

Dragon, Karen E. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

From: brittain.jeff@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 09, 2011 7:45 AM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Subject: 190 - NIOSH List of Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings 2012: Proposed Additions and Deletions to the NIOSH Hazardous Drug List Comments

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Comments

Attempting to categorize something as safe as simvastatin destroys the credibility of the NIOSH hazardous drug list. Statins are the most widely-prescribed class of medications ever, and simvastatin is the most commonly dispensed of that class. It has been in widespread use worldwide for over 20 years, and has extended and improved the lives of literally millions of people across the globe. Statins are available without a prescription in other countries they are so safe. To say that simvastatin is "hazardous" is like saying "water is hazardous." More people have problems as a result of taking acetaminophen (Tylenol) than simvastatin, and acetaminophen is over-the-counter. If you continue to add generally safe medications to a list of "hazards" then the list becomes diluted, loses its meaning, and will eventually be useless. I urge you to build this list objectively and not at the whim of the latest news stories authorized by non-healthcare professionals.