Relayed Reaction

July 1, 2002 By Paul Thacker

Pill panic hit in mid-May among HIVers in California, Connecticut, Maryland and Florida: A single bottle in each state labeled Combivir that should have been filled with white tabs of the AZT/3TC combo in fact contained yellow tabs of Ziagen. Officials at GlaxoSmithKline, maker of all three nukes, immediately issued a warning with the added alert that Ziagen can cause a potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity. No bad reactions have been reported. Glaxo has no evidence of tampering before the product left the plant, and an investigation into hanky-panky by retailers or wholesalers is ongoing. The motive remains murky.

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