



Department of

**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

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AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydènter Heisin
an Fowk Siccar**

From The Chief Pharmaceutical Officer
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For Action: Directors of Pharmaceutical Services of the Boards & CSA
Directors of Pharmaceutical Services of HSC Trusts
Regional Quality Improvement Authority

Our reference: PHC/9/09

Date: 31 March 2009

DRUG ALERT

Caution in use

Dear Healthcare Professional

CP Pharmaceuticals (Wockhardt UK)

**Multiparin / Monoparin Products
(Heparin Sodium)**

See attached appendix for PL numbers

See attached appendix for presentations, batch numbers, expiry dates and pack sizes.

A very low level (0.6%) of contamination with over sulphated chondroitin sulphate (OSCS) has recently been identified in the active raw material used in the manufacture of 29 batches of CP Pharmaceuticals Multiparin and Monoparin heparin sodium injections distributed in the UK. This was identified using a more sensitive test method than was previously available. Wockhardt UK have provided details of affected presentations and batch numbers, all of which are in CP Pharmaceuticals livery. See the attached appendix. No other batches of either product are affected.

Due to a potential out-of-stock situation which would have adverse clinical consequences, these products are not being recalled. There is no evidence that this very low level of OSCS is associated with the anaphylactoid reactions reported following use of heparin with OSCS levels of 17 to 21% after i.v. administration, which were observed outside of the UK during 2007/8. Nonetheless Healthcare Professionals are advised to exercise particular caution when using affected batches of Multiparin and Monoparin. Current evidence suggests that the risk of adverse reactions (ADRs) may be reduced by s.c. administration. Patients should be carefully monitored for signs of anaphylactoid or hypotensive reactions both during and after treatment, and

standard therapies (ie vasopressor treatment and steroids) should be available as a precaution. Any suspected ADRs observed should be reported to the MHRA and Wockhardt UK in the usual way. As an extra precaution, it is suggested that batch details are recorded routinely in the patient's notes when using any heparin product.

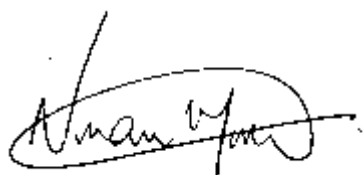
MHRA will continue to liaise with Wockhardt UK to ensure that affected batches of products remain in the supply chain for as short a time as possible.

Recipients of this Drug Alert should bring this information to the attention of relevant contacts by copy of this letter.

Area Boards/RQIA should bring this information to the attention of private hospitals/clinics registered with them, Out of Hours Centres and any other relevant care facilities.

The Central Services Agency is asked to bring this information to the attention of Community Pharmacists and General Medical Practitioners directly.

Yours sincerely



DR NORMAN MORROW
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

For information:
CMO
CNO
CDO
CISSI
SMO
Director, Health Estates
Public Health Branch
DHSSPS, Library
Extended nurse prescribers

Regional Medicines and Poisons Information Service
Regional Director of Supplies
RPLS
Pharmaceutical Society of NI
Senior Prison Pharmacist
Prison Service, Dundonald House
Nursing Officer, Health Estates
Medical Officer, Castle Buildings
Regional Procurement Pharmacist
NICPPET

Appendix: Batch details for affected presentations**CP PHARMACEUTICALS MONOPARIN 1000u/ml AMPOULES PL No
0453/0221**

Presentation	Batch number	Expiry date	First distribution
10 x 1ML PACK	002118	Oct 2011	12/01/2009
10 x 5ML PACK	009118	Oct 2011	Not yet distributed
	010118	Oct 2011	Not yet distributed
	011118	Oct 2011	Not yet distributed
	012118	Oct 2011	12/03/2009
10 x 10ML PACK	003088	Aug 2011	17/10/2008
	004088	Aug 2011	19/11/2008
	007118	Oct 2011	30/01/2009
10 x 20ML PACK	PH40273	Jun 2011	25/11/2008
	PH40274	Aug 2011	08/01/2009
	PH40359	Nov 2011	28/02/2009

**CP PHARMACEUTICALS MONOPARIN 5000u/ml AMPOULES PL No
0453/0208**

Presentation	Batch number	Expiry date	First distribution
10 x 1ML PACK	003088	Jul 2011	09/12/2008
	004118	Oct 2011	26/01/2009
10 x 5ML PACK	005108	Sep 2011	06/01/2009

**CP PHARMACEUTICALS MONOPARIN 25000u/ml AMPOULES PL No
0453/0210**

Presentation	Batch number	Expiry date	First distribution
10 x 0.2ML PACK	PH40345	Sep 2011	04/12/2008
	PH40576	Sep 2011	16/02/2009
10 x 1ML PACK	PH40265	Aug 2011	24/12/2008

CP PHARMACEUTICALS MULTIPARIN 1000u/ml VIALS PL No 0453/0218

Presentation	Batch number	Expiry date	First distribution
10 x 5ML PACK	011098	Feb 2010	28/11/2008
	012098	Feb 2010	28/11/2008
	013098	Feb 2010	05/12/2008
	014098	Feb 2010	05/12/2008
	015098	Mar 2010	28/11/2008
	016108	Mar 2010	28/11/2008
	017118	Apr 2010	16/02/2009
	018118	Apr 2010	17/02/2009

CP PHARMACEUTICALS MULTIPARIN 5000u/ml VIALS PL No 0453/0213

Presentation	Batch number	Expiry date	First distribution
10 x 5ML PACK	012088	Jan 2010	27/10/2008
	013088	Jan 2010	29/10/2008
	014108	Mar 2010	10/12/2008
	015108	Mar 2010	16/12/2008