

Compliance Alert

April 24 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

Recently, Valeant Pharmaceuticals announced that several complaints have been received for Diastat® AcuDial^(tm) (diazepam rectal gel) pre-filled syringes. These reports indicate that small cracks have been identified at the base of the plastic tip of the syringe. The product may leak out from a crack when it is used, resulting in the patient receiving less than a full dose of the medicine. The skin may also get pinched in the crack when used.

Valeant Pharmaceuticals is recommending that patients check their current product to ensure that they have a good one ready to use, if needed. Patients should also continue to check their syringes, as the cracks may appear over time. Any product with a crack should immediately be returned to the pharmacy for a replacement.

Reports have only been received for the 10mg and 20mg Diastat® AcuDial^(tm) syringes. Valeant Pharmaceuticals is working to correct the problem, but new syringes will not be available until June or July 2006. Therefore, the old pre-filled syringes will continue to be dispensed, because there is no similar product available for use in the home to treat sudden increased seizures.

Express Scripts Response:

- In an effort to inform patients of this notification, we have identified patients who may have received a prescription for Diastat® AcuDial^(tm) 10 and 20 mg syringes within the past 120 days. We will send a communication to these patients, summarizing the information provided by Valeant Pharmaceuticals.
- The above communication will only be distributed for those clients enrolled in the patient-mailing portion of the Emerging Therapeutic Issues Program.

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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- All patients using Express Scripts Mail Service Pharmacies to fill a prescription for Diastat® AcuDial^(tm) 10mg or 20mg syringes will also receive a letter, providing them with the latest information about the FDA alert. This communication will also contain contact information in the event a product has to be returned for replacement.

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

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