

Our Ref: (94) in DH SEB NCD/15/15/1/14 II

28 June 2017

Dear Doctor,

**Undeclared Western drugs detected in cream prescribed by  
registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners**

The Department of Health (DH) writes to alert you of two incidents recorded in June 2017 of undeclared Western drugs detected in cream prescribed by registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners (CMP). Two patients who were 6-month-old babies had skin hypopigmentation after using unlabelled cream prescribed by CMP Pang Wai-ming practising at G/F, 42 Kam Wah Street, Shau Kei Wan. Another 6-month-old baby had skin hypopigmentation after using unlabelled cream prescribed by another CMP Ip Kai-yam practising at Room 1002, 10/F, A T Tower, 180 Electric Road, North Point.

In the submitted samples of unlabelled cream prescribed by CMP Pang, **clobetasol propionate** and **miconazole** were detected while **betamethasone dipropionate**, **clotrimazole** and **lincomycin** were detected in the submitted samples of unlabelled cream prescribed by CMP Ip. At present, there is no evidence showing epidemiological linkage between cases associated with the two CMPs.

Press releases have been issued to alert the public and they can be accessed from the following links:

<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201706/21/P2017062101004.htm?fontSize=1>

<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201706/22/P2017062200668.htm?fontSize=1>

<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201706/27/P2017062700264.htm?fontSize=1>



The DH has set up a hotline (2125 1133) operating from 9 am to 5 pm to answer related enquiries from the public since 21 June, and as of 27 June, 123 persons reported suspected side-effects after using cream prescribed by CMP Pang. We advise patients who developed signs and symptoms after use of cream prescribed by the named CMPs should seek medical advice for prompt diagnosis and treatment, and chronic users should seek medical advice if immediate suspension of use is considered advisable. Members of the public who possess these creams or their remnants should submit them to the DH's Chinese Medicine Division at 16/F, AIA Kowloon Tower, Landmark East, 100 How Ming Street, Kwun Tong during office hours for possible follow-up.

I would like to appeal to your vigilance when encountering patients with signs and symptoms of possible side-effects after use of creams prescribed by the CMPs. Should you encounter suspected poisoning cases, please notify the DH. Details on case notification are available from the following website: <http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/notification/13/33.html>

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,



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Department of Health



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及控制的专业架構  
*The Centre for Health  
Protection is a  
professional arm of the  
Department of Health for  
disease prevention and  
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