



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services

At its meeting held September 9, 2003 , the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“Presently, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has in place a voluntary reporting, through the MedWatch program, for health care providers to report serious adverse drug reactions in patients. The FDA estimates that providers are voluntarily reporting instances of serious medication side effects only about ten percent of the time. Given the dramatic advances in pharmacology over the past decade and the increasing use of pharmaceuticals to manage chronic health conditions, the consistent reporting of serious adverse reactions by practitioners is of great importance. As a major health care provider in Los Angeles County, it is necessary to ensure that the Department of Health Services’ facilities are making appropriate reports to the FDA.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Knabe being absent), the Board instructed the Director of Health Services to report back to the Board within 14 days on:

1. The current U. S. Food and Drug Administration's reporting requirements for adverse drug reactions in patients;
2. What procedures are in place for the Department of Health Services' facilities to ensure the prompt reporting of serious adverse reactions; and
3. What mechanism exists for tracking these incidents.

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