GlaxoSmithKline
PO Box 13398
Five Moore Drive
Research Triangle Park
North Carolina 27709

Tel. 919 483 2100
www.gsk.com

IMPORTANT Drug Warning

DISPENSING ERRORS ALERT

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Medication dispensing errors are a serious threat to quality health care and necessitate the combined efforts of prescribers, dispensers, manufacturers and patients to minimize their occurrence. GlaxoSmithKline has received reports of dispensing errors involving **LAMICTAL®** (lamotrigine) Tablets and other medications, most commonly **Lamisil®,* lamivudine, Ludiomil®,* labetolol, and Lomotil®,*** some of which have resulted in serious adverse events. Your assistance is requested in clearly communicating oral and written prescriptions for these products to help avoid future dispensing errors. For example, you might consider, when appropriate, including the intended use on prescriptions for these products. Please alert patients for whom you are prescribing these medications that they should carefullly check the medication they receive and promptly bring any questions or concerns to the attention of the pharmacist. Additional efforts to address this situation within pharmacies are under way.

Some epileptic patients needing **LAMICTAL** have mistakenly received other drugs, while other patients prescribed other medications have erroneously received **LAMICTAL**. Patients with epilepsy who do not receive their antiepileptic drug due to a dispensing error would be inadequately treated and could experience serious consequences including status epilepticus. Conversely, patients erroneously receiving **LAMICTAL** would be unnecessarily subjected to a risk of potential side effects, including serious rash.

Clear communication when prescribing any drug product is an important measure in the effort to reduce the occurrence of dispensing errors. If you become aware of a prescription dispensing error involving **LAMICTAL**, please contact GlaxoSmithKline at 1-800-334-4153; the USP Medication Errors Reporting Program (1-800-233-7767) or the FDA MEDWATCH program by phone 1-800-FDA-1088, by FAX 1-800-FDA-0178, by Internet http://www.fda.gov/medwatch or www.fda.gov/medwatch, or by mail:

MEDWATCH HF-2
FDA
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Thank you.
Sincerely,

Edward N. Pattishall, MD, MPH
Vice President, Clinical Safety, RTP
Global Clinical Safety and Pharmacovigilance

PLEASE CONSULT COMPLETE PRESCRIBING INFORMATION FOR **LAMICTAL** ENCLOSED.

*Lamisil (terbinafine HCl tablets) and Ludiomil (maprotiline HCl) are registered trademarks of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.

*Lomotil (diphenoxylate HCl, atropine sulfate) is a registered trademark of G.D. Searle & Co.

LMT657R0