



ATTORNEY GENERAL GEORGE JEPSSEN

\$40.75 MILLION MULTI-STATE SETTLEMENT REACHED WITH GLAXOSMITHKLINE AND SB PHARMCO

For Immediate Release

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2011

HARTFORD -- Attorney General George Jepsen announced today that Connecticut and 37 other states have reached a \$40.75 million settlement with pharmaceutical companies GlaxoSmithKline, LLC of Philadelphia and SB Pharmco Puerto Rico, Inc., an indirect subsidiary of GlaxoSmithKline plc, over alleged substandard manufacturing processes.

The Attorneys General alleged the companies engaged in unfair and deceptive practices when they manufactured and distributed certain lots of four drugs because substandard manufacturing processes were used to produce these lots between 2001 and 2004.

The drugs affected were: Kytril, a sterile drug used to prevent nausea and vomiting caused by cancer chemotherapy and radiation therapy; Bactroban, an antibiotic ointment used to treat skin infections; Paxil CR, the controlled release formulation of the antidepressant drug Paxil; and Avandamet, a combination Type II diabetes drug.

The adulterated drugs were produced at the companies' production facility in Cidra, Puerto Rico, which has been closed since 2009. Consumers should note the lots in question do not involve drugs that are currently available for sale on the market.

"I am pleased we were able to reach this agreement. Consumers expect that the drugs they buy meet stringent quality-control standards for efficacy. Pharmaceutical companies have a duty to live up to that public trust," Jepsen said.

The settlement covers all drugs that were once made at the Cidra facility, regardless of where these drugs are now produced. Specifically, the companies may not make claims about the drugs that are false, misleading or deceptive as a result of how the drugs are made. In addition, the companies agree not to represent that the drugs have characteristics, benefits, uses, qualities or ingredients they do not have, because of the way the drugs are manufactured. Nor may the companies make representations about the drugs that are likely to cause confusion or misunderstanding related to the source, sponsorship, approval or certification of the drugs, because of how the drugs are made.

Connecticut's share of the settlement is \$756,280.

Assistant Attorney General Thomas Saadi handled this matter for Jepsen.

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