

Editor's note: This English translation was done by a third party. The original document can be accessed [here](#).

**The United Arab Emirates
Ministry of Health and Community Protection
United Arab Emirates Ministry of Health and Prevention
July 3, 2017**

Administrative Circular No. (2009) of 2017

Gentlemen / directors of medical districts
Gentlemen / directors of government and private hospitals
Gentlemen / doctors, pharmacists and pharmacy assistants
Gentlemen / managers of government and private pharmacies

After Greetings

Subject: Adding a warning to pharmaceutical preparations containing the medicinal substance: finasteride

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that Health Canada has recently recommended adding a warning to products containing the medicinal substance (finasteride), which is used to treat prostate enlargement (5 mg dose) and treat hair loss (1 mg dose).

While being administered the above-mentioned drug, patients may develop muscle weakness and stiffness, which in turn may cause pain to the patient, damage to muscle tissue and an increase in kinase enzymes (CK).

Accordingly, Health Canada and the UAE Ministry of Health and Community Protection recommend that companies that produce medicines containing the medicinal substance (finasteride) add the above-mentioned warning to the internal leaflet of their products.

For more information on this warning, please see the website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffectcanada/safety-reviews/summary-safety-review-finasteride-assessing-potential-risk-serious>

The following is a list of products registered with the Medicines Department of the Ministry of Health and Prevention that contain finasteride.

Authorized agent

New Medical Center Phoenix Medicines
PHOENIX MEDICINES
CITY PHARMACY
CITY PHARMACY
CITY PHARMACY
New Medical Center
Julphar

Manufacturers

Neopharma
EMS S/A
Merck Sharp & Dohme
Saudi Arabian Japanese Pharma
Neopharma
Julphar

Product name

PHINAX 1 & 5mg/ Tablet

FINASTERIDE 1 MG / TABLETS

PROSCAR 5mg / Tablet

PROSPECIA 5mg / Tablet

FINASID 5 mg/tablet

FINAGEN 5 mg/tablet

NORMOSTATE 5 mg/tablet

In the event of any side effects, please fill in the ADR side effects form available on the website <http://www.cpd-pharma.ae>, or call the following phone numbers: (04-2301448 or fax -04-2301947) or e-mail: pv@moh.gov.ae.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Amin Hussein Al Amiri

Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health Policy and Licensing

Issued at the Ministry's General Office on 3/7/2017

Copy for

His Excellency the Minister of Health and Community Protection

His Excellency the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Dubai Health Authority

His Excellency the Director General of the Health Authority - Abu Dhabi

His Excellency the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health and Community Protection

His Excellency the Assistant Undersecretary for the Hospitals Sector

His Excellency the Assistant Undersecretary for the Health Centers and Clinics Sector

His Excellency: Director of the Medical Office of the Ministry of Presidential Affairs

His Excellency the Executive Director of Dubai Healthcare City

His Excellency Director of the Department of Medical Services Corps/Armed Forces

His Excellency Director of the Department of Empowerment and Health Compliance

His Excellency the Director of the Medicines Department