

# Public Health Link

from the Chief Medical Officer for Wales

<b>Distribution:</b>	As Appendix 2
<b>From:</b>	Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, Andrew Evans
<b>Date:</b>	26 April 2019
<b>Reference:</b>	CEM/CPhA/2019/11
<b>Category:</b>	Class 4 - For Information
<b>Title:</b>	DRUG ALERT CLASS 4, FOR INFORMATION, GENETHICS EUROPE LTD (DISTRIBUTED BY GENESIS PHARMACEUTICALS LTD), PREDNISOLONE 5MG TABLETS
<b>For Action by:</b>	<p>Dispensing GPs - please ensure this message is seen by all working in your dispensary and retain a copy in your 'locum information pack'.</p> <p>Community Pharmacists</p> <p>Hospital pharmacies</p>
<b>For Information:</b>	See Annex 2 – Distribution List
<b>What is this about:</b>	Full details are set out below.
<b>Why has it been sent:</b>	For your information, action and to pass on to colleagues.

## Issue:

Genesis Pharmaceuticals Ltd has informed us that there is an error on the Braille of some batches of the above product where the strength reads as 1mg instead of 5mg.

## **Appendix 1**

- To: Chief Executives of Health Boards and NHS Trusts
- To: Medical Directors of Health Boards
- To: Nurse Directors Health Boards
- To: Directors of Public Health
- To: Hospital Principals and Chief Pharmacists to action as per alert

**To: NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership to forward to:**

All General practitioners - please ensure this message is seen by all practice nurses and non-principals working in your practice and retain a copy in your 'locum information pack'.

All Community Pharmacists

Deputising services

HB Prescribing Advisers

Independent/Private clinics and Hospitals and Hospices throughout Wales



## DRUG ALERT

### CLASS 4 MEDICINES DEFECT INFORMATION

Caution in Use  
Distribute to Pharmacy Level

Date: 26 April 2019

EL (19) A/11

Our Ref: MDR 61-04/19

Dear Healthcare Professional,

**Genethics Europe Ltd (Distributed by Genesis Pharmaceuticals Ltd)**

**Prednisolone 5mg Tablets**

**PL 42967/0037**

Batch Number	Expiry Date	Pack Size	First Distributed
1809653	08/2021	1 x 28	28/01/2019
1809654	08/2021	1 x 28	28/01/2019
1809655	08/2021	1 x 28	30/01/2019
1809656	08/2021	1 x 28	06/02/2019
1809657	08/2021	1 x 28	26/02/2019

#### Brief description of the problem

Genesis Pharmaceuticals Ltd has informed us that there is an error on the Braille for the above batches which means that the strength reads as 1mg instead of 5mg. The printed text is correct on all packaging.

#### Advice for healthcare professionals

There is a risk to patients who have compromised eye-sight and who rely solely on Braille to determine their tablet strength. **Packs from the above distributor with the above batch numbers should not be dispensed to patients who rely solely on Braille.** We understand that alternative batches of the product are available from a number of suppliers.

#### Further Information

For further information please contact Genesis Pharmaceuticals Ltd, tel. 020 7201 0400

Recipients of this Drug Alert should bring it to the attention of relevant contacts by copy of this letter. NHS regional teams are asked to forward this to community pharmacists and dispensing general practitioners for information.

Yours faithfully

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