



# DRUG ALERT

## CLASS 2 MEDICINES RECALL

**Action Within 48 Hours**  
**Patient, Pharmacy and Wholesaler Level**

Date: 06 October 2020

EL (20)A/47

Our Ref: MDR 004-10/20

Dear Healthcare Professional,

### The Boots Company PLC

### Boots Dermacare 1% w/w Hydrocortisone Ointment (P) PL 00014/0364

Batch Number	Expiry Date	Pack Size	First Distributed
1DD	08/2023	15g	20 Aug 2020

Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient: hydrocortisone

#### Brief description of the problem

The Boots Company PLC has informed us that retained samples of the affected batch showed presence of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and are recalling the above batch as a precautionary measure. This product is only sold or dispensed from Boots stores and Boots online pharmacy.

*P. aeruginosa* is a Gram-negative bacterium; infection at the site of application could exhibit worsening of initial symptoms, and could also include erythematous lesions, irritation and pus-filled pimples. Soft tissue infection may present with abscess or cellulitis. *P. aeruginosa* infection may be more serious for immunocompromised patients and patients suffering from severe burns and cystic fibrosis.

#### Advice for patients and consumers

- Stop using the ointment immediately and return this to Boots Stores
- If you experience any worsening of initial symptoms and other side-effects, or have any questions or concerns about your health, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.
- Report any suspected side effects via the [Yellow Card Scheme](#)

#### Advice for healthcare professionals

- Stop supplying the above products immediately and remove from the shelves within your store. Quarantine all remaining stock and return them to your supplier using your supplier's approved process
- Advise patients who have been supplied this product to stop using the ointment immediately and return this to Boots Stores.
- GP practices should be aware of potential medical concerns reported by patients
- Any suspected side effects should be reported via the [Yellow Card Scheme](#)



**Advice for retailers and wholesalers**

- Stop supplying the above products immediately. Quarantine all remaining stock and return them to your supplier using your supplier's approved process

**Further Information**

For stock control and medical information enquiries please contact 0115 9595165

Recipients of this Drug Alert should bring it to the attention of relevant contacts by copy of this letter. NHS regional teams are asked to forward this to community pharmacists and general practitioners for information.

Yours faithfully

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