of individual patients...means integrating individual clinical expertise with the best available external evidence from systematic research."

Dr. David Sackett, 1996.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the above number if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Catherine Painvin, MD, MSc.
Director
Clinical Services Branch

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