



ADR

Tip of the Month

Hydroxyzine – Potential risk of abnormal heart rhythm

A recent Health Canada safety review concluded that there is evidence that hydroxyzine may contribute, along with other risk factors, to changes in the electrical activity of the heart and adversely affect heart rhythm. Health Canada is working with manufacturers to update:

- The dosing information to recommend that duration of dosing be as short as possible, and also a new lower maximum daily dose (in divided doses), as follows:
 - ♦ Adults, as well as children and adolescents **over** 40 kg: 100 mg
 - ♦ Children and adolescents **up to** 40 kg: 2 mg/kg
- The reasons for use (i.e., the indications) to be more clearly outlined, and to limit the use in the management of anxiety to adults only.

For more information:

www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2016/58758a-eng.php

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/medeff/reviews-examens/atarax-eng.php

Please report all suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs).