

MONTHLY MEDICATION SAFETY UPDATE – May 2021

Information for health professionals in NSW public health organisations

Updates regarding current medication-specific safety and supply related issues are available via [the online portal](#) on the CEC website. Subscribe [HERE](#) to receive an email when there is new/updated information. This is a summary of medication safety and supply related issues affecting NSW public health facilities in May 2021.

Medication safety issues under investigation

Nil issues under investigation

Safety Alerts/Notices/Information released

[Illicit cocaine containing strong opioids](#) – 14 May

[Changes to COVID-19 vaccine indications](#) – 23 May

[Enoxaparin \(Clexane®\) 20 mg and 40 mg syringes – Disruption to supply](#) – 1 June

Medication Safety Communications released

[Ketorolac 10 mg/1 mL injection](#) – 27 May

Medication Safety and Supply Summary

63	SUPPLY ISSUES MADE APPARENT TO CEC
6	OF THESE REQUIRED FURTHER INVESTIGATION DUE TO POTENTIAL SAFETY CONCERNS
3	WERE REPORTED TO FRONTLINE DUE TO SAFETY RISK REQUIRING LOCAL MITIGATION
2	RESULTED IN FORMAL SAFETY COMMUNICATION
0	PREVIOUS ISSUES RESOLVED ON CEC ONLINE PORTAL

Current projects with eHealthNSW

For more information regarding these projects – email CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au

- *Revised electronic VTE risk assessment tool* – the tool has been successfully tested in the Prince of Wales Hospital non-production domain and build files are anticipated to be released this week through the PowerChart Application Advisory Group for state-wide use.
- *Antimicrobial Stewardship Design Working Group* – reviewing the AMS mPage solution and adapting the Gentamicin Dosage Advisor for the paediatric population.
- *Adult Gentamicin Dosage Advisor* – anticipated to be made available to all LHDs in June 2021
- *Patient Friendly Medication List* – assisting LHDs with implementation and proceeding with product enhancement work.

Medications reported on online portal this month – [Ketorolac](#), [Enoxaparin](#), [Lignocaine](#), [Sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim](#), [Cernevit](#)

Relevant clinician information to note

- TGA information – [Alternative overseas product approved for supply to address Dilaudid \(hydromorphone hydrochloride\) oral liquid shortage](#)
- TGA recall information – [Hydralyte Strawberry Kiwi Effervescent Electrolyte Tablets - recall due to unacceptable risk in pregnancy](#)
- TGA information – [TGA approves more flexible storage conditions for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- TGA information – [COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 20 May 2021](#)
- TGA Information – [COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 27 May 2021](#)