Direct Healthcare Professional Communication

March 2024

Cefuroxime - Clarification related to instructions for use

Dear Healthcare Professional,

The General Administration for Pharmaceutical Vigilance of the Central Administration for Pharmaceutical Care at The Egyptian Drug Authority would like to inform you **Clarification related to instructions for use of Cefuroxime.**

Summary and Background :

- The information on diluents in the package insert for cefuroxime may give the impression that both intramuscular and intravenous administration is possible.
- According to the labeling text, cefuroxime sodium is compatible with aqueous solutions containing up to 1% lidocaine hydrochloride. However, dilution with lidocaine is only intended for intramuscular use. As this is not expressly mentioned, the holder of the marketing authorization considers that this may entail a risk of incorrect medication.
- If lidocaine is injected intravenously, it may cause cerebral effects such as confusion, vision changes, numbness, tingling and vomiting. It can also cause low blood pressure and irregular heartbeat, which poses a risk to patients.
- The marketing authorization holder will therefore make it clear that reconstitution with aqueous solutions containing up to 1% lidocaine hydrochloride is intended for intramuscular use only.

Reference:

Norway:https://www.dmp.no/globalassets/documents/bivirkninger-og-sikkerhet/kjare-helsepersonell-brev/2023/kvalitetssvikt/dhpc---cefuroxime-15-09-2023.pdf

Call for reporting

Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the Egyptian reporting system:

Name: General Administration for Pharmaceutical Vigilance

Email: pv.followup@edaegypt.gov.eg

Online reporting: https://primaryreporting.who-umc.org/EG
QR Code:

Hotline: 15301