



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
Dr Norman Morrow
Castle Buildings
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast BT4 3SJ

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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/1/09
Date: 16 January 2009

DRUG ALERT

CAUTION IN USE

Dear Healthcare Professional

Surmontil 10 & 25mg Tablets PL04425/0266 & 0267 Trimipramine

Sanofi-aventis have informed the MHRA that there is an error in the patient information leaflet (PIL) supplied in batches of Surmontil 10 and 25mg tablets which they plan to distribute from today.

The error concerns the tablet description in the PIL for the 10mg tablet which has an imprint stated as "25" whereas it should state "10". Information for the 25mg tablet is correct and the imprint is correctly stated as "25" for the 25mg tablet.

To ensure continuity of supply distribution of the stock has not ceased and Sanofi-aventis have stated that stock should not be returned for credit.

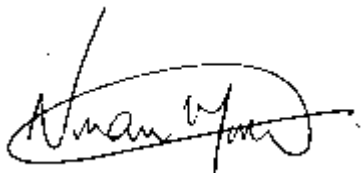
Sanofi-aventis are trying to resolve this issue as rapidly as possible but we have been informed that full resolution of the problem is not expected before March 2009.

For further enquiries, please telephone Sanofi-aventis Medical Information on 01483505515.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norman Morrow', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

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