Issue Date: 30th November 2017

SAFETY ALERT NOTICE.

Nifedipine (Adalat)

Identified Issue / Concern / Problem/ Evidence of harm.

Nifedipine is indicated for use as a tocolytic agent in maternity with a prolapsed cord.

The standard dose is 20mg PO which must be a fast acting form.

There are only two formulations which are fast acting licenced in Ireland (10mg & 5mg) and DFB/NAS intends that only 10mg Soft Capsules are to be administered.

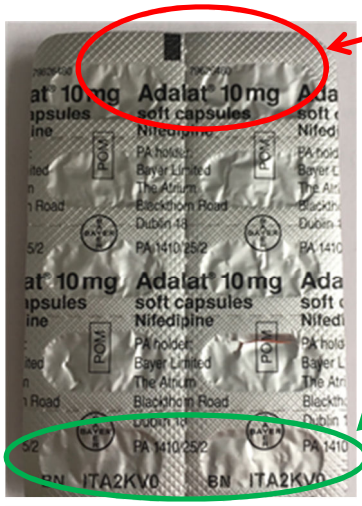
It appears possible that there may be other formulations in some sites, and that the blister pack units are not individually marked with expiry date and batch code. May lead to expired stock being used in patient care.

Actions Required / Risk Treatment strategy

Only Nifedipine (Adalat) 10mg Soft Capsules to be in supply chain / Drugs Bags. Remove and return any other formulation.

Tablet cards must only be issued into drug bags in complete cards of 10 tablets, and tablets must be used from the top of the card down to ensure that the expiry date and batch number tablets are available to be checked and remain available until the card is exhausted.

The only possible exception to the full card rule is if a pharmacist has dispensed them in a lesser quantity in a clearly marked manner which includes the expiry date and batch code.



Only form and presentation to be used in DFB/NAS

Use the bottom tablets last as these are where the batch code and expiry date are visible.

Issued by: Drugs and Therapeutics Committee.

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Patient Safety First
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