RECALL OF Cefazolin Sandoz BATCH AH 5067

Background
Sandoz have advised of a voluntary recall of Cefazolin Sandoz 1 gram vials Batch No AH 5067 following reports of anaphylaxis associated with this batch.

Cefazolin is an antibiotic commonly used in antibiotic prophylaxis during surgery and for other infections.

Specific Incident
During the last 11 days there have been eight anaphylactic or severe allergic reactions (one fatal) experienced by patients following administration of intravenous Cefazolin. The incidents appear to be related to Batch No AH 5067.

The company, TGA and ADRAC have been notified. The TGA have advised they will be issuing a recall shortly.

Mandatory actions for Area Health Services
Area Health Services are to
1. withdraw Cefazolin Sandoz Batch No AH 5067 from use;
2. seek replacement stock noting this drug is used in hospital, outpatient and community settings;
3. ensure that sufficient stock of alternate batches or comparable antibiotics are available for use so that clinical care is not compromised;
4. report any serious allergic reactions to the Chief Pharmacist on call 0401 712 050 and
5. ensure that all staff are reminded of the need for appropriate recognition and management of patients with anaphylaxis or severe allergic reactions.

Further advice
Further advice is being sought from the manufacturer, the TGA and ADRAC.

Action required by Area Health Services
1. Withdraw all Cefazolin Sandoz Batch AH 5067 (expiry 05/12) pending return to supplier.
2. Report any suspected serious allergic reactions immediately to the Chief Pharmacist on Mob 0401 712 050.