



14<sup>th</sup> December 2018

## **Epilim (sodium valproate) – Valproate Educational Materials**

Dear Healthcare Professional,

In 2016, Sanofi introduced an initiative to assist in the education of patients taking valproate to ensure the quality use of medicines.

As part of this ongoing initiative, Sanofi have updated the following materials to ensure that women of child-bearing potential are aware of the risks associated with taking valproate during pregnancy:

- *Guide for Healthcare Professionals*: a booklet to provide information to prescribers on the risks associated with the use of valproate during pregnancy.
- *Patient Information Booklet*: a booklet to provide information to female patients on the risks associated with taking valproate whilst pregnant.

Previously these tools were available to order, after discussions with Medsafe these tools will now be available online at [www.sanofi.com.au/valproate](http://www.sanofi.com.au/valproate)

Please ensure that this important initiative is forwarded to all members of your staff involved in the care of patients with epilepsy or bipolar disorders undergoing treatment with valproate.

If you require further information please contact Sanofi Medical Information on 0800 283 684, option 2.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Applebee", written over a horizontal line.

Krista Applebee  
Medical Manager – General Medicines

**sanofi-aventis new zealand limited trading as Sanofi**

Level 8, 56 Cawley Street, Ellerslie, Auckland 1051, New Zealand; P.O Box 12851, Penrose, Auckland 1642  
Tel: +64 (0) 9 580 1810 – Fax: +64 (0) 9 580 1811. [www.sanofi-aventis.com.au](http://www.sanofi-aventis.com.au)