

RECALLED PRODUCTS

**Adult Meltus for Chesty Coughs and Catarrh**

The following batch of Adult Meltus for Chesty Coughs and Catarrh is being recalled because of a failure to meet its specification in respect of guaiphenesin and cetylpyridinium chloride (SSL International).

Batch Number	Expiry date	Pack size	First distributed
P631640	July 2007	100ml	September 2002

Any remaining product should be quarantined. For credit and replacement customers can contact A. Knott, Quality Manager, SSL International Distribution Centre, Stakehill Industrial Estate, Finlan Road, Middleton, Manchester M24 5ST. For general enquiries contact the company's medical information department on 0161 621 2030.

PRESCRIPTION PRODUCTS

**Humira injection**

COMPOSITION: Adalimumab solution for injection.

PRESENTATION: Each 0.8ml single-dose pre-filled syringe contains 40mg of adalimumab.

CLASS: Recombinant human monoclonal antibody.

INDICATIONS: Moderate to severe active rheumatoid arthritis in adult patients when response to disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs, including methotrexate, has been inadequate.

DOSAGE: 40mg administered every other week as a single dose via subcutaneous injection.

MAJOR CAUTIONS: Patients must be evaluated for both active and inactive tuberculosis infection as well as other infections before initiation of therapy.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Active tuberculosis, severe and opportunistic infections, moderate or severe heart failure.

LEGAL CATEGORY: POM.

NET PRICE: 2 syringes, £715.

CONTACT DETAILS: Abbott Laboratories (tel 01628 644512).

See SPC for full details.

**Simulect injection**

A 10mg vial of Simulect (basiliximab) injection has been launched (Novartis); net price, 1 vial, £758.69.

SPC CHANGES

**Simulect injection**

The summary of product characteristics for Simulect (basiliximab) injection now states that it may be used in children and adolescents from one to 17 years of age (Novartis). The warning "Simulect must not be administered unless it is absolutely certain that the patient will receive the graft and concomitant immunosuppression" applies to children and adolescents as well as adults. Additional clinical data have been included throughout the product summary. See SPC.

**Danol capsules**

The summary of product characteristics for Danol (danazol) capsules has been revised (Sanofi-Synthelabo). Danazol is now restricted to second line therapy in endometriosis and benign fibrocystic breast disease only. The conditions under which it may be used for these indications have also been updated. The drug is no longer indicated for gynaecomastia, pre-operative thinning of the endometrium, dysfunctional uterine bleeding, or the control of benign, multiple or recurrent breast cysts. In addition the duration of therapy should normally be limited to no more than six months. See SPC.

**Motilium**

The summary of product characteristics for Motilium (domperidone) 10mg tablets, 1mg/ml suspension and 30mg suppositories has been updated (Sanofi-Synthelabo). The indications now include the relief of the symptoms of nausea and vomiting, epigastric sense of fullness, upper abdominal discomfort and regulation of gastric content in adults, and the relief of the symptoms of nausea and vomiting in children. Corresponding changes have been made to the sections on posology and administration, and special warnings and precautions for use. Motilium is now contraindicated in prolactin-releasing pituitary tumour, and should not be used when stimulation of gastric motility could be harmful. Amendments have also been made to the sections on interactions, pregnancy and lactation, driving and using machines, undesirable effects, overdose and pharmacodynamics. See SPC for full details.

DISCONTINUED PRODUCTS

**Tavegil Elixir**

Tavegil (clemastine) elixir is being discontinued (Novartis). The company expects that the product will be unavailable after November. Tavegil tablets remain available.

**Kerlone tablets**

Kerlone (betaxolol) tablets are being discontinued from 30 September (Sanofi-Synthelabo).

COUNTER MEDICINES

**Sudafed Congestion Relief**

Pfizer has launched Non-Drowsy Sudafed Congestion Relief capsules (phenylephrine hydrochloride 12mg). Recommended retail price, 12 £2.49, 24 £4.49. Legal category: general sale list medicine.

**Tixyplus suspension**

Novartis Consumer Health has launched Tixyplus suspension (diphenhydramine and paracetamol). Recommended retail price, 100ml £3.49. Legal category: pharmacy medicine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lagap renaming**

Lagap Pharmaceuticals, part of the Novartis group, is changing its name to Sandoz with immediate effect. Sandoz was the name of one of the companies that merged to form Novartis.

**Asacol re-branding**

The brand name for Asacol (mesalazine) 400mg tablets is being changed to Asacol MR (Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals). The tablets themselves are unchanged.

FUTURE EVENTS

**Ask about medicines week**

Launch event for "Ask about medicines week" for all pharmacists working in Surrey, Burchatt's Farm Barn, Stoke Park, Guildford, 7 October, 7pm. Buffet supper.

For further details contact Sally Greensmith on 07880 738536.

**Pharmacy education**

European Pharmaceutical Students Association and International Pharmaceutical Students Federation joint symposium on "Improving pharmacy education", Strasbourg, France, 15-19 October. Cost euro150. Details at <http://js2003.free.fr>.

**Social pharmacy**

International social pharmacy workshop on "Exploring theoretical and cultural perspectives", Malta College of Pharmacy Practice, Malta, 19-23 July 2004. Details available at [www.mcppnet.org](http://www.mcppnet.org).

ABOUT PEOPLE

**Pharmacy Management**

Nicholas Wood has resigned from his position as general secretary of the Institute of Pharmacy Management International following his election to the Council of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society this summer.

CORRECTIONS

**Jobs online**

*The Journal's* recruitment website [www.picareers.com](http://www.picareers.com) is not currently active as implied in last week's *Journal* (p 313) but will be active from 25 September.

**Movicol-Half indication**

The licensed indication for Movicol-Half (Macrogol 3350 and electrolytes) has been extended to include the treatment of faecal impaction in children from the age of two years (Norgine). This indication does not apply to Movicol as stated in last week's *Journal* (p 318).

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