

Celexa[®] (citalopram) and Proscar[®] (finasteride) Select Bottles Voluntary Recall

IMPORTANT NOTICE

On March 26, 2011 Greenstone LLC announced a patient-level voluntary recall of citalopram and finasteride bottles marked with lot number FI0510058-A due to a potential mislabeling of the medications by a third-party manufacturer. In particular, the recall indicates that bottles labeled as citalopram 10 mg tablets may in fact contain finasteride 5 mg tablets. Greenstone LLC indicates that only the lot number mentioned above is believed to be affected and that no other lot numbers are being recalled at this time.

Greenstone and the FDA are recommending that patients who believe they may have ingested the affected medications should contact their prescriber as soon as possible. Abrupt discontinuation of citalopram by inadvertent use of finasteride may lead to a worsening of depression and/or the development of medication withdrawal symptoms such as fatigue, abdominal pain, dizziness/light-headedness, and chills. Accidental use or handling of finasteride by women who are, or may become pregnant, may lead to side effects such as alterations to the genitalia of male fetuses.

BACKGROUND

Occasionally utilized in workers' compensation patients, citalopram is an antidepressant of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) class FDA indicated for the treatment of depression. The use of citalopram is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to citalopram or any of its constituents and in patients utilizing monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or the antipsychotic, pimozide. Finasteride is genitor-urinary/anti-androgen agent FDA approved for the treatment of male pattern hair loss and/or an enlarged prostate. The use of finasteride is not typically seen in workers' compensation cases.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Due to the patient-level nature of this recall, consumers are encouraged to contact their prescriber or a healthcare provider if they experience any complications or adverse effects they feel may be related to using these products. Bottles of either agent with lot number FI050058-A should be returned to the pharmacy where the products were dispensed. Any adverse effects believed to be related to the accidental use of these products should be reported to Pfizer at 1.800.438.1985 and/or the FDA's MedWatch program at www.fda.gov/medwatch/report.htm.

A review of PMSI's transactional data since December 2010 indicates that no injured workers received the identified products with the affected lot number.



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CONCLUSION

This PMSI Drug Advisory is made available by our clinical pharmacist team to provide you pertinent drug information and identify the potential impact on your injured workers' care and your costs. As your pharmacy partner, PMSI understands the importance of staying on top of breaking news in the pharmaceutical arena and keeping you informed. We will continue to monitor and regularly communicate our proactive response to FDA recommendations to help protect your interests.

DISCLAIMER

This publication is provided as reference material and is based in part on information derived from third parties. PMSI does not assume liability or responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of any third-party material in this document. The information contained herein should not be construed as an endorsement of any kind. This document is advisory in nature only and does not replace sound clinical judgment or individualized patient care in the delivery of drug therapy.

REFERENCES

Greenstone Announces Voluntary Nationwide Recall of Citalopram and Finasteride Due to Possible Mislabeling. FDA: Recalls, Markets Withdrawals, and Safety Alerts. <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm248552.htm> <Accessed March 29, 2011>

PMSI—Proven Solutions for Cost Containment. Founded in 1976, PMSI is a leader in developing solutions to control the growth of medical costs in workers' compensation. As one of the nation's largest and most experienced companies focused solely on workers' compensation, we deliver proven solutions for cost containment across the claims lifecycle. PMSI's Pharmacy, Medical Services and Equipment, and Settlement Solutions products deliver quantifiable results and improve the quality of care for injured workers. We provide our customers with the innovation, focus, expertise, analytics and technology needed to successfully deliver workers' compensation benefits.