GREENSBORO IMAGING UNAFFECTED BY MENINGITIS SCARE

Epidural steroid injections are completely free from risk of fungal meningitis

Greensboro, NC—October 8, 2012—In response to recent national attention given to patients getting sick from tainted steroid injections, the medical staff at Greensboro Imaging wants to stress that getting a cortisone or prednisone shot at our facility does not put a patient at risk of contracting meningitis of the type recently reported.

“This is a very serious matter, certainly,” said Dr. Chris Mattern, Medical Director. “We have been closely monitoring the ongoing CDC investigation. I understand people’s hesitation. But I cannot stress enough—Greensboro Imaging does not have samples that are tainted with fungal meningitis. We can be sure of this. The only injectable methylprednisolone acetate products we have administered are under the brand name Depo-Medrol, manufactured for us by Pfizer, Inc.”

All tainted samples have been traced to one of three lots from a pharmacy in Massachusetts, a distributor with which Greensboro Imaging does not and has never done business. Greensboro Imaging obtains product from Pfizer, the manufacturer of the drug.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has identified all 76 facilities that use tainted samples, a list of which is available at http://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/meningitis-facilities-map.html.

“As medical professionals, the safety and health of our clients is our utmost concern,” continued Mattern. “The CDC has been able to identify each medical facility that has had contact with the tainted samples. Though there are three facilities in North Carolina, none of them are in Greensboro.”

Greensboro Imaging has been giving approximately 10-15 epidural steroid shots a day for the past 10 years. It is a common procedure. Our medical staff is up to date on safety recommendations and reviews such procedures regularly. We have six dedicated radiologists who staff our Spine Injection Clinic.

Deaths from the tainted samples were reported in Maryland, Michigan, Tennessee and Virginia. Cases of sickness resulting from using the tainted samples were reported in Florida, Indiana, Minnesota, North Carolina and Ohio. As of today, there have been 105 reported cases of illness and seven cases of death from tainted medication.

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About Greensboro Imaging

Greensboro Imaging is a joint venture of Cone Health and Greensboro Radiology. It serves the Piedmont Triad with five outpatient imaging centers – Greensboro Imaging at 315 West Wendover Avenue, Greensboro Imaging at Wendover Medical Center, Greensboro Imaging at Kernersville, Greensboro Imaging at West Market St and The Breast Center of Greensboro Imaging. Greensboro Imaging has access to the expertise of all 55 board-certified, sub-specialized Greensboro Radiology physicians, providing the best possible imaging care. For more information, please visit our website, greensboroimaging.com.