



**IMMEDIATE MESSAGE TO:**

1. Directors of Pharmacy
2. Medical Directors NHS Boards

6 July 2018

Dear Healthcare Professional

**DRUG ALERT CLASS 1 no 11 2018 – MEDICINES RECALL IMMEDIATE ACTION NOW**

Please see attached drug alert for onward transmission as below.

Could all Directors of Pharmacy please forward this alert to:-

- Community Pharmacists
- Hospital Pharmacists
- Primary Care Pharmacists

Please could Medical directors forward this alert to:-

- General Practitioners
- Directors of Public Health
- Relevant Clinics
- Chief Executives of NHS Boards

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely

John Hannah  
Pharmacy and Medicines Division



# DRUG ALERT

## CLASS 1 MEDICINES RECALL

Action Now – including out of hours  
Pharmacy Level Recall

Date: 5 July 2018

EL (18)A/11

Our Ref: MDR 094-06/18

Dear Healthcare Professional,

<b>VALSARTAN 40MG CAPSULES, HARD</b>	<b>DEXCEL PHARMA LIMITED</b>	<b>PL 14017/0192</b>
<b>VALSARTAN 80MG CAPSULES, HARD</b>	<b>DEXCEL PHARMA LIMITED</b>	<b>PL 14017/0193</b>
<b>VALSARTAN 160MG CAPSULES, HARD</b>	<b>DEXCEL PHARMA LIMITED</b>	<b>PL 14017/0194</b>
<b>VALSARTAN 40MG FILM-COATED TABLETS</b>	<b>ACTAVIS GROUP PTC EHF</b>	<b>PL 30306/0109</b>
<b>VALSARTAN 80MG FILM-COATED TABLETS</b>	<b>ACTAVIS GROUP PTC EHF</b>	<b>PL 30306/0110</b>
<b>VALSARTAN 160MG FILM-COATED TABLETS</b>	<b>ACTAVIS GROUP PTC EHF</b>	<b>PL 30306/0111</b>
<b>VALSARTAN 320MG FILM-COATED TABLETS</b>	<b>ACTAVIS GROUP PTC EHF</b>	<b>PL 30306/0405</b>

### Brief description of the problem

All batches of the above products are being recalled from pharmacies as a precautionary measure at a European level. This is due to possible contamination with an impurity N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) which has genotoxic and carcinogenic potential.

This is an emerging issue; the MHRA is actively involved with the European Medicines Agency and with other medicines regulators to determine any possible impact.

### Healthcare professionals and wholesalers

Stop supplying the products listed above immediately. Quarantine all remaining stock and return it to your supplier using your supplier's approved process.

If you receive queries about this issue from patients, encourage them not to stop taking their medication. They should speak to their doctor to help identify alternatives.

An investigation into other potentially impacted products is currently being undertaken and further updates will be provided as the investigation progresses.

**Company contacts for further information**

**Dexcel:**

Cheryl Haynes – Responsible Person  
[cheryl.haynes@dexcel.com](mailto:cheryl.haynes@dexcel.com)  
Telephone: 01327 314830 or 07827 895061

**Actavis (now Accord):**

- For Actavis stock control: Customer Services Team on 0800 373573
- For medical information enquires please contact Accord Medical Information on 01271 385257

Recipients of this Drug Alert should bring it to the attention of relevant contacts by copy of this letter. NHS regional teams are asked to forward this to relevant clinics, general practitioners, hospitals and community pharmacists for information.

Yours faithfully

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