EMA/535247/2021

European Medicines Agency decision

P/0466/2021

of 29 October 2021

on the refusal of a product specific waiver for tocilizumab (RoActemra), (EMEA-000309-PIP06-21) in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Only the English text is authentic.

Official address Domenico Scarlattilaan 6 ● 1083 HS Amsterdam ● The Netherlands
Address for visits and deliveries Refer to www.ema.europa.eu/how-to-find-us
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on the refusal of a product specific waiver for tocilizumab (RoActemra), (EMEA-000309-PIP06-21) in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council

The European Medicines Agency,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on medicinal products for paediatric use and amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1768/92, Directive 2001/20/EC, Directive 2001/83/EC and Regulation (EC) No 726/2004[1],

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 laying down Community procedures for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products for human and veterinary use and establishing a European Medicines Agency[2],

Having regard to the application submitted by Roche Registration GmbH on 4 June 2021 under Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006,

Having regard to the opinion of the Paediatric Committee of the European Medicines Agency, issued on 10 September 2021 in accordance with Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006,

Having regard to Article 25 of Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006,

Whereas:

(1) The Paediatric Committee has given an opinion on the refusal of a product specific waiver.

(2) It is therefore appropriate to adopt a decision refusing a waiver.

Has adopted this decision:

Article 1

A waiver for tocilizumab (RoActemra), solution for injection, subcutaneous use, the details of which are set out in the opinion of the Paediatric Committee of the European Medicines Agency annexed hereto, together with its appendices, is hereby refused.

Article 2

This decision is addressed to Roche Registration GmbH, Emil-Barell-Strasse 1, 79639 - Grenzach-Whylen, Germany.

[1] OJ L 378, 27.12.2006, p.1.
[2] OJ L 136, 30.4.2004, p. 1.

EMA/PDCO/341063/2021
Amsterdam, 10 September 2021

Opinion of the Paediatric Committee on the refusal of a product-specific waiver

EMEA-000309-PIP06-21

Scope of the application

Active substance(s):

Tocilizumab

Invented name:

RoActemra

Condition(s):

Treatment of systemic sclerosis

Authorised indication(s):

See Annex II

Pharmaceutical form(s):

Solution for injection

Route(s) of administration:

Subcutaneous use

Name/corporate name of the PIP applicant:

Roche Registration GmbH

Information about the authorised medicinal product:

See Annex II

Basis for opinion

Pursuant to Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 as amended, Roche Registration GmbH submitted to the European Medicines Agency on 4 June 2021 an application for a product-specific waiver on the grounds set out in Article 11 of said Regulation for the above mentioned medicinal product.

The procedure started on 12 July 2021.

Opinion

1. The Paediatric Committee, having assessed the waiver application in accordance with Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 as amended, recommends as set out in the appended summary report:

   - to refuse the granting of a product-specific waiver for all subsets of the paediatric population and the above mentioned condition(s) as it does not meet the grounds detailed in Article 11(1) of said Regulation.

   The Norwegian Paediatric Committee member agrees with the above-mentioned recommendation of the Paediatric Committee.

2. The scientific conclusions and the grounds for refusal are set out in the summary report appended to this opinion.

3. The grounds for refusal are summarised in Annex I.

This opinion is forwarded to the applicant(s) and the Executive Director of the European Medicines Agency, together with its annexes and appendix.

Annex I

Grounds for the refusal of the waiver

1. Waiver

1.1. Condition:

Treatment of systemic sclerosis

The request for the waiver applied to:

- all subsets of the paediatric population from birth to less than 18 years of age;
- solution for injection, subcutaneous use.

The waiver request does not provide evidence to support the following grounds set out in Article 11(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 that:

- (a) the specific medicinal product is likely to be ineffective or unsafe in the paediatric population;
- (b) the disease or condition for which the specific medicinal product is intended occurs only in adult populations;
- (c) the specific medicinal product does not represent a significant therapeutic benefit over existing treatments for paediatric patients.

Because:

- the specific medicinal product is not likely to be ineffective or unsafe;
- the disease or condition for which the specific medicinal product is intended, does occur in the paediatric population(s);
- measures would be justified by the expected therapeutic benefit and clinical trials may be feasible;
- the specific medicinal product may represent a significant therapeutic benefit as the needs are not met;
- clinical studies may fulfil a therapeutic need of the paediatric population.

The waiver request is therefore refused by the PDCO.

Annex II

Information about the authorised medicinal product

Condition(s) and authorised indication(s):

1. Treatment of chronic idiopathic arthritis

Authorised indication(s):

RoActemra, in combination with methotrexate (MTX), is indicated for:

- the treatment of severe, active and progressive rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in adults not previously treated with MTX;
- the treatment of moderate to severe active RA in adult patients who have either responded inadequately to, or who were intolerant to, previous therapy with one or more disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs) or tumour necrosis factor (TNF) antagonists.

In these patients, RoActemra can be given as monotherapy in case of intolerance to MTX or where continued treatment with MTX is inappropriate.

RoActemra has been shown to reduce the rate of progression of joint damage as measured by X-ray and to improve physical function when given in combination with methotrexate.

RoActemra is indicated for the treatment of active systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis (sJIA) in patients 2 years of age and older, who have responded inadequately to previous therapy with NSAIDs and systemic corticosteroids. RoActemra can be given as monotherapy (in case of intolerance to MTX or where treatment with MTX is inappropriate) or in combination with MTX.

RoActemra in combination with methotrexate (MTX) is indicated for the treatment of juvenile idiopathic polyarthritis (pJIA; rheumatoid factor positive or negative and extended oligoarthritis) in patients 2 years of age and older, who have responded inadequately to previous therapy with MTX.

RoActemra can be given as monotherapy in case of intolerance to MTX or where continued treatment with MTX is inappropriate.

RoActemra is indicated for the treatment of Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) in adult patients.

2. Treatment of cytokine release syndrome associated with chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell therapy

Authorised indication(s):

RoActemra is indicated for the treatment of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell-induced severe or life-threatening cytokine release syndrome (CRS) in adults and paediatric patients 2 years of age and older.

Authorised pharmaceutical form(s):

Concentrate for solution for infusion

Solution for injection

Authorised route(s) of administration:

Intravenous use

Subcutaneous use