AstraZeneca

To the attention of Dr Daniel Brasseur
EMEA,
7 Westferry Circus,
Canary Wharf,
London, E14 4HB
UK

14 February 2006

Subject: Withdrawal of Ximelagatran 36mg film-coated tablets: **EMEA/H/C/000702**

Dear Dr Brasseur,

I would like to inform you that AstraZeneca UK Limited has taken the decision to withdraw the application for a Marketing Authorisation for Ximelagatran 36mg film-coated tablets. The intended use was 'Prevention of stroke and other thromboembolic complications associated with atrial fibrillation'.

The withdrawal of this application is as a result of the decision to withdraw from the market the anticoagulant Melagatran AstraZeneca™/ Exanta™/Exarta™ (melagatran/ximelagatran), hereafter collectively referred to as Exanta.

Exanta (24mg) was used for up to 11 days in prevention of venous thromboembolic events (VTE) in patients undergoing elective hip or knee replacement surgery.

The withdrawal of Exanta has been triggered by new patient safety data (an adverse event report of serious liver injury) in the EXTEND clinical trial. The trial examined use of Exanta for up to 35 days after hip or knee surgery. This new patient report indicates a potential risk of serious liver injury, with an observation of rapid onset of signs and symptoms in the weeks following the end of the 35 days treatment. Patients have a number of alternative options for anticoagulation following hip or knee surgery, therefore in the interests of patient safety, AstraZeneca is taking the precautionary step of withdrawing Exanta.

Exanta treatment in ongoing clinical trials has been stopped and all marketing authorisations or applications are being withdrawn. There is no ongoing compassionate use programme.

We reserve the right to make further submissions at a future date in this or other therapeutic indication(s).

I agree for such a letter to be published on the EMEA website.

Yours sincerely,

AstraZeneca

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