

## ARMOUR SHORTAGE

Dr. Friedman has recently found out that there is a shortage of Armour Thyroid as well as the other desiccated thyroid brands, Nature-Throid and Westhroid. Dr. Friedman wants to recommend some suggests for his patients who are currently taking Armour and have benefitted from it. The medicines Armour, Nature-Throid, and Westhroid are now on backorder with no date released. Dr. Friedman has some Nature-Throid, that has the same ingredients as Armour and it has the T3/T4 combination in a similar manner as Armour. Dr. Friedman has some Nature-Throid in his office on Beverly Drive in Los Angeles. Most patients feel that the Nature-Throid is equivalent to Armour. The Nature-Throid in Dr. Friedman's office can be picked up on Wednesday nights during his regular clinic hours.

However, for most patients, coming in to Dr. Friedman's clinic is not an option, and Dr. Friedman only has a limited amount of Nature-Throid. He is recommending that patients switch from Armour to Nature-Throid, and that can be available at Bellevue Compounding Pharmacy that Dr. Friedman uses frequently. They have Nature-Throid in 16.25 mg tablets, which is equal to 1/4 grain, and that is equivalent to 15 mg of Armour. They have the 32.4 mg tablets of Nature-Throid, which is 1/2 grain, which is equivalent to 30 mg of Armour. They have the 64.8 mg dose of Nature-Throid, which is 1 grain, which is equivalent to 60 mg of Armour. They have 130 mg of Nature-Throid, which is 2 grains, which is equivalent to 120 mg of Armour. These can be ordered by contacting Lynne and having her email it to Bellevue.

Bellevue has a relatively large stock of Nature-Throid available, but they may run out before Nature-Throid or Armour is re-released. If Nature-Throid runs out from Bellevue, Bellevue also has porcine powder in doses of 15 mg, 30 mg, 45 mg, 60 mg, 90 mg, 120 mg, 180 mg, and 240 mg. The 60 mg powder is equivalent to 1 grain and is equivalent to 60 mg of Armour. They have a very large supply of this, and this, again, would be thought to be relatively similar to the Armour. This, again, can be ordered through Lynne.

Westhroid and Nature-Throid are identical compounds, and Dr. Friedman feels that Nature-Throid would be a good substitution for Armour.

This backorder of Armour and Nature-Throid came at the same time as Medco (mail order pharmacy) sent a letter to physicians saying that the FDA may remove Armour from the market, and physicians should be looking for a substitute. There is no truth that the FDA is looking to remove Armour and Nature-Throid from the market. Thyroid advocate, Mary Shomon has written about the situation with Armour on her website entitled, "Thyroid patients: How to survive the shortage of Armour and Nature-Throid natural desiccated thyroid drugs." It is available at <http://thyroid.about.com/b/a/258013.htm>.

For more information on Dr. Friedman, please visit his website at [www.goodhormonehealth.com](http://www.goodhormonehealth.com).