



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Islamabad (Pakistan), Drug Advisory

Travel Health and Safety

South Central Asia > Pakistan > Islamabad

2/3/2012

As recent press reports have indicated, a harmful drug contamination has caused around 120 deaths and hundreds of hospitalizations in Pakistan. According to reliable reports, independent professional analysis has identified Isotab (isosorbide mononitrate) 20 mg tablets as having been contaminated with a drug called pyrimethamine, a common anti-malarial drug also manufactured by Efroze, a Pakistani pharmaceutical manufacturer.

Pyrimethamine taken in the quantities present in the contaminated batch of Isotab can be associated with significant adverse effects consistent with those seen in the patients under investigation, including hematologic abnormalities of low blood counts (anemia), thrombocytopenia (causing bleeding), skin lesions including a diffuse body rash, and gastrointestinal symptoms.

There is currently no evidence that other drugs by the same manufacturer or those produced by other Pakistani manufacturers are affected. However, the World Health Organization (WHO) Pakistan has suspended all Efroze products from the list of WHO drug suppliers until test results confirm these medications are not contaminated.

The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad has recommended to all its employees that products from Efroze **not be purchased or consumed** until the WHO advises that health concerns have been addressed by the manufacturer. Efroze products have been widely available at most pharmacies throughout Pakistan. An attached list of medications produced by Efroze follows. The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad has advised its employees that any person taking Isotab 20mg tablets made by Efroze Batch J093 should immediately stop doing so and see their health care provider.

The Embassy further recommends that U.S. citizens follow WHO recommendations and consult their health care provider if they have further concerns.

List of Medications Produced by Efroze

BRAND

INGREDIENTS

ACORET

Ethambutol (HCl) [300 mg], Isoniazid [75 mg], Rifampicin [150 mg]

ACORET-P

Ethambutol (HCl) [225 mg], Isoniazid [60 mg], Pyrazinamide [300 mg], Rifampicin [120 mg]



ALGAPHAN
Dextropropoxyphene [32.5 mg], Paracetamol [325 mg]
ALGAPHAN
Dextropropoxyphene [32.5 mg], Paracetamol [325 mg]
ALPAX
Alprazolam [0.25 mg]
ALPAX
Alprazolam [0.5 mg]
ANGIOTAN
Valsartan [160 mg]
ANGIOTAN
Valsartan [80 mg]
ANGIOTAN H
Hydrochlorothiazide [0], Valsartan [0]
ARTEDOXIN
Artesunate [0], Pyrimethamine [0], Sulfadoxine [0]
ARTEDOXIN P
Artesunate [0], Pyrimethamine [0], Sulfadoxine [0]
ASILEZ
Aliskiren [150 mg]
ASILEZ
Aliskiren [300 mg]
BRECARE
Montelukast [5 mg]
BRECARE
Montelukast [10 mg]
CALZEM
Diltiazem (HCl) [30 mg]
CALZEM
Diltiazem (HCl) [60 mg]
CAPRIL
Captopril [50 mg]
CAPRIL
Captopril [12.5 mg]
CAPRIL
Captopril [25 mg]
CAPRIL
Captopril [25 mg]



CORBIS
Bisoprolol (Fumarate) [2.5 mg]
CORBIS
Bisoprolol (Fumarate) [5 mg]
CORBIS
Bisoprolol (Fumarate) [10 mg]
CORBIS-H
Bisoprolol (Fumarate) [0], Hydrochlorothiazide [0]
CORBIS-H
Bisoprolol (Fumarate) [0], Hydrochlorothiazide [0]
DECLOT
Clopidogrel [75 mg]
DELAWARE
Carvedilol [12.5 mg]
DELAWARE
Carvedilol [12.5 mg]
DELAWARE
Carvedilol [3.125 mg]
DELAWARE
Carvedilol [0 mg]
DELAWARE
Carvedilol [25 mg]
DESLET
Desloratadine [2.5 mg/5ml]
DIAZEPAM
Diazepam [2 mg]
DIAZEPAM
Diazepam [5 mg]
DINEMIC
Trimetazidine (Di HCl) [20 mg]
DINEMIC
Trimetazidine (Di HCl) [20 mg]
ECIN
Erythromycin [250 mg]
EFOME
Omeprazole [20 mg]
EFRODOL
Caffeine [0], Mepyramine [0], Paracetamol [0]



EFROQUINE
Chloroquine [250 mg]
EFROQUINE
Chloroquine [250 mg]
EFTRAN
Sulphamethoxazole [400 mg], Trimethoprim [80 mg]
EFTRAN DS
Sulphamethoxazole [800 mg], Trimethoprim [160 mg]
EMOD
Loperamide (HCl) [2 mg]
ERIZOLE
Mebendazole [100 mg/5ml]
ERIZOLE
Mebendazole [500 mg]
ERIZOLE
Mebendazole [100 mg]
EZ-FLOW
Lactulose [0]
FAMITINE
Famotidine [20 mg]
FAMITINE
Famotidine [40 mg]
FAMTINE
Famotidine [40 mg]
FAMTINE
Famotidine [20 mg]
Feboric
Febuxostat [40 mg]
Feboric
Febuxostat [80 mg]
FLOXER
Levofloxacin [250 mg]
FLOXER
Levofloxacin [500 mg]
FOSFOMYCIN
Fosfomicin [250 mg]
GASTROLON
Metoclopramide (HCl) [10 mg]



GASTROLON

Metoclopramide (HCl) [10 mg]

GLICON

Glibenclamide [5 mg]

GLYPER

Glimepiride [1 mg]

GLYPER

Glimepiride [2 mg]

GLYPER

Glimepiride [3 mg]

GLYPER

Glimepiride [4 mg]

GYNAECOSID

Methyloestradiol [0.3 mg], Methyloestrenolone [5 mg]

ISDIN

Isosorbide (Dinitrate) [10 mg]

ISOTAB

Isosorbide 5-Mononitrate [20 mg]

ISOTAB

Isosorbide 5-Mononitrate [40 mg]

ISOTAB

Isosorbide 5-Mononitrate [60 mg]

ISOTAB-XR

Isosorbide 5-Mononitrate [60 mg]

KLABID

Clarithromycin [125 mg/5ml]

KLABID

Clarithromycin [250 mg]

KLABID

Clarithromycin [500 mg]

KONTAB

Bromelains [50 mg], Trypsin (Protease) [1 mg]

LIPOCOR

Bezafibrate [200 mg]

LIPOTRIM

Atorvastatin [10 mg]

LIPOTRIM

Atorvastatin [20 mg]



LIPOTRIM
Atorvastatin [40 mg]
LOSAAN
Losartan (K) [50 mg]
LOSAAN-H
Hydrochlorothiazide [12.5 mg], Losartan (K) [50 mg]
MALADAR
Pyrimethamine [25 mg/5ml], Sulfadoxine [500 mg/5ml]
MALADAR
Pyrimethamine [25 mg], Sulfadoxine [500 mg]
MALADAR
Pyrimethamine [25 mg], Sulfadoxine [500 mg]
MEFNAC
Mefenamic Acid [500 mg]
MEFNAC
Mefenamic Acid [50 mg/5ml]
MEFNAC
Mefenamic Acid [250 mg]
MEFNAC
Mefenamic Acid [250 mg]
METCON
Glibenclamide [2.5 mg], Metformin (HCl) [500 mg]
METCON PLUS
Glibenclamide [5 mg], Metformin (HCl) [500 mg]
METPHAGE
Metformin (HCl) [850 mg]
METPHAGE
Metformin (HCl) [500 mg]
METZON
Metformin (HCl) [500 mg], Pioglitazone [15 mg]
METZON
Metformin (HCl) [500 mg], Pioglitazone [15 mg]
MONTEF
Montelukast [4 mg]
MONTEF
Montelukast [5 mg]
MONTEF
Montelukast [10 mg]



MONTEF
Montelukast [4 mg]
NEOLIP
Simvastatin [20 mg]
NEOLIP
Simvastatin [10 mg]
NITRIL
Glyceryl Trinitrate [0]
NOMIN
Atenolol [50 mg]
NOMIN
Atenolol [100 mg]
OMEFAST
Omeprazole [0], Sodium Bicarbonate [0]
OMEFAST
Omeprazole [0], Sodium Bicarbonate [0]
PANARAM
Paracetamol [120 mg/5ml]
PANARAM
Paracetamol [500 mg]
PANGO
Ibuprofen [400 mg]
PANGO
Ibuprofen [200 mg]
PANGO
Ibuprofen [200 mg]
PANGO
Ibuprofen [400 mg]
PERAZONE
Cefoperazone [1 g]
REDUCE ACHE
Ibuprofen [0], Pseudoephedrine (HCl) [0]
REDUCE ACHE
Ibuprofen [0], Pseudoephedrine (HCl) [0]
ROXIN
Ciprofloxacin [250 mg]
ROXIN
Ciprofloxacin [500 mg]



SELOXX

Celecoxib [100 mg]

SELOXX

Celecoxib [200 mg]

SEMI GLICON

Glibenclamide [2.5 mg]

SEMI METCON

Glibenclamide [1.25 mg], Metformin (HCl) [250 mg]

SIAM

Aluminium Hydroxide, Magnesium Hydroxides , Simethicone

TOPMATE

Topiramate [25 mg]

TOPMATE

Topiramate [50 mg]

TRAMAPAR

Paracetamol [0], Tramadol (HCl) [0]

TRISIL

Aluminium Hydroxide and Oxide [250 mg], Magnesium Trisilicate [500 mg]

TRIZYMAL

Pancreatin [150 mg]

VICOX

Rofecoxib [25 mg]

ZETRINE

Cetirizine [10 mg]

ZETRINE

Cetirizine [5 mg/5ml]

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website where Worldwide Caution, Country Specific Information for Pakistan, Travel Warnings (including the current Travel Warning for Pakistan), and Travel Alerts can be found. You can also follow the Bureau of Consular Affairs on Twitter and on Facebook. Up-to-date information on overseas security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada; callers outside the United States and Canada can dial a standard toll-line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

U.S. citizens are advised to maintain valid travel documents and to enroll overseas travel through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program.

Please note the following contact information for all four U.S. diplomatic posts operating in Pakistan:



U.S. Embassy Islamabad is located at Diplomatic Enclave, Ramna 5; telephone (92-51) 208-0000; Consular Section telephone (92-51) 208-2700; fax (92-51) 282-2632; website <http://islamabad.usembassy.gov>; email acsislamabad@state.gov.

U.S. Consulate General Karachi, located at Plot No 3-5, TPX Area, Mai Kolachi Road, Karachi, provides services to U.S. citizens by appointment only. Services can be scheduled by calling (92-21) 3527-5000 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday-Friday; fax (92-21) 3527-5885; website <http://karachi.usconsulate.gov/>; email acskarachi@state.gov.

U.S. Consulate General Lahore, located at 50 Sharah-E-Abdul Hameed Bin Badees (Old Empress Road) near Shimla Hill Rotary, provides services to U.S. citizens by appointment only. U.S. citizens requiring assistance should contact the Consular Section at (92-42) 3603-4000; fax (92-42) 3603-4200; website <http://lahore.usconsulate.gov/>; email acslahore@state.gov.

U.S. Consulate General Peshawar is located at 11 Hospital Road, Cantonment, Peshawar; telephone (92-91) 526-8800; fax (92-91) 527-6712; website <http://peshawar.usconsulate.gov>.