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## **ADR**

### **Tip of the Month**

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#### **Birth defects related to isotretinoin**

Health Canada recently reinforced the following:

- There is a serious risk of birth defects associated with taking the prescription acne medication isotretinoin while pregnant.
- Birth defects associated with isotretinoin include: malformation of the limbs, head, face, heart and central nervous system of a fetus.
- Health professionals treating women who are using or considering using this medication must share and discuss information on the importance of not getting pregnant while taking this medication.
- Isotretinoin pregnancy prevention programs in Canada require a patient's written consent, two negative pregnancy tests before starting treatment, monthly tests during treatment and one month after stopping, and the use of two reliable methods of birth control during this period.

**For more information:**

<http://healthy Canadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2016/60096a-eng.php>

***Please report all suspected  
adverse drug reactions (ADRs).***