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IMMEDIATE MESSAGE TO:

1. Directors of Pharmacy
2. Medical Directors NHS Boards

3 January 2019

Dear Healthcare Professional,

DRUG ALERT CLASS 2 no 01 2019 – ACTION WITHIN 48 HOURS

Actavis Group Ptc Ehf, Irbesartan /Hydrochlorothiazide 300 / 12.5mg Film-Coated Tablets; Irbesartan / Hydrochlorothiazide 150 / 12.5mg Film-Coated Tablets

Please see the 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
- Accident & Emergency Departments
- Directors of Public Health
- Relevant Clinics
- Chief Executives of NHS Board

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Alison Strath
Principal Pharmaceutical Officer
Pharmacy and Medicines Division



DRUG ALERT

CLASS 2 MEDICINES RECALL

Action Within 48 Hours
Pharmacy and Wholesaler Level Recall

Date: 03/01/2019

EL (19) A/01

Our Ref: MDR 94-06/18

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Actavis Group PTC EHF

Irbesartan / Hydrochlorothiazide 300 / 12.5mg Film-coated Tablets, PL 30306/0266

Batch Number	Expiry Date	Pack Size	First Distributed
059118	31/03/2020	1 x 28	17/09/2018
099218	31/03/2020	1 x 28	04/10/2018
191418	31/05/2020	1 x 28	25/10/2018

Irbesartan / Hydrochlorothiazide 150 / 12.5mg Film-coated Tablets, PL 30306/0265

Batch Number	Expiry Date	Pack Size	First Distributed
150118	30/04/2020	1 x 28	12/09/2018

Actavis Group PTC EHF is recalling the above batches from pharmacies as a precautionary measure due to possible contamination with N-nitrosodiethylamine (NDEA).

Healthcare Professionals and wholesalers

- Stop supplying the above batches 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, advise them not to stop taking their medication as the health risk of discontinuing the medicine is higher than the potential risk presented by the contaminant. A treatment review is not necessary until the next routine appointment.
- We do not anticipate any shortages of Irbesartan containing products. It is possible, however, that there may be some local supply issues, in which case patients should be advised to speak to their doctor to discuss alternative treatments.

This is a developing issue and the MHRA is actively involved with the European Medicines Agency and with other medicines regulators to determine any possible impact. An investigation into other potentially impacted products is continuing and further updates will be provided as the investigation progresses.



Company contacts for further information

- For Actavis (now Accord) 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 and community pharmacists.

Yours faithfully

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