



Compliance Alert

October 19, 2006

Compliance Alert, provided by Group Benefit Services, gives you the most up to date information regarding industry news as well as legislation and regulatory activities affecting your health plan.

TOPIC: EMERGING THERAPEUTIC ISSUE FROM ESI

Issue

Recently, LifeScan has discovered several incidents of counterfeit OneTouch Ultra® and OnceTouch (Basic®/Profile®) test strips for use in various models of LifeScan's OnceTouch brand glucose monitors. Use of the counterfeit test strips could result in erratic, inaccurate results which may lead to improper treatment. According to LifeScan, the outer cartons of the recently discovered counterfeit test strips have all of the following characteristics:

OneTouch Ultra Test Strips

- Multiple Languages - **English and French** text on the outer carton;
- Lot Number **2691191** (located on outer carton and vial);
- Limited to 50-Count OneTouch Ultra Test Strip packages.

OneTouch (Basic/Profile) Test Strips

- Multiple Languages - **English, Greek and Portuguese** text on the outer carton;
- Lot Numbers **272894A, 2619932 or 2606340** (located on outer carton and vial);
- Limited to 50-Count OneTouch (Basic/Profile) Test Strip packages.

If a patient has counterfeit test strips, LifeScan recommends that they discontinue use of these test strips, replace them immediately and contact their physician. In addition, they should call LifeScan at **1.866.621.4855**. Anyone who discovers counterfeit products should also file a report with FDA's MedWatch program by calling **1.800.FDA.1088** or visiting: <http://www.fda.gov/medwatch/What.htm>

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Express Scripts response:

- Express Scripts has identified patients who have filled a prescription for a 50 count bottle of LifeScan's OneTouch Ultra and OneTouch (Basic/Profile) test strips within the past 120 days. A communication summarizing the availability of counterfeit product will be sent to these patients.
- The above patient communication will only be distributed for those clients enrolled in the patient mailing portion of the Emerging Therapeutic Issues Program.
- Express Scripts Mail Service Pharmacies receive supplies of OneTouch test strips from Cardinal, an authorized LifeScan distributor. Therefore, this intervention will not impact patients who use Express Scripts mail facilities.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Group Benefit Services Account Manager at 1.800.638.6085.

This communication is not intended to be legal advice and should not be construed as legal advice. If you have any legal questions or concerns about your plan, GBS recommends seeking counsel from an ERISA attorney.

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