

DRUG ALERT

Reductil capsules 15mg

Counterfeit Reductil (sibutramine) capsules 15mg bearing the following batch number are being recalled following the discovery of counterfeit material in the UK supply chain.

Batch number	Expiry date	Pack size	First distributed
65542	01/2007	28	Not known

No batches manufactured and distributed by Abbott Laboratories are affected by this recall. Recipients of this counterfeit material are asked to contact Abbott on 0800 018 1950. Pharmacists are advised to contact any patients who are known to or may have been supplied with this counterfeit product and to return the product to Abbott.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency says that initial results do not indicate that this material poses an immediate risk to patients. It is not known if batch numbers other than that quoted above are involved.

PRESCRIPTION PRODUCTS

Gentamicin Intrathecal

Gentamicin Intrathecal solution for injection 5mg/ml is now available from Beacon Pharmaceuticals; net price, 5 × 1ml ampoules £18. Orders should be placed via Distriphar (fax 08705 133329).

Glivec tablets

Glivec (imatinib) tablets 100mg are now available from Novartis; net price, 60 £778.68. The 100mg capsules are being discontinued.

Itraconazole capsules

Itraconazole capsules 100mg are now available from Sandoz; net price, 15 £15.70.

Lyrica capsules

Lyrica (pregabalin) capsules are being launched into the primary care market on 13 September (Pfizer). Net price 25mg, 75mg, 150mg or 300mg, 56 £64.40. 25mg, 50mg, 100mg or 200mg, 84 £96.60. Lyrica was initially only launched into the hospital market.

Myfortic tablets

Myfortic (mycophenolic acid, as mycophenolate sodium) tablets have been launched by Novartis; net price, 180mg 120 £122.49, 360mg 120 £244.97.

Novolizer

Viatrix has launched Novolizer Budesonide 200µg inhalation powder, a breath-actuated metered-dose refillable dry powder inhaler containing 200µg budesonide per metered dose. Net price, 1 inhaler (100 doses) £15.98.

DISCONTINUED PRODUCTS

Nutrizym GR

Nutrizym GR (pancreatin) capsules are being discontinued

(Merck Pharmaceuticals). The company expects stocks to be exhausted in October. Nutrizym 10 and Nutrizym 22 remain available. Further details from Merck medical information on 01895 452307.

Fletchers' Enemette

Fletchers' Enemette (docusate sodium and glycerol) rectal preparation is being discontinued with immediate effect (Forest Laboratories). Details from medical information on 01322 550550.

SUPPLY ISSUES

Pro-Banthine tablets

Pro-Banthine (propantheline bromide) tablets 15mg are now back in stock (Hansam Healthcare) and available from UDG. Customers are asked to contact Hansam Healthcare on 0870 241 3019 if they have any problems obtaining supplies.

ABOUT PEOPLE

IPMI officers

Ian Harrison, MRPharmS, has been appointed as chairman of the Institute of Pharmacy Management International, succeeding Larry Hurst, MRPharmS. Mr Harrison is managing director of Alchemy Healthcare and a former senior healthcare manager. Steven Kayne, FRPharmS, has been appointed vice chairman.

PRODUCTS MISCELLANY

Arixtra responsibility

Responsibility for Arixtra (fondaparinux), formerly Sanofi-Aventis, has been transferred to GlaxoSmithKline.

Moss preregistration trainee of the year



Shailesh Mistry is this year's Moss Pharmacy preregistration trainee of the year. Mr Mistry, who trained at the Oadby branch in Leicester, was awarded £100 in leisure vouchers and a copy of 'Stockley's drug interactions'. The award was sponsored by Reckitt Benckiser. Mr Mistry has taken up a position as relief manager with Moss Pharmacy. He is pictured (right) with Steve Duncan, managing director of Moss Pharmacy.

WANTS

Agenda for change

Samir Vohra, clinical governance facilitator, Chorley and South Ribble Primary Care Trust and Elizabeth Allcock, clinical governance facilitator, Trafford Primary Care Trust, have written job specifications for their roles according to the "Agenda for change" framework. They would like to share their work and hold discussions with others who hold a similar job title. They can be contacted at elizabeth.allcock@salford-pct.nhs.uk and samir.vohra@chorley-pct.nhs.uk.

REUNIONS

Cardiff 1971

A reunion lunch is being organised for pharmacists who graduated from the Welsh School of Pharmacy in 1971. It will take place at the New House Hotel, Cardiff on 17 October. Cost £20. Details from Wendy Morton (née Bowen) (tel 01793 771713) or Sian Evans (tel 02920 759028).

FUTURE EVENTS

Psychiatry

Yorkshire Pharmacists with an Interest in Psychiatry meeting, Lynfield Mount Hospital, Bradford, 15 September, 7.30pm-9pm. Buffet supper at

7pm. Details from Jane Riley on 0113 305 5290 (e-mail jane.riley@leedsmh.nhs.uk).

Malcolm Aiken party

A retirement party is being organised for Malcolm Aiken, MRPharmS, admissions tutor at the University of Brighton School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, at the Mezz restaurant, Lewes Road, Brighton on 30 September. A portfolio of memories is also being organised. For details, or to contribute to the portfolio or the fund for leaving gifts, contact the pharmacy school office on 01273 642014 (e-mail PabsSchoolOffice@brighton.ac.uk).

Infection management

United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association Infection Management Pharmacists Group study day on "Current controversies in infection management", Jury's Inn Hotel, Birmingham, 14 October. Cost members £99, non-members £155. Details at www.ukcpa.org.

CORRECTIONS

Dictionary of pharmacovigilance

The price of the 'Dictionary of pharmacovigilance' is £65, not as stated in our book reviews (*PJ*, 7 August p210 and 4 September p327).

Correction

Agenda for change

Elizabeth Allcock is clinical governance facilitator at Salford Primary Care Trust.