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## Worldwide Biopharmaceutical Businesses

14 October 2011

### **“Pfizer Rheumatology Calculator” iPhone /Android Application - important information**

Dear Doctor,

Pfizer Ltd. would like to inform you of an error within a “Pfizer Rheumatology Calculator” iPhone / Android application which was available for download from the Apple App Store and the Google Android Market since April 2011.

The “Pfizer Rheumatology Calculator” allows physicians to measure the disease activity of patients with various inflammatory diseases, in particular of patients with rheumatoid arthritis. The disease scores included in this application are internationally well accepted by the scientific community.

Pfizer very recently became aware that the application gives incorrect values for the DAS28 calculation, and immediately withdrew the application from the respective online stores.

In particular, the Apple iPhone application gives on average a 15-20% higher score for DAS28-ESR compared to a score calculated using the published DAS28-ESR formula (with higher or lower incorrect scores in certain cases)<sup>1</sup>. It gives on average a 10-15% lower score for DAS28-CRP compared to a score calculated using the published DAS28-CRP formula<sup>2</sup>. Incorrect values are also obtained for the ASDAS-CRP score (scores are on average 15-25% lower) and for the PASI score (scores are up to 50% lower). There may also be minor errors in the Framingham scores.

The Android application gives on average a 10-15% lower score for DAS28-CRP compared to a score calculated using the published DAS28-CRP formula<sup>2</sup>, whilst the results for the DAS28-ESR are correct. It also gives on average 10% higher scores for the BASDAI score and up to 50% lower scores for the PASI score. There may also be minor errors in the Framingham scores.

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<sup>1</sup> Prevo ML, van Gestel AM, van T Hof MA, van Rijswijk MH, van de Putte LB, van Riel PL. Remission in a prospective study of patients with rheumatoid arthritis. American Rheumatism Association preliminary remission criteria in relation to the disease activity score. Br J Rheumatol. 1996 Nov;35(11):1101-5.

<sup>2</sup> Wells G, Becker JC, Teng J, Dougados M, Schiff M, Smolen J, Aletaha D, van Riel PL. Validation of the 28-joint Disease Activity Score (DAS28) and European League Against Rheumatism response criteria based on C-reactive protein against disease progression in patients with rheumatoid arthritis, and comparison with the DAS28 based on erythrocyte sedimentation rate. Ann Rheum Dis. 2009 Jun;68(6):954-60.



Therefore, if you have downloaded the “Pfizer Rheumatology Calculator” application to your mobile device, the application should not be used any longer and should be deleted from the device. Any calculations made using this application should be reviewed.

For additional information, please contact Pfizer’s Medical Information Services via Pfizer’s UK office on +44 (0) 1304 616161.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "BPhillips".

Dr Berkeley Phillips

UK Medical Director

Pfizer UK