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SUBJECT: Update: Febrile Reactions Following Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Procedures

This is an update to the July 2 Health Advisory “Febrile Reactions Following Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Procedures”, which reported the recent occurrence of cases of non-respiratory febrile reactions following gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures. Symptoms, which occurred a few hours after the procedures, were chills, aches, and fever up to 103.5°F, with fairly quick resolution.

Subsequent investigation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and other public health agencies (including the St. Louis County Department of Health) has revealed that all affected patients received the anesthetic propofol from 100 mL vials manufactured by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries. Testing conducted by FDA revealed that two lots of this product used in facilities reporting reactions were positive for elevated levels of endotoxin. The lots are 31305429B and 31305430B. Teva Pharmaceuticals is initiating a voluntary recall for these lots, and clinicians are advised to immediately stop using these lots of Teva Pharmaceuticals propofol. CDC, FDA, and Teva Pharmaceutical Industries are continuing to investigate this issue.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) continues to ask medical providers to report any cases of febrile reactions following gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures to DHSS at 800/392-0272 (24/7).

Questions should be directed to DHSS’ Bureau of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention at 573/864-5317, or 800/392-0272.