Nevada State Health Division
Technical Bulletin

Topic: Multi-state Outbreak of Meningitis following Epidural Injections
Section/Program/Contact: Office of Public Health Informatics and Epidemiology
Date: October 22, 2012

TO: All Nevada Health Care Providers

The Nevada State Health Division, in collaboration with the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, the Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy, recommends all health care professionals cease using any products and/or medications from New England Compounding Center (NECC), all of which have been recalled. These products and/or medications should be returned to NECC.

Only one Nevada health care provider received any of the three lots of preservative-free methylprednisolone acetate identified or suspected as contaminated. None of those products were delivered to patients. Nevertheless, in the interest of public safety and in conjunction with the ongoing investigation of NECC, all products and/or medications from NECC are being recalled. For a complete list of NECC products, refer to www.fda.gov.

Clinicians should contact any patient who has had a spinal or joint injection after May 21, 2012 using any of the three recalled lots (listed below) of preservative-free methylprednisolone acetate to determine if they are having symptoms. Symptoms that should prompt diagnostic evaluation include fever, new or worsening headache, neck stiffness, sensitivity to light, new weakness or numbness, increasing pain, or redness or swelling at the injection site. Some patients who have been diagnosed with fungal meningitis have been mild, and not classic, meningitis. These patients have exhibited new or worsening headache without fever or neck stiffness.

- Methylprednisolone Acetate (PF) 80 mg/ml Injection, Lot #05212012@68, BUD 11/17/2012 (suspected to be contaminated)
- Methylprednisolone Acetate (PF) 80 mg/ml Injection, Lot #06292012@26, BUD 12/26/2012 (suspected to be contaminated)
- Methylprednisolone Acetate (PF) 80 mg/ml Injection, Lot #08102012@51, BUD 2/6/2013 (confirmed to be contaminated)

The Nevada State Health Division also seeks your assistance in assessing whether you have any products that have been produced by NECC. The following links are provided to assist you in identifying products that have been recalled and to provide information on patient follow-up.
http://www.fda.gov/drugs/drugsafety/ucm322734.htm
http://cdc.gov/HAI/outbreaks/meningitis.html

Additional questions may be directed to your local health authority:
Nevada State Health Division, Office of Public Health Informatics and Epidemiology: 775 684 5911
Southern Nevada Health District: 702 759 1000
Washoe County Health District: 775 328 2400
Carson City Health and Human Services: 775 887 2190

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