



Department of

**Health, Social Services  
and Public Safety**

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AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta  
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÄNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydènter Heisin  
an Fowk Siccar**

From The Chief Pharmaceutical Officer  
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**For Action:** Directors of Pharmaceutical Services of the HSC Board & BSO  
Directors of Pharmaceutical Services of HSC Trusts  
Regional Quality Improvement Authority

Our reference: PHC/16/09

Date: 15 June 2009

## **DRUG ALERT**

### **CAUTION IN USE**

**For distribution to physicians, pharmacists and wholesalers**

**Sanofi-aventis  
Priadel Liquid  
(Lithium Citrate Liquid)  
PL 04425/0354**

It has been brought to our attention that the current labelling for Priadel Liquid is confusing and may lead to overdosing if misinterpreted. The statement of active content on the front panel and some other panels of the carton and in large print on the bottle label is given as follows:

Priadel  
200mg/5ml  
Lithium Citrate.

The 200mg/5ml refers to the equivalent lithium carbonate content. **The actual lithium citrate content of the liquid is 520mg/5ml and doses should be calculated on that basis.**

The active content is stated correctly in the small print on the back panel of the carton and in the small print on the bottle label.

To avoid stock disruption, distribution of affected stock will continue. Corrected packaging is being produced and will be supplied to the market by early September 2009. Once the corrected packaging is available, distribution of product in affected packaging will cease.

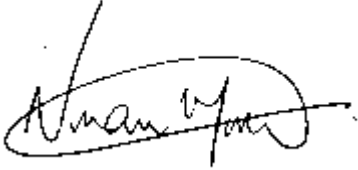
#### **Further information**

For further enquiries please telephone Sanofi-aventis Medical Information on 01483 505515

HSC Board/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 Business Services Organisation 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  
NICPLD