

DR. STEPHEN OPUNI

FDB/SMD/SMU.25/VOL1/11

February 14, 2011

.....
.....
.....

Dear Healthcare Professional,

**SUSPECTED ORAL QUININE SULPHATE INDUCED BLEEDING
AND INCOMPLETE ABORTION**

The National Centre for Pharmacovigilance (Food and Drugs Board) through its spontaneous reporting programme has received a number of reports of bleeding and incomplete abortion suspected to be induced by the administration of oral quinine sulphate for the treatment of malaria in pregnancy.

Oral quinine is safe and effective and it is recommended by the World Health Organization and the National Malaria Control Programme for the treatment of malaria in pregnancy. Quinine is also given by the I.M/I.V route for the treatment of complicated/severe malaria.

Although, bleeding in pregnancy and incomplete abortion were not documented adverse reactions of quinine when used at normal doses in pregnancy, the Food and Drugs Board will appreciate it if prescribers closely monitor and report any suspected adverse reactions experienced by pregnant women given quinine for the treatment of malaria to the National Pharmacovigilance Centre, FDB, through the Institutional Contact Person(s) in your facilities or directly to the Food and Drugs Board through the following contact, 024 4310 297 or drugsafety@fdbghana.gov.gh. You may also download and complete Adverse Drug Reaction Form from the FDB website, www.fdbghana.gov.gh.

For further enquiries, complaints and reports of adverse reaction to any other medicinal product, contact the FDB through the following address.

Postal address: The Chief Executive
Food and Drugs Board
P. O. Box CT2783
Cantonments, Accra
Telephone: 0302 235100 / 0302 233200
Fax: 0302 229794

Yours faithfully,

**DR. STEPHEN K. OPUNI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**