

Pharmacy & Therapeutics Update

From the October meeting of the SHC Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

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Added to the formulary:

- **Bupivacaine Liposome Injection Suspension (Exparel®)** is a liposomal formulation of bupivacaine in multivesicular liposomes (Depo Foam drug delivery system). It is FDA approved for postoperative analgesia. Dose is based on surgical site and volume required to cover the area. The most common adverse reactions include nausea, vomiting, and constipation. This medication should not be mixed with other drugs prior to administration since other drugs may cause a rapid increase in free (un-encapsulated) bupivacaine. It should also not be mixed with lidocaine or other non-bupivacaine-based local anesthetics, however, bupivacaine liposome may be *locally* administered after at least 20 minutes following local administration of lidocaine.

Removed from the formulary:

- None