



Memorandum

To: General Trucking Industry Clients

From: WorkRite Safety, PLLC

Date: June 9, 2008

Important FMCSA Determinations

Chantix (Varenicline)

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has recently notified all Medical Examiners to **NOT QUALIFY** a driver currently using the drug *Chantix (Varenicline)*, as there appears to be more than 100 accidents linked to the drug. Chantix is a common medication used to help patients stop smoking. There are approximately 5.5 million Americans currently using Chantix. Some of the potential side effects from utilizing this drug are dizziness, seizures, and heart irregularity.

Byetta

The FMCSA has also issued a position statement concerning the diabetic medication *Byetta*. *Byetta* is not insulin, is permitted under FMCSA rules, and should not affect a driver's qualification to drive a CMV in interstate commerce. It is indicated as adjunctive therapy to patients who are taking metformin or a combination of other oral agents. *Byetta* used in conjunction with sulfonylurea has an increased risk of hypoglycemia.

The FMCSA recommends that: **drivers taking Byetta provide a written statement from their treating physician to the Medical Examiner and that they be monitored frequently.**