

CLASSIFICATION OF LOCAL ANESTHETICS

ESTERS	AMIDES
Benzocaine Chloroprocaine* Cocaine Proparacaine Tetracaine*	Articaine Bupivacaine Dibucaine Lidocaine Mepivacaine Prilocaine Ropivacaine

* Discontinued from Canadian market; of note there are no longer any injectable ester-type local anesthetic products available in Canada.

If a patient reports an allergy to an amide-type local anesthetic, then a different amide-type local anesthetic may be trialed. The risk of cross-sensitivity is considered very low. Using an epinephrine-free and preservative-free product, if available and appropriate for the indication, is preferable.

See Drugs and Therapeutics Newsletter, Volume 19 (2).