香港特別行政區政府 衞生署藥劑事務部

香港九龍南昌街 382 號 公共衞生檢測中心 3 樓



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY CENTRE, 3RD FLOOR, 382 NAM CHEONG STREET, KOWLOON, HONG KONG.

本署檔號 OUR REF.:

DH PS 7-55/3

電 話 TEL.:

(852) 2319 8502

圖文傳真 FAX NO.: (852) 2834 5117

30 September 2009

Dear Doctor,

Reporting of Adverse Drug Reactions: Human Papillomavirus Vaccine

I am writing to solicit your support by reporting suspected adverse drug reaction (ADRs) to the ADR Monitoring Unit of the Department of Health.

Yesterday, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) of UK issued a drug alert to the healthcare community advising them of the recall of a batch of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine Cervarix following the death of a 14 year old girl. The recall is being voluntarily carried out by the manufacturer of the vaccine as a precautionary measure while further investigations into the girl's death are being conducted by the MHRA. According to the MHRA, the safety of the vaccine is not in question and no link can currently be made between the girl's death and the vaccine. The concerned batch of the vaccine has not been imported into Hong Kong.

I take the opportunity to appeal to you to watch out for any suspected drug-related ADRs and side effects, particularly those relating to the administration of HPV vaccine and other vaccines, and to report them to our ADR Monitoring Unit via the following means:

- (i) by post to 3/F., PHLC, 382 Nam Cheong Street, Kowloon (Attn.: ADR Monitoring Unit);
- (ii) by fax to 25724570; or
- (iii) by email to adr@dh.gov.hk

Our work will depend on the active participation of doctors who are in the best position to detect ADR in their everyday clinical practice. Doctors are encouraged to report ADR even if they are doubtful of the relationship between the drug and the ADR concerned. Additional information on the reporting of ADR is available at the following website:

http://www.psdh.gov.hk/eps/eng/html/adrform-20.jsp

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me or Ms. Anna TSAI of the ADR Monitoring Unit at 2319 8482.

Yours sincerely

(Ms. Pamela LI) for Chief Pharmacist