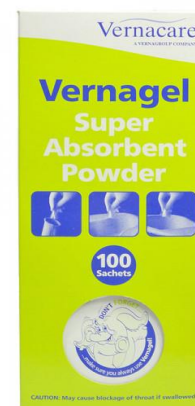


Patient Safety ALERT: National Risk of death and severe harm from ingestion of superabsorbent polymer gel granules

PLEASE DISPLAY IN YOUR DIRTY UTILITY / SLUICE



A national Patient Safety Alert has been issued from NHS Improvement following a death where a patient died of asphyxiation after ingesting a sachet left in an empty urine bottle in their room. Incidents from the NRLS identified 15 similar non-fatal incidents in the acute and community hospital setting over the past six years mainly involving confused patients who may have mistaken the sachets for sweets, sugar etc. Please ensure that if you use these items in your clinical area that they are stored in the yellow lockable cupboard and if you have surplus this is returned to stores or locked in a suitable cupboard.

Please contact the Quality Improvement Team if you have any queries.

FOR ACTION:

Please ensure all staff that use these sachets are aware of this information and understand and follow the above advice.