



DATE:	10/07/2016
TO:	Health Alert Network
FROM:	Karen Murphy, PhD, RN, Secretary of Health
SUBJECT:	UPDATE on Sequestered Products: Link between Nurse Assist saline flush syringes and <i>Burkholderia cepacia</i> bloodstream
DISTRIBUTION:	Statewide
LOCATION:	Statewide
STREET ADDRESS:	Statewide
COUNTY:	Statewide
MUNICIPALITY:	Statewide
ZIP CODE:	Statewide

This transmission is a "Health Alert": conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

HOSPITALS: PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL MEDICAL, PEDIATRIC, INFECTION CONTROL, NURSING, AND LABORATORY STAFF IN YOUR HOSPITAL

EMS COUNCILS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE

FQHCs: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE

LOCAL HEALTH JURISDICTIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP

LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES: PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL MEDICAL, INFECTION CONTROL, AND NURSING STAFF IN YOUR FACILITY

UPDATE on Sequestered Products: Link between Nurse Assist saline flush syringes and *Burkholderia cepacia* bloodstream infections

On October 4, 2016, The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) issued a Health Alert regarding an outbreak of *Burkholderia cepacia* bloodstream infections related to contaminated Nurse Assist prefilled saline flushes. In that Health Alert, facilities were asked to sequester Nurse Assist three-, five-, and 10-milliliter syringes of saline flush and not to discard, destroy, or send these products back to the supplier.

At this time, PADOH has learned from the FDA that **all sequestered Nurse Assist prefilled saline flushes can be sent back to the supplier**. If you received instructions from Nurse Assist or from your pharmacy or supplier about returning recalled product, please follow the instructions. Further testing on these products by FDA or PADOH will not be conducted.

On October 4, 2016, Nurse Assist issued a voluntary recall of all three-, five-, and 10-milliliter syringes of saline flush. The recall affects the following lots and part numbers:

Product Code	Product Description	Lot Number
1203	IV Flush Syringe, 3ml fill	All unexpired lots
1205	IV Flush Syringe, 5ml fill	All unexpired lots
1210	IV Flush Syringe, 10ml fill	All unexpired lots
1210-BP	IV Flush Syringe, 10ml fill	All unexpired lots

A copy of the Nurse Assist recall is available on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) website: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm523959.htm>

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

This information is current as of October 7, 2016, but may be modified in the future. We will continue to post updated information regarding the most common questions about this subject.