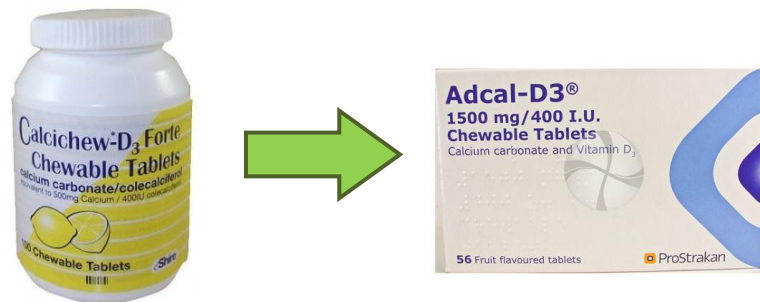


Number 16 –  
January 2015

# Patient Safety ALERT: Drug Substitution



Following the November 2014 meeting of the Drugs and Therapeutics Committee it has been agreed to substitute prescriptions for Calcichew D3 Forte with Adcal D3 for areas supplied by the North Devon District Hospital pharmacy department.

The rationale for this is:

- The active constituents are the same
- Adcal D3 is presented in a child resistant container (blister packs)
- Adcal D3 is presented in a monthly pack
- Rationalisation of stock holding by the pharmacy

Prescriptions for Calcichew D3 Forte will be annotated Adcal D3 by the pharmacy department. This will include discharge prescriptions.

The CCG northern locality Medicines Optimisation team will be advising the GPs of the switch to harmonise patients' supplies.

## FOR ACTION:

- **Adcal D3 contains soya and therefore the patient's allergy status should be checked before substitution. Patients with soya and peanut allergies should be referred to the prescriber or the pharmacy team for advice.**
- **Patients should be advised of the switch and told to discard their Calcichew D3 Forte.**
- **To ensure all staff receive this notification, please can this notice be put in staff rooms and brought up at local team meetings.**

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