



Department of  
**Health, Social Services  
and Public Safety**

[www.dhsspsni.gov.uk](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta  
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÄNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydènter Heisin  
an Fowk Siccar**

From The Chief Pharmaceutical Officer  
Dr Norman Morrow  
Castle Buildings  
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Our Ref: PHC/34/09

Date: 18 November 2009

**For Action:** Assistant Director Pharmacy and Medicines Management  
HSC Board & BSO  
Directors of Pharmaceutical Services of HSC Trusts  
Regional Quality Improvement Authority

## **DRUG ALERT MEDICINES RECALL**

Dear Healthcare Professional

**Pinewood Laboratories Limited**

**Boots Heartburn Relief Peppermint Flavour**

**PL 04917/0027**

**Peptac Peppermint Liquid (Ivax Pharmaceuticals UK)**

**PL 04917/0027**

**Peptac Liquid Aniseed Flavour (Ivax Pharmaceuticals UK)**

**PL 04917/0021**

**(Oral suspensions containing sodium alginate 250mg, sodium bicarbonate 133.5mg and calcium carbonate 80mg per 5ml)**

**Boots Heartburn Relief Peppermint Flavour**

<b>Batch Number</b>	<b>Expiry Date</b>	<b>Pack Size</b>	<b>First Distributed</b>
41808	31/12/2010	500ml bottle	June 2009

**Peptac Peppermint Liquid (Ivax Pharmaceuticals UK livery)**

<b>Batch Number</b>	<b>Expiry Date</b>	<b>Pack Size</b>	<b>First Distributed</b>
41808	31/12/2010	500ml bottle	February 2009
41957	31/01/2011	500ml bottle	March 2009

**Peptac Liquid Aniseed Flavour (Ivax Pharmaceuticals UK livery)**

<b>Batch Number</b>	<b>Expiry Date</b>	<b>Pack Size</b>	<b>First Distributed</b>
41757	30/11/2010	500ml bottle	March 2009

Pinewood Laboratories Limited are recalling the above lots due to a low-level microbial contamination detected in a small number of samples from these batches. The contamination causes spoilage of the product and a phenolic or antiseptic smell. The products should smell of peppermint or aniseed.

The microbial contamination is not likely to be harmful to normally healthy consumers. However, if these products are being used by patients with suppressed immune systems, such as patients on chemotherapy, the risk of infection and other adverse reactions cannot be ruled out. General Practitioners or Pharmacists receiving enquiries from such patients are requested to give professional advice and refer to the responsible treatment centre where necessary.

For Medical Information enquiries, please call Pinewood Laboratories Limited on 00353 52 6136253.

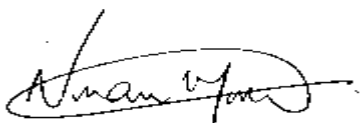
For any other queries relating to the Boots product, please contact Central Customer Care on 08450 708090.

For all queries relating to stock of the Ivax products please contact: Jane Booth, Customer Liaison manager, Teva UK Limited on Freephone 0800 590502

HSC Board/RQIA should bring this information to the attention of private hospitals/clinics registered with them 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



**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