

## **FDA Approves Treatment of Nerve-Poisoning Agents for Use in Civilians**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Duodote (atropine and pralidoxime chloride injection) for use by trained emergency medical services personnel to treat civilians exposed to life-threatening organophosphorus-containing nerve agents, such as sarin and insecticides. FDA previously approved atropine and pralidoxime chloride injection under the name Antidote Treatment-Nerve Agent Auto-Injector (ATNAA) for military use. ATNAA is not available for use in civilians.

Duodote is manufactured by Meridian Medical Technologies, Inc., Columbia, Md. King Pharmaceuticals in Bristol, Tenn. also has been approved to manufacture and distribute Duodote. The manufacturers will distribute Duodote directly to emergency medical service organizations or their suppliers.

For more information, visit

<http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01473.html>

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