

Risk Awareness Notice



From: PPSU Clinical Governance & Medicines Information Teams

Date: November 2015

Re: **BNF 70 and BNFC for Children (BNFC) 2015/16 - errors identified**

Key Messages

- A number of errors have been identified in the latest British National Formulary (BNF 70) and British National Formulary for Children (BNFC 2015-2016) publications
- The electronic versions of the BNF and BNFC are being updated and corrected therefore the safest approach is to use these in preference to the paper copy.
- A formal communication is expected from the publishers imminently and will be circulated when available. At that stage further advice regarding the paper copy will be issued.
- Any further errors identified should be reported directly to editor@bnf.org

Table 1 gives details of errors identified so far. Full details of the corrections to these errors can be found at <http://www.bnf.org/corrections>

Table 1

Medicine	Publication	Indication	Nature of error
Aciclovir	Both	Various indications (including encephalitis)	Confusion regarding indications and dosing
Clindamycin	BNF	Various infections	Adult dosing
Erythromycin	Both	Various infections	Child dosing
Magnesium glycerophosphate	BNFC	Hypomagnesaemia	Child dosing
Paraldehyde*	BNFC	Status epilepticus	Child dosing (unclear)
Pyrimethamine	Both	Congenital toxoplasmosis	Confusion regarding age group for dosing advice (neonatal vs child)
Quinine with doxycycline	BNFC	Falciparum Malaria	Error in age group for doxycycline treatment
Tranexamic acid	BNFC	Various indications	Child dosing
Vecuronium*	Both	All indications	Incorrect concentration for administration

***Please note that as of 20/11/2015 the electronic versions have not yet been updated for vecuronium and paraldehyde – see <http://www.bnf.org/corrections> for correct information.**

How to access the electronic BNF and BNFC

- Medicines Complete (<https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/>)
- A direct link is available on the [Clinical Info](#) page of StaffNet
- BNF & BNFC Apps (Available from the App Store or Google Play. An Athens password is required; visit www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk to register for an Athens password)

If you have any questions please contact Medicines Information on 0141 211 4407 or medinfo@ggc.scot.nhs.uk