



Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency

Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties

Virginia Hastings, Executive Director
Reza Vaezazizi, M.D., Medical Director

DATE: May 24, 2012

TO: EMS Providers - ALS, EMS Aircraft

FROM: Virginia Hastings
Executive Director

Reza Vaezazizi, MD
Medical Director

**SUBJECT: HOSPIRA CARPUJECT PRE-FILLED CARTRIDGES - DRUG ALERT:
PRODUCTS MAY CONTAIN MORE THAN THE INTENDED FILL VOLUME**

The FDA is alerting healthcare providers of a potential safety risk with some Carpuject pre-filled cartridges manufactured by Hospira, Inc. Hospira notified the FDA that they had received complaints of Carpuject cartridges being overfilled by at least twice the expected amount of morphine. This potentially could lead to overdosing patients and causing serious adverse reactions.

The FDA is advising that all Carpuject cartridges be carefully inspected prior to use on a patient, and only use the cartridges that contain the correctly labeled volume of medication. FDA has chosen to do a drug alert as opposed to a recall, due to the potential impact on current drug shortage issues.

For more information please go to:

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm305236.htm>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sherri Shimshy, RN, at (909) 388-5816 or via e-mail at SShimshy@cao.sbcounty.gov.

RV/SS/jlm

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