



DRS/MtH/IEA.44

6 April 1994

## DRS Information Exchange Service

## ALERT No. 44

**CONTAMINATED COUNTERFEIT INJECTIONS OF  
ANABOLIC STEROIDS**

The Medicines Control Agency has discovered counterfeit and contaminated injections of anabolic steroids in the United Kingdom. The injections are not sterile and do not contain the active ingredient in the amount stated on the label. Use of them could result in localized and systemic infections.

The products are labelled: **Winstrol Depot 50 Injection (Stanozolol 50 mg), batch numbers B460 and H420**, and are thought to be on sale through fitness clubs and gymnasiums.

Anabolic steroids are prescription only medicines and should only be administered in accordance with the directions of a registered medical practitioner. Athletes, body-builders and others who have the above products or any other injections of anabolic steroids in their possession that have not been dispensed by a pharmacist against a doctor's prescription should stop using them immediately as they may be counterfeit and contaminated.

Anyone who is worried that they may have been infected by contaminated anabolic steroids should consult their doctor. Any other information about counterfeit steroids should be reported to the police.<sup>(1)</sup>

It is not known whether such products are available in any other country, but this incident illustrates the continued danger represented by the distribution of spurious products.

**The Drug Safety Unit would be very interested in any other reports concerning such counterfeit drugs.**

*Reference: (1) Drug Alert Reference EL(94)(ALERT)A/10 dated 21 March 1994, Defective Medicines Report Centre, Medicines Control Agency, London.*

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