



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  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast BT4 3SJ

Telephone: 028 90 523219  
Facsimile: 028 90 522335

E-Mail: [norman.morrow@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:norman.morrow@dhsspsni.gov.uk)

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

Our Ref: PHC/35/09

Date: 20 November 2009

## **DRUG ALERT MEDICINES RECALL**

Dear Healthcare Professional

Proctor & Gamble (Health & Beauty Care) Ltd

Vicks Sinex Micromist  
(Oxymetazoline Hydrochloride 0.05% w/v aqueous nasal spray solution)

PL 00129/0133

Batch Number	Expiry Date	Pack Size	First Distributed
9224028832	12/08/2013	15ml Nasal Spray	26 August 2009

Proctor & Gamble (Health & Beauty Care) Ltd are recalling the above batch due to the detection during routine testing of microbial contamination in a small amount of product from another batch in the USA which was derived from the same bulk batch (ie pre-packed product). The company's analysis to date shows this problem is limited to a single batch of bulk involving three packed batches, only one of which is a UK batch.

No microbial contamination has been detected in UK packs from batch 9224028832, but the marketing authorisation holder wishes to recall this batch as a precautionary measure whilst testing is ongoing and the causes are being investigated.

We understand that the bacteria identified in the USA samples are *Burkholderia cepacia*. There have been no reports of illness. However, the bacteria could cause serious infections for individuals with a compromised immune system, or those with chronic lung conditions, such as cystic fibrosis. *Burkholderia cepacia* poses little medical risk to healthy individuals.

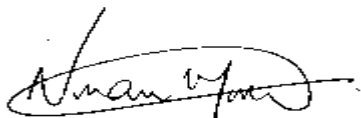
For medical information enquiries, please call Proctor & Gamble on 0800 555515

For queries relating to stock return please contact your Wholesaler/Head Office. If further information is required, please contact Proctor & Gamble on 0800 555515.

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 Service 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