

# Learning Board: Acuphase administered to elderly patient on two occasions.

## Brief Summary

- 68 year old lady admitted to Kirby ward.
- Seen in Ward Round and plan to prescribed "Clopixol"
- Clopixol is a brand name of Zuclopenthixol which comes in decanoate (depot) and acetate (Acuphase – which is prescribed for acute disturbed behaviour).
- Clopixol Acetate (Acuphase) should not be administered to elderly patients.
- The patients was given 2 doses of Acuphase, that was prescribed of 2 occasions, reviewed by pharmacy of 2 occasions and given on 2 occasions by 2 Registered Nurses.

## Learning & Recommendation

- Pharmacy to consider creating high-risk alert for Acuphase or add in extra safeguards.
- Staff involved to complete a reflection and to discuss about medications that should not be administered to patients over 65.
- Pharmacy to consider extra training re: Rapid Tranquilisation inc. acuphase for junior doctors on admission.
- A review to be conducted of other medication errors
- Consideration of using generic name as opposed to brand names when discussing and documenting medications.

## Good Practice

- When error was uncovered, the Specialist Registrar acted quickly to ensure that the patient was informed of error and that it was reported.

## Action

- Pop-up alert put on so pharmacist will question prescription as it is prescribed.
- **Red stickers** to be put on box to identify that it is not a depot.
- Table top session with staff involved to reflect on incident and to consider professional curiosity about giving medications that are not usually prescribed to elderly patients
- Continue to challenge others using brand names for medication.
- Head of Pharmacy to do a review of medication errors – none found.