



**DRUGS THAT LOST
PATENT PROTECTION**

| February/March 2008 | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| BRAND NAME | GENERIC NAME | INDICATION |
| LOTEMAX | loteprednol etabonate | Eye Inflammation |
| IFEX | ifosfamide | Chemotherapy |
| IFEX/MESNE X KIT | ifosfamide; mesna | Chemotherapy |
| NEXIUM | esomeprazole magnesium | GERD |
| VIVELLE | estradiol | Estrogens |
| UVADEX | methoxsalen | Skin T-cell Lymphoma, Psoriasis, & Vitiligo |
| TOPROL-XL | metoprolol succinate | Blood Pressure |
| RESCULA | unoprostone isopropyl | Glaucoma |

**CANCER DRUG LINKED
TO HEART FAILURE**

A greater percentage of patients than previously thought may develop heart failure when taking Pfizer's Sutent cancer drug, [HealthDay News](#) writes. The drug was approved for advanced kidney cancer and a rare form of gastrointestinal cancer. The Pfizer-funded study looked at 48 patients and found that 15 percent experienced heart conditions such as symptomatic left ventricular dysfunction or heart failure. This was almost double the 8 percent rate seen in clinical trials. Two recent studies also found that use of Sutent can boost patients' blood pressure and add to their risk of heart failure.



**Newsletter Spotlight:
Invoice Screening™**

**CHECK YOUR PHARMACY
INVOICE LIKE YOU CHECK
YOUR SUPPLY INVOICES**

Invoices for payments to PBMs and Health Plans for prescriptions filled by their network pharmacies (both retail and mail), should be checked the same as you would a grocery receipt.

The assumption that electronic claim adjudication is without errors is dangerous for both medical and pharmacy claims. Pro Pharma experience indicates that at least 5-7% of drug spend is incorrectly paid. Prime areas for errors are eligibility, pricing, claim validity, payments for benefit exclusions, etc.

Pro Pharma screens pharmacy invoices within 72 hours to validate invoices prior to payment.

CONTACT: Carol Stern at :
(888) 701-5438 or
carol.stern@propharmaconsultants.com

TYSABRI – LIVER INJURY

Biogen Idec, Elan and The FDA notified healthcare professionals of reports of clinically significant liver injury, including markedly elevated serum hepatic enzymes and elevated total bilirubin, occurred as early as six days after the first dose of Tysabri. The combination of transaminase elevations and elevated bilirubin without evidence of obstruction is recognized as an important predictor of severe liver injury that may lead to death or the need for a liver transplant in some patients. Tysabri should be discontinued in patients with jaundice or other evidence of significant liver injury. Physicians should inform patients that Tysabri may cause liver injury.

Read the complete 2008 MedWatch Safety Summary:

<http://www.p1source.com/common/ads/click.asp?at=8&a=2250&c=762&z=40&u=52804>

Comment: Review your use of Tysabri and ask your PBM/TPA/Health Plan what surveillance program they have in place to monitor for problems with Tysabri.

Pro Pharma Pharmaceutical Consultants, Inc. has assisted Payers and Providers for over 22 years to Maintain Quality while Controlling Costs.