



DEFECT & INVESTIGATION CENTRE

FOR ACTION BY:

Chief Executive of each HSS Trust
General Manager/Chief Executive of each HSS Board
General Manager/Chief Executive of each Agency
General Practitioners

Stoney Road Dundonald
Belfast
Northern Ireland BT16 1US

ADVICE NOTICE (NI) 2000/06

Telephone 028 90 523745
Facsimile 028 90 523900

Date: 22 August 2000

Product	:	Use of transport media during chorionic villus sampling
Manufacturer/ Supplier	:	Various
Issue	:	Inappropriate use of transport media during chorionic villus sampling could lead to the inadvertent introduction of media into the patient.
Action	:	See Section 2 overleaf

ADVICE NOTICE

1. ATTENTION CHIEF EXECUTIVES/GENERAL MANAGERS

This Advice Notice should be brought to the immediate attention of all who need to know, or be aware of it including those listed below, in accordance with local procedures, and immediate action should be taken as detailed overleaf:

- Microbiology Departments
- Cytogenetics Departments
- Infection Control Departments
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology Departments
- Medical Directors
- Nursing Directors
- Directors of Midwifery
- Midwives/midwife practitioners
- Registration Inspection Units
- Independent Healthcare Sector
- Directors of Public Health
- Safety Liaison Officers
- Risk Managers

Boards/Trusts should ensure that if appropriate, this information is passed to ALL persons having the responsibility for premises registered under "THE REGISTERED HOMES (NI) ORDER 1992".



2. IMMEDIATE ACTION

Ensure that procedures are put in place for chorionic villus sampling that do not allow the *in vivo* use of transport media designed for '*in vitro* use only'.

3. BACKGROUND

Inappropriate use of transport media used in chorionic villus sampling could include:

- priming the sampling needle with media
- failure to ensure that the needle used for taking subsequent samples is free from media.

Such practices may lead to the inadvertent introduction of transport media into the patient.

Since transport media may not be sterile, there may be an infection risk if it is introduced into the patient.

Those centres performing chorionic villus sampling should ensure that procedures are put in place for the correct use of transport media.

Normal saline may be used if a lubricating agent is required, although you may wish to discuss procedural changes with the manufacturer/supplier and the testing facility to ensure that such changes do not invalidate the test procedure.

4. ENQUIRIES

Enquiries regarding this notice should be addressed as follows:

NORTHERN IRELAND DEFECT & INVESTIGATION CENTRE (NIDIC)
Health Estates
Estate Policy
Stoney Road
Dundonald
Belfast BT16 1US *marked for the attention of Mr Brian Godfrey*

Tel: 028 90 523714

Fax: 028 90 523900

Email: brian.godfrey@dhsspsni.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Brian Godfrey
Defect Centre Manager

HOW TO REPORT DEFECTS

Professional Estate Letter PEL(93)36 issued by Estate Services Directorate, on 27th July 1994 advises Health and Social Services Boards, HSS Trusts and agencies how to notify HPSS about accidents with and defects in medicinal products, buildings and plant, medical devices and other medical and non medical equipment and supplies.