

PRESCRIPTION PRODUCTS

Lantus injection

COMPOSITION: insulin glargine 3.64mg/ml corresponding to 100iu/ml of human insulin.

PRESENTATION: Solution for injection.

CLASS: Antidiabetic agent.

INDICATIONS: Diabetes mellitus, where treatment with insulin is required.

DOSAGE: Dosage should be individually adjusted and administered once daily in the evening.

LEGAL CATEGORY: POM.

NET PRICE: Cartridges 5 x 3ml £37.89; vials 1 x 10ml £22.29; Optiset pen 5 x 3ml £39.

CONTACT DETAILS: Aventis Pharma, Aventis House, 50 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4AH. Tel 01732 584000, fax 01732 584111.

See SPC for further details.



Nizatidine capsules

Nizatidine capsules have been launched by the following companies:

• Niche Generics; net price, 150mg 30 £7.45, 300mg 30 £14.75

• Generics (UK); net price, 150mg 30 £8.27, 300mg 30 £16.40

SPC CHANGES

Symbicort Turbohaler

The licensed indications for Symbicort (budesonide, formoterol) 100/6 Turbohaler have been extended (AstraZeneca). Symbicort Turbohaler is now additionally licensed for use in children aged six years and older. See SPC.

Losec MUPS tablets

The summary of product characteristics for Losec (omeprazole) MUPS 10mg, 20mg and 40mg tablets has been amended (AstraZeneca). The shelf life has been extended from two to three years. See SPC.

DISCONTINUED PRODUCTS

Losec MUPS tablets

The 7-tablet pack size of Losec (omeprazole) MUPS 10mg, 20mg and 40mg tablets has been discontinued (AstraZeneca).

Isordil tablets

Isordil (isosorbide dinitrate) 5mg tablets have been discontinued (Shire Pharmaceuticals). The 10mg and 30mg strengths remain available.

Uprima tablets

Uprima (apomorphine hydrochloride) 2mg tablets, pack size 4, and 3mg tablets, pack size 2, have been discontinued.

Honvan injection and tablets

Honvan (fosfestrol tetrasodium) 60mg/ml injection and 120mg tablets will be discontinued when stocks are exhausted (Baxter Oncology). Stocks of the injection are expected to be available until around mid-October and the tablets until around the end of October.

Thioridazine tablets

Thioridazine 25mg tablets, pack size 28, have been discontinued (Alpharma).

FUTURE EVENTS

Own a pharmacy

Young Pharmacists Group one-day conference on iOwn a pharmacy, Manchester, 13 October. Cost £30. Details from Noel Wicks on 07961 189449 (e-mail info@yppg.info).

Diabetes update

National Association of Women Pharmacists study day on iDiabetes, Medical Institute, Birmingham, 20 November. Cost £30. Details from Lady Constance Peris, Broadway, 21 Highfield Road, Birmingham B13 9HL (tel 0121 449 3652).

DRUG TARIFF UPDATES

NCSO endorsements

The Department of Health and the National Assembly for Wales have agreed to allow iNo cheaper stock obtainable (NCSO) endorsements for the following items for August prescriptions: co-triamterzide 50/25 tablets.

WANTS LIST

Sponsored cycle ride

John DiArcy, MRPharmS, chief executive of the National Pharmaceutical Association, wants to hear from anyone who can sponsor him to take part in a 200-mile London to Paris cycle ride in aid of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Charity. He can be contacted at the NPA, Mallinson House, 38n42 St Peter's Street, St Albans AL1 3NP (tel 01727 832161).

RECALLED PRODUCTS

Amoxicillin capsules and flucloxacillin capsules

The following batches of amoxicillin capsules and flucloxacillin capsules have been recalled as a precautionary measure (Generics [UK]):

Amoxicillin capsules

Strength	Batch number	Expiry date	Pack size
500mg	0833X1	September 2004	21

Flucloxacillin capsules

Strength	Batch number	Expiry date	Pack size
250mg	0952X1	September 2004	28
	0953X1	September 2004	100
	1874X1	December 2004	28
	1874X2	December 2004	28
	0955X1	December 2004	100
	0956X1	December 2004	100
500mg	0967X1	December 2004	100
	0968X1	December 2004	100
	1875X1	December 2004	100
	1876X1	December 2004	100

The above batches have failed to comply with recommendations of the European Pharmacopoeia regarding microbial quality. Recipients are required to quarantine stock and return it to their supplier for credit or replacement. Further information can be obtained from Generics (UK), 18 Station Close, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN16 1TL (tel 01707 853000).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLIVA move

Dominion Pharma has changed its name to PLIVA Pharma and moved to new offices at Vision House, Bedford Road, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3QB. Its customer services department can be reached on 01730 710910 and medical information on 01730 710944 (e-mail info@pliva-pharma.co.uk).

Sainsbury's winners

Carl Byrne has been named Sainsbury's preregistration trainee of the year. Mr Byrne trained at the company's Fallowfield branch. Sinead Martin, from the Horsham branch, was runner-up. Sainsbury's recently opened its 100th instore pharmacy, in Harrogate.

Three peaks challenge

A team from pharmaceutical communications group Adis International completed the Three Peaks Challenge race on 27n28 July in 27h 18min. The race involves climbing Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon, the highest mountains in Scotland, England and Wales, respectively. The team raised over £5,000 for the charity CARE International UK.

CORRECTIONS

Lifelong learning

The Lifelong Learning in Pharmacy Conference, reported last week (p171), was held at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, not the University of Grahamstown.

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