

**Malta, 1 July 2009**  
**Circular No. P10/2009**

Dear Healthcare Professional,

**Re: European Medicines Agency update on safety of insulin glargine**

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) is looking into four recently published registry studies investigating a possible relationship between insulin analogues, in particular insulin glargine, and the risk of cancer. The studies were published on the Diabetologia website on 26 June 2009.

On the basis of the currently available data, a relationship between insulin glargine and cancer can neither be confirmed nor excluded. However, the concerns raised by the four studies require further in-depth evaluation. The Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) will perform a detailed assessment of the studies' results and any other relevant information.

Patients being treated with insulin glargine should continue their treatment as normal. At this time there is no recommendation that treatment should be changed. Patients should, nevertheless, be advised to consult their doctor in case of any concerns.

Further information will be provided once the CHMP has concluded its review.

The Medicines Authority has participated in these discussions held at the EMA and is in agreement with the full [press release](#) issued by the EMA, attached here for your perusal.

*Healthcare professionals are encouraged to regularly check the Medicines Authority website for product safety updates as these are issued on an ongoing basis.*