Batch recall of four losartan-containing pharmaceutical products (with photos)

The Department of Health (DH) today (March 11) endorsed a licensed drug wholesaler, Hind Wing Co Ltd (Hind Wing), to recall four products, involving seven batches, containing losartan from the market as a precautionary measure due to the potential for an impurity in the products.

The affected products are:

Product	Hong Kong Registration Number	Batch Number
Apo-Losartan Tablets 50mg	HK-61932	NK 1253
Apo-Losartan Tablets 100mg	HK-61933	NG 2092 NH 5932 NL 1460
Apo-Losartan/HCTZ Tablets 50mg/12.5mg	HK-62635	NZ 8848 NL 1441
Apo-Losartan/HCTZ Tablets 100mg/25mg	HK-62634	NZ 8845

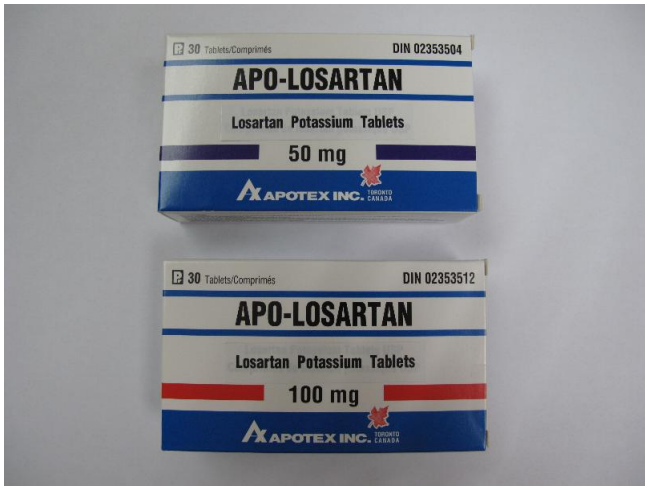
Through its surveillance system, the DH noted that Health Canada (the Canadian regulatory authority) is advising that multiple lots of losartan-containing products are being voluntarily recalled because of the potential for an impurity, N-Nitroso-N-methyl-4-aminobutyric acid (NMBA). NMBA is a potential human carcinogen.

Losartan-containing products are prescription medicines used to treat hypertension. According to Hind Wing, the affected batches of the above products have been supplied to private doctors and pharmacies.

"So far, the DH has not received any adverse reactions related to the above affected products," a DH spokesman said.

Hind Wing has set up a hotline (2541 5731) to answer related enquiries. The DH will closely monitor the recall.

The spokesman advises that patients who are taking the above products should not stop taking the medicines, but should seek advice from their healthcare professionals for appropriate arrangement.


30 Tablets/Comprimés
DIN 02353504
APO-LOSARTAN
Losartan Potassium Tablets
50 mg
APOTEX INC.
TORONTO CANADA
30 Tablets/Comprimés
DIN 02353512
APO-LOSARTAN
Losartan Potassium Tablets
100 mg
APOTEX INC.
TORONTO CANADA