

Ethex Corporation Product Recall

On January 29, 2009 ETHEX Corporation, a subsidiary of KV Pharmaceutical, issued a nationwide voluntary recall of two generic drug products, hydromorphone HCl and metoprolol succinate, to the retailer level.

This is a precautionary measure because these drugs may have been manufactured under conditions that did not sufficiently comply with current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMPs). Some of these products have had specific lots recalled in December of 2008 due to defects found, including oversized tablets delivering higher than labeled doses. These additional products are being removed to assure that no other defective products remain in the marketplace.

It is important to note that these two generic products are two of many various generic formulations of hydromorphone HCl and metoprolol succinate. Only those products manufactured by ETHEX Corporation have been recalled.

Members who may have these medicines in their possession should continue to take them in accordance with their prescriptions, as the risk of suddenly stopping needed medication may place patients at risk. Patients should contact their physician or healthcare provider if they have experienced any problems that may be related to taking or using these products, or to obtain replacement medications or prescriptions.

Questions about the recall should be addressed to ETHEX Customer Service at 1.800.748.1472, faxed to ETHEX Customer Service at 314.646.3788, or e-mailed to customer-service@ethex.com.

In response to this event, FutureScripts/FutureScripts Secure is:

- Posting a point-of-sale (POS) message to retail pharmacists. Claims for any of the affected drugs will reject at the point of sale with the following message: "NDC NOT ON FILE".
- Overriding refill-too-soon rejections for members needing replacement medications
- Posting a Web Alert for our members and providers on www.futurescripts.com

References:

Food and Drug Administration website. Available at www.fda.gov. Accessed January 30, 2009.