

WHO Drug Information

Contents

General Policy Issues

Dangers of purchasing medical products through the Internet

Personal Perspectives

Fifty years of drug regulation: solid accomplishments and an important future

Reports on Individual Drugs

Hormone replacement therapy and breast cancer

Mefloquine effectiveness impaired by high withdrawal rates

Zopiclone and zolpidem hypnotics and drug dependence

General Information

Cardiovascular disease and hormonal contraceptives: latest results

Current availability of vaccines for diarrhoeal diseases and typhoid

Regulatory Matters

Troglitazone and liver injury

Phenolphthalein products withdrawn

Serotonin re-uptake inhibitors and neonatal withdrawal symptoms

Raloxifene for the prevention of osteoporosis

Mibefradil: low heart rate and severe interactions reported

New anti-obesity drug approved

Scopolamine patch to prevent peri-operative nausea 15

Pemoline withdrawn 15

Melatonin on prescription only 16

Chlormezanone withdrawn 16

1 Alcohol warning on over-the-counter pain medications 16

Nefazodone: adverse reaction reports 16

Daclizumab: first monoclonal antibody against transplant rejection 16

3 Reboxetine not for use in elderly 17

Counterfeit antimalarials detected 17

6 ATC/DDD Classification (final) 18

7 ATC/DDD Classification

8 (temporary) 20

Essential Drugs

9 WHO Model List (revised in December 1997) 22

10 Recent Publications and Documents

13 Extended release oral dosage forms: guidance for applicants 36

13 United Nations Consolidated List 36

14 Manual on quality assurance 36

14 Medicinal claims and food products 37

14 Paediatric prescribing information 37

14

15

Recommended International

Nonproprietary Names: List 39 39