



## New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association

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TO: NYSCOPBA Chief Sector Stewards

FROM: Sharon Smith, Health Benefits Specialist

DATE: April 21, 2020

RE: Additional Drug Withdrawals and Recalls Under the Empire Plan

We have been notified of a few more drug withdrawals and recalls under the Empire Plan, as follows:

Ranitidine Capsules manufactured by Ajanta Pharma and Ranitidine Tablets manufactured by Strides are being withdrawn from market (includes 150 mg and 300 mg capsules and tablets). The specific product and lot numbers of the withdrawn Ranitidine capsules and tablets are listed in the announcement posted on the "What's New" section of NYSHIP Online ([www.cs.ny.gov-employee-benefits](http://www.cs.ny.gov-employee-benefits)). There are 7,214 total withdrawals, which are due to impurities in one of the ingredients of the drug (3,149 active and early retiree enrollees; 4,065 Medicare primary enrollees (plan-wide)). Fortunately, there are only 123 NYSCOPBA members affected by the Ranitidine Tablets (number utilizing the capsules unavailable at this time). CVS is sending letters to all affected members. Utilizers are advised to consult their providers for advice on how to proceed.

Nizatidine Oral Solution manufactured by Amneal Pharmaceuticals, LLC, has been recalled due to potential N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) amounts exceeding the levels established by the FDA. The specific product and lot numbers of the recalled Nizatidine Oral Solution are listed in the announcement posted on the "What's New" section of NYSHIP Online (website above). There are 244 enrollees (plan-wide) affected and CVS is sending notices out to each one. Utilizers are advised to consult their providers for advice on how to proceed.

Tetracycline HCl Capsules USP, 250 mg and 500 mg, manufactured by Avet Pharmaceuticals Inc., are being voluntarily recalled due to low dissolution rates which could lead to not enough Tetracycline getting into the body. This recall is not posted on "What's New" (there are only 35

enrollees affected (plan-wide)). CVS is contacting each one of them about the recall.

Please share this information with your membership.

SS

cc: NYSCOPBA Executive Board  
NYSCOPBA Jt. Committee on Health Benefits