

ISDH Long Term Care
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ISDH Long Term Care Survey Areas

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) has implemented changes to our long term care survey structure. The ISDH has previously been organized into seven survey areas for its nursing home survey program. The ISDH has now increased the number of nursing home survey areas to ten. Attached is a [map](#) of the new survey areas and a [roster](#) of surveyor assignments.

The ISDH has several goals in this change. First, the Division of Long Term Care has fully implemented training for the CMS Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) Process. The additional supervisors provides surveyors with additional support and resources in utilizing the QIS process. Second, with staff turnover resulting from retirements and expanding employment opportunities in health care, the Division wanted to ensure sufficient supervisor support for our survey staff to assist in maintaining survey quality and consistency. Third, by decreasing the size of the survey areas, the ISDH will reduce our travel costs through fewer miles and fewer overnight stays.

QMA Certification Renewals

The ISDH would like to advise health care facilities of a coming change in the qualified medication aide (QMA) certification renewal process. The 2013 QMA renewal is quickly approaching. Those renewals will follow the same process as in previous years.

Beginning with the 2014 renewal cycle, the ISDH will be changing the documentation process. QMAs are required to use the *In-Service Training Record* to track and report their training. For renewals that will occur in 2014, the ISDH will accept only original copies of the *In-Service Training Record*. This means that original signatures will be required. Copies, emails, faxes, or scans will not be acceptable. QMAs and facilities should prepare accordingly as they begin their next round of annual in-service trainings in preparation for 2014 renewals. The purpose of this change is to better ensure authenticity of records.

Recalls and Advisories

Zicam Extreme Congestion Relief Nasal Gel: Recall - Contamination With Burkholderia Cepacia

Posted 12/19/2012

ISSUE: Matrixx Initiatives notified the public of a recall of one lot of Zicam Extreme Congestion Relief nasal gel. Burkholderia cepacia was found in a single sample of the product taken from the affected lot. The problem was detected during a routine review at the manufacturing facility. Tests on additional samples from the same lot have shown no evidence of the organism.

Burkholderia cepacia poses little medical risk to healthy individuals. However, Burkholderia cepacia in a nasal spray could cause upper airway colonization and secondarily lead to respiratory infections in individuals with a compromised immune system or those with chronic lung conditions, such as cystic fibrosis. The organism is resistant to many antibiotics and may be difficult to eradicate in this sensitive population if an infection occurs.

The affected lot is 2J23, Expiration 09/15.

BACKGROUND: The product is a non-drip liquid nasal gel used as a nasal decongestant and is packaged in a 0.5 oz. spray bottle contained in an outer carton, bearing NDC number 62750-005-10. The product was distributed to retailers nationwide throughout the United States.

RECOMMENDATION: Matrixx is notifying its distributors and retail customers by FEDEX letter and by phone and is arranging for return of all recalled products. Consumers that have the affected lot of Zicam Extreme Congestion Relief nasal gel should stop using the product and contact Matrixx. See the Press Release for additional information.

Heparin: Drug Safety Communication - Important change to heparin container labels to clearly state the total drug strength

December 6, 2012

ISSUE: FDA is notifying health care professionals, caregivers, and patients about a change to the container and carton labels for heparin products.

This label change will require manufacturers of Heparin Lock Flush Solution, USP and Heparin Sodium Injection, USP to clearly state the strength of the entire container of the medication followed by how much of the medication is in 1 milliliter (mL). These modifications will eliminate the need for health care professionals to calculate the total amount of heparin medication in a product containing more than 1 mL, thereby reducing the risk of miscalculations that may result in medication errors.

BACKGROUND: Heparin is used to prevent blood clots from forming in people who have certain medical conditions or who are undergoing certain medical procedures that may increase the chance that clots will form, or to stop the growth of clots that have already formed in the blood vessels and to prevent blood clots from forming in catheters that are left in veins over a period of time.

RECOMMENDATION: Health care professionals, caregivers, and patients should be aware that there will be a transition period before and after the official implementation date on May 1, 2013, during which both the current heparin container labels and the revised heparin container labels will be available in the marketplace. To minimize the potential for medication errors, users should consider separating the supplies of "current" and "revised" labeled heparin, and use all of the supplies of the "current" heparin before using products with the "revised" container label.

Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets by Ranbaxy Inc.: Recall - Presence of Foreign Substance

Posted 11/28/2012

ISSUE : On November 9, 2012, Ranbaxy Inc. initiated a voluntary recall of 41 affected lots of Atorvastatin

Calcium Tablets (10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg) which is a solid oral dosage form, to the retail level. The Company is taking this voluntary action as a precautionary measure due to the fact that we cannot exclude the possibility that the affected lots may contain very small glass particles resembling a fine grain of sand (less than 1 mm in size). Because of the size of the particles which may be present in the affected lots it is unlikely to cause a significant safety concern. However, the possibility of adverse experiences arising primarily due to physical irritation cannot be ruled out.

BACKGROUND: The product is used to lower blood cholesterol and is packaged in plastic bottles, as 90 and 500 tablets per bottle. The affected lots of Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets and their respective NDC code, expiration date information can be found in the Firm Press Release. The recall does not affect or relate to the 80 mg dosage strength of Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets.

RECOMMENDATION: Consumers should immediately contact their physician or healthcare provider if they have experienced any problems that may be related to taking or using this drug product.

Statewide Community Health Website Launches

IndianaIndicators.org provides health-related state, county level data

December 19, 2012

INDIANAPOLIS-The Indiana State Department of Health, Indiana Hospital Association and Indiana Business Research Center today unveiled a website designed to help hospitals, local health departments, non-profit organizations and the public access health-related data at the state and county level.

IndianaIndicators.org provides the most current Indiana health information based on more than 90 key indicators including community health, the economy, education, environment and public safety.

"The INdicators website is an example of how pockets of information can be put together in a meaningful way to see a bigger picture," said State Health Commissioner Gregory Larkin, M.D. "The site will help us to better understand trends and to evaluate public health interventions as we track the information collected over time. Our hope is that it will be especially useful to public health entities as we move toward accreditation in Indiana."

Nonprofit hospitals are required to carry out community health needs assessments and community health improvement plans to meet their community benefit requirements, as are local health departments applying for public health accreditation. The data and information on IndianaIndicators.org can be used to help perform and guide these efforts.

"Improving public health is the joint commitment of every Indiana hospital, the state and community leaders," said Doug Leonard, Indiana Hospital Association president. "The new website is one more resource for health care leaders and the public to work together to make positive improvements in the health care delivery system."

Features include:

- Comparisons of statewide and local indicator values to state and national health goals
- Relevant state plans, community health needs assessment and community health improvement plan guidance
- Mapping features for viewing data at the county, township and school district levels
- Demographic profiles for viewing data at the county, metro and health preparedness district levels
- Promising practices from across the nation that communities can implement based on health needs assessments

"The Indiana INdicators website offers a wide array of tools and data to help users understand their community's performance and progress toward being a healthy place to live and work," said Dr. Jerry Conover, director of the Indiana Business Research Center.

To learn more, visit the Indiana INdicators website at www.IndianaINdicators.org.

QAPI and INdicators

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is preparing for the release of Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) for nursing homes in 2013. As part of QAPI, providers are generally expected to assess healthcare needs and plan for quality improvements in the promotion of public health. That assessment may need to include community health, economy, education, environment, and public safety factors. In planning for a QAPI project, providers are expected to identify measurable outcomes. The INdicators website may be an important tool for health care providers in potentially identifying community measures in support of a QAPI plan.