CANADIAN PAEDIATRIC SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

ADR
Tip of the Month

Health Canada warns of potential cancer risk associated with gentian violet

Health Canada recently completed a safety review of human health products containing gentian violet and has found that exposure to these products may increase the risk of cancer.

Gentian violet is an antiseptic dye used to treat fungal infections. It is used on the skin, on mucous membranes, on open wounds, and on the nipple of a nursing mother to treat oral thrush in infants.

Health care providers should advise parents to stop using all products containing gentian violet and to return products to a pharmacy for proper disposal.

For more information:

https://healthycanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2019/70179a-eng.php

Please report all suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs).

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