



April 28, 2008

Actavis recalls all lots of heart drugs Bertek and Digitek

On April 25 Actavis Totowa, the United States manufacturing division of the Actavis group, initiated a class 1 recall of Digitek (digoxin) all strengths for oral use. The products are also distributed under the Bertek label by Mylan Pharmaceuticals and UDL. This voluntary recall is due to the possibility that tablets with double the appropriate thickness may have been commercially released. Those tablets may contain twice the approved level of active ingredient than is appropriate. Double strength tablets may pose a risk of toxicity in patients with renal failure. Digitalis toxicity can cause nausea, vomiting, dizziness, low blood pressure, cardiac instability and bradycardia (abnormally slow heart beat). Death can also result from excessive Digitalis intake. Several reports of illness and injuries have been received. Digitek is used to treat heart failure and abnormal heart rhythms.

In response to this event Medco is:

- Contacting prescribers for all incoming prescriptions sent to Medco By Mail (new and refills) to obtain an alternate for Digitek/Bertek.
- Sending letters to all Medco By Mail patients who have filled a prescription for Digitek or Bertek in the past 120 days, informing them of the recall and of the need to contact their healthcare provider. Medco started mailing those letters on Monday, April 28. Medco is also reaching out to members through web messaging and automated telephone calls as appropriate.
- Posting a point-of-sale (POS) message to retail pharmacists. That message will cause claims for Digitek to reject and advise pharmacists of the recall.
- Posting a Web alert that will appear to customers refilling prescriptions for Digitek or Bertek through medco.com.
- Removing Digitek from all Standard RRA drug lists.

According to Actavis, any customer inquiries related to this action should be addressed to Stericycle customer service at 1-888-276-6166 with representatives available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET. Additional information about the voluntary recall can also be found at www.actavis.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact your Medco Account Management Team.

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