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Eyedrop Recall Update

Over the past few months, there have been multiple recalls on over-the-counter eyedrop products. While eyedrops can be sold over the counter, they still need to be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as anything applied to the eyes can bypass one's natural defenses and the risk of infection¹.

The FDA has issued a string of eyedrop recalls due to increasing safety concerns. Upon inspection, the FDA found these eyedrops to be produced in unsanitary environments where they have been exposed to different types of bacteria¹.

Recall Updates

Back in the fall of 2023, several brands were recalled showing signs of bacteria that can cause eye infections that may lead to partial or complete blindness. Some of the common brands that were selling these products include: CVS Health, Leader (Cardinal Health), Rugby (Cardinal Health), Rite Aid, Target Up & Up, and Velocity Pharma².

As of January 2024, there have been three new products added to the total list for potential risk of eye infection. These over-the-counter brands include South Moon, Rebright, and FivFivGo drops, all of which have been branded to look very similar to Bausch and Lomb's Authentic Lumify eye drops. These drops were being marketed as a treatment for glaucoma, which cannot be treated

with eyedrops. While only the South Moon eye drops tested positive for bacteria, the FDA is recommending that consumers do not purchase these products since they were not originally approved for use. The reports of adverse effects include eye irritation, pain, and infection³.

Tips to Protect Yourself

To avoid any issues, the FDA recommends the following:

- Always wash hands before touching eyes and using eye drops
- Do not use products that claim to treat glaucoma, cataracts, macular degeneration or retinopathy because these conditions cannot be treated by eye drops
- Do not use products that are homeopathic, they are not approved for sale
- Do not use products that contain the following ingredients: Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM, and silver sulfate or argentum (can damage white of eyes)
- Do not continue use if you develop any pain, discomfort or discharge
- Check with a healthcare professional about usage
- Make sure to review the comprehensive list of recalled eye drops we have provided in the next section¹



To see the full list of recalled eyedrops click here: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-warns-consumers-not-purchase-or-use-certain-eye-drops-several-major-brands-due-risk-eye>

To report an issue about a product to the FDA, use the link provided: <https://www.fda.gov/safety/medwatch-fda-safety-information-and-adverse-event-reporting-program>

Sources:

1: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/buying-using-medicine-safely/what-you-should-know-about-eye-drops>

2: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-warns-consumers-not-purchase-or-use-certain-eye-drops-several-major-brands-due-risk-eye>

3: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-warns-consumers-contaminated-copycat-eye-drops>

Benecard Central Fill Mail Order Pharmacy Awarded Prestigious URAC Accreditation in Specialty Pharmacy

The Benecard Services Team is pleased to share that our associated mail order pharmacy, Benecard Central Fill, LLC has been awarded the URAC (Utilization Review Accreditation Commission) Specialty Pharmacy Accreditation.

As the undisputed leader in pharmacy accreditation, URAC certifies Benecard's commitment to best practices and validates its corporate pledge to continuously sustain high standards in the health care and pharmacy arenas.

In earning the renowned "gold star" URAC accreditation, Benecard's proven dedication to its clients and members is recognized by one of the nation's premier certification organizations. The concluded multi-year review specifically highlights key areas where Benecard excels:

- An unrivaled patient management program, supported by strong internal process protocols reviewing clinical, financial, and quality of life metric data for program updates and enhancements.
- Consistent monitoring and measuring of goals, demonstrating our commitment to positive patient outcomes.
- Company focus on continuous improvement which has provided ever-increasing measures of enhanced quality throughout the organization.
- Creation and adoption of defined risk management standards.
- Adherence to stringent patient education and protocols that are disease state and/or drug specific.
- Documented metrics for dispensing accuracy, distribution accuracy, and adherence.

Shawn Griffin, M.D., URAC President and CEO noted, "Pharmacies and related pharmaceutical services play a critical role in the health care delivery system now more than ever. Given the complicated nature of chronic disease, pharmacies like Benecard Central Fill do much more than simply fill a prescription. As trusted experts at the frontline of care delivery, they often provide targeted patient support and education to ensure proper medication management. By achieving URAC accreditation, Benecard demonstrates excellence in quality care delivery and their long-term commitment to ensuring patient safety and improving outcomes."

About URAC

URAC provides independent validation through business/pharmacy accreditation for companies while offering programs to support the needs of our member and pharmacy communities. URAC's vigorous review process ensures that organizations are focused on the highest quality health care throughout all aspects of their operations.



About Benecard Central Fill, LLC

Benecard Central Fill, LLC, is a state-of-the-art prescription mail service and specialty pharmacy affiliated with Benecard Services that offers transparent, acquisition cost-based pricing to our clients. Benecard Central Fill serves members through two locations: Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and Bonita Springs, Florida.



AI in HR: 3 Trends Leaders Should Monitor in 2024

Spark Team at ADP (Originally published on ADP's blog, "Spark")

AI is empowering HR leaders to make faster, more informed decisions about people and processes. Looking ahead to 2024, it's clear that the technology will continue to evolve and influence the ever-changing workplace of tomorrow. This article explores three related trends leaders must consider when planning for the new year. From AI in HR to the growing importance of AI ethics and compliance, it provides insight into these and similar developments to support new practices and decision making.



[Click here](#) to read more about the top trends in AI that HR Leaders need to monitor.

