



Department of

**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

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AN ROINN

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agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

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From The Chief Pharmaceutical Officer
Dr Norman Morrow

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

Our reference: PHC/08/08

Date: 11th June 2008

DRUG ALERT MEDICINES RECALL

Dear Healthcare Professional

ENOXAPARIN SODIUM("CLEXANE") PRE-FILLED SYRINGES

Correction to advice from Sanofi Aventis issued with PHC/06/08 on 9 June 2008 for pregnant patients and advice on selective purchasing and the impact on future supplies

Batch Numbers of uncontaminated Clexane suitable for pregnant patients

The letter attached to Drug Alert PHC/06/08 listed four batch numbers of uncontaminated 40mg Clexane pre-filled syringes recommended for supply to pregnant patients. The list included batch 04251 which we now understand has never been produced or distributed.

Batch 04351 should replace batch 04251 in the list previously circulated.

Sanofi Aventis wish to apologise for this error which we understand was present in both data supplied to the MHRA and their own communications.

Purchasing Advice

We understand that some purchasers are trying to purchase stocks of Clexane pre-filled syringes that are free from OSCS contamination for all their patients. Present advice from the MHRA and CHM is that uncontaminated Clexane should be supplied to pregnant patients as a priority group.

Widespread requests for uncontaminated stocks of Clexane for use in non-pregnant patients by sub-cutaneous administration could result in supply shortages over the next few months. Purchasers are requested to refrain from selective purchasing except for pregnant patients or if there is a special clinical need.

We have previously published the CHM advice that contaminated Clexane pre-filled syringes should be avoided in intravenous and arterial administration if possible. This advice is still valid but only affects a small number of patients.

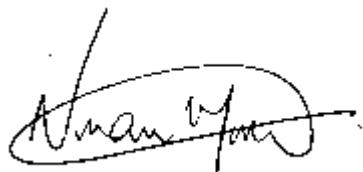
Further Enquiries

If you have any medical information enquiries please contact Sanofi-Aventis medical information department on 0800 281973.

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
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