

**ANNEX I**  
**SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS**

▼ This medicinal product is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions. See section 4.8 for how to report adverse reactions.

## **1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Veltassa 8.4 g powder for oral suspension  
Veltassa 16.8 g powder for oral suspension  
Veltassa 25.2 g powder for oral suspension

## **2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION**

Each sachet contains 8.4 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)  
Each sachet contains 16.8 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)  
Each sachet contains 25.2 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## **3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

Powder for oral suspension.  
Off white to light brown powder, with occasional white particles.

## **4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS**

### **4.1 Therapeutic indications**

Veltassa is indicated for the treatment of hyperkalaemia in adults.

### **4.2 Posology and method of administration**

#### Posology

The recommended starting dose is 8.4 g patiromer once daily.

The daily dose may be adjusted in intervals of one week or longer, based on the serum potassium level and the desired target range. The daily dose may be increased or decreased by 8.4 g as necessary to reach the desired target range, up to a maximum dose of 25.2 g daily. If serum potassium falls below the desired range, the dose should be reduced or discontinued.

If a dose is missed, the missed dose should be taken as soon as possible on the same day. The missed dose should not be taken with the next dose.

Administration of Veltassa should be separated by 3 hours from other oral medicinal products (see section 4.5).

The onset of action of Veltassa occurs 4 – 7 hours after administration. It should not replace emergency treatment for life threatening hyperkalaemia.

*Patients on dialysis*

There is limited data on the use of Veltassa in patients on dialysis. No special dose and administration guidelines were applied to these patients in clinical studies.

#### *Elderly population (≥65 years of age)*

No special dose and administration guidelines are recommended for this population.

#### *Paediatric population*

The safety and efficacy of Veltassa in children aged under 18 years have not yet been established. No data are available.

#### Method of administration

Oral use.

Veltassa should be mixed with water and stirred to a suspension of uniform consistency, according to the following steps:

The complete dose should be poured into a glass containing approximately 40 mL of water, then stirred. Another approximately 40 mL of water should be added, and the suspension stirred again thoroughly. The powder will not dissolve. More water may be added to the mixture as needed for desired consistency.

The mixture should be taken within 1 hour of initial suspension. If powder remains in the glass after drinking, more water should be added and the suspension stirred and taken immediately. This may be repeated as needed to ensure the entire dose is administered.

Apple juice or cranberry juice can be used instead of water to prepare the mixture. Other liquids should be avoided as they may contain high amounts of potassium.

In general, cranberry juice intake should be limited to moderate amounts (for example less than 400 mL per day) due to its potential interaction with other medicinal products.

Veltassa can be taken with or without food. It should not be heated (e.g. microwaved) or added to heated foods or liquids. It should not be taken in its dry form.

### **4.3 Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

#### *Low Magnesium*

In clinical studies, serum magnesium values <1.4 mg/dL (0.58 mmol/L) occurred in 9% of patients treated with patiromer. Mean decreases in serum magnesium were 0.17 mg/dL (0.070 mmol/L) or less. Serum magnesium should be monitored for at least 1 month after initiating treatment, and magnesium supplementation considered in patients who develop low serum magnesium levels.

#### *Gastrointestinal Disorders*

Patients with a history of bowel obstruction or major gastrointestinal surgery, severe gastrointestinal disorders, or swallowing disorders were not included in the clinical studies. Gastrointestinal ischaemia, necrosis and/or intestinal perforation have been reported with other potassium binders. The benefits and risks of administering patiromer should be carefully evaluated in patients with current or history of severe gastrointestinal disorders, before and during treatment.

### *Discontinuing patiromer*

When discontinuing patiromer, serum potassium levels may rise, especially if RAAS inhibitor treatment is continued. Patients should be instructed not to discontinue therapy without consulting their physicians. Increases in serum potassium may occur as early as 2 days after the last patiromer dose.

### *Serum potassium levels*

Serum potassium should be monitored when clinically indicated, including after changes are made to medicinal products that affect the serum potassium concentration (e.g. RAAS inhibitors or diuretics) and after the patiromer dose is titrated.

### Information about sorbitol

Veltassa contains sorbitol as part of the counterion complex. The sorbitol content is approximately 4 g (10.4 kcal) per 8.4 g of patiromer.

Patients with rare hereditary problems of fructose intolerance should not take this medicine.

### Information about calcium

Veltassa contains calcium as part of the counterion complex. Calcium is partially released some of which may be absorbed (see section 5.1). The benefits and risks of administering this medicinal product should be carefully evaluated in patients at risk of hypercalcaemia.

### Limitations of the clinical data

#### *Patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD)*

Patiromer has been studied only in a limited number of patients with estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) <15 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> and patients receiving dialysis treatment.

#### *Severe hyperkalaemia*

There is limited experience in patients with serum potassium concentrations greater than 6.5 mmol/L.

#### *Long term exposure*

Clinical trials with patiromer have not included exposure longer than one year.

## **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

### Effect of patiromer on other medicinal products

Patiromer has the potential to bind some oral co administered medicinal products, which could decrease their gastrointestinal absorption. As patiromer is not absorbed or metabolised by the body, there are limited effects on the function of other medicinal products.

As precautionary measure, and based on the data summarised below, administration of patiromer should therefore be separated by at least 3 hours from other oral medicinal products.

Concomitant administration of patiromer showed reduced bioavailability of ciprofloxacin, levothyroxine and metformin. However, there was no interaction when patiromer and these medicinal products were taken 3 hours apart.

*In vitro* studies have shown potential interaction of patiromer with quinidine.

Concomitant administration of patiromer did however not affect the bioavailability as measured by the area under the curve (AUC) of amlodipine, cinacalcet, clopidogrel, furosemide, lithium, metoprolol, trimethoprim, verapamil and warfarin.

*In vitro* studies have shown no potential interaction of patiromer with the following active substances: allopurinol, amoxicillin, apixaban, acetylsalicylic acid, atorvastatin, cephalexin, digoxin, glipizide, lisinopril, phenytoin, riboflavin, rivaroxaban, spironolactone and valsartan.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### Pregnancy

There are no data from the use of patiromer in pregnant women.

Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3).

As a precautionary measure, it is preferable to avoid the use of patiromer during pregnancy.

##### Breast feeding

No effects on the breast fed newborn/infant are anticipated since the systemic exposure of the breast-feeding woman to patiromer is negligible. A decision must be made whether to discontinue breast feeding or to discontinue/abstain from patiromer therapy taking into account the benefit of breast feeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the woman.

##### Fertility

There are no data on the effect of patiromer on fertility in humans. Animal studies showed no effects on reproductive function or fertility (see section 5.3).

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Patiromer has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### Summary of the safety profile

The majority of the adverse reactions (ARs) reported from trials were gastrointestinal disorders, with the most frequently reported ARs being constipation (6.2%), diarrhoea (3%), abdominal pain (2.9%), flatulence (1.8%) and hypomagnesaemia (5.3%). Gastrointestinal disorder reactions were generally mild to moderate in nature, did not appear to be dose related, generally resolved spontaneously or with treatment, and none were reported as serious. Hypomagnesaemia was mild to moderate, with no patient developing a serum magnesium level <1 mg/dL (0.4 mmol/L).

##### Tabulated list of adverse reactions

Adverse reactions are listed below by system organ class and by frequency. Frequencies are defined as: very common ( $\geq 1/10$ ), common ( $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$ ) and uncommon ( $\geq 1/1,000$  to  $< 1/100$ ), rare ( $\geq 1/10,000$  to  $< 1/1,000$ ), very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ ), not known (cannot be estimated from the available data). Within each frequency grouping, undesirable effects are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

<b>System Organ Class</b>	<b>Common</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	Hypomagnesaemia	
Gastrointestinal disorders	Constipation Diarrhoea Abdominal pain Flatulence	Nausea Vomiting

#### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via **the national reporting system** listed in [Appendix V](#).

#### **4.9 Overdose**

Since excessive doses of Veltassa may result in hypokalaemia, serum potassium levels should be monitored. Patiromer is excreted after approximately 24 to 48 hours, based on average gastrointestinal transit time. If it is determined that medical intervention is required, appropriate measures to restore serum potassium may be considered.

### **5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

#### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Drugs for treatment of hyperkalaemia and hyperphosphataemia. ATC code: V03AE09

#### Mechanism of action

Patiromer is a non-absorbed, cation exchange polymer that contains a calcium-sorbitol complex as a counterion.

Patiromer increases faecal potassium excretion through binding of potassium in the lumen of the gastrointestinal tract. Binding of potassium reduces the concentration of free potassium in the gastrointestinal lumen, resulting in a reduction of serum potassium levels.

#### Pharmacodynamic effects

In healthy adult subjects, patiromer caused a dose dependent increase in faecal potassium excretion, and a corresponding decrease in urinary potassium excretion with no change in serum potassium. 25.2 g of patiromer, administered once daily for 6 days, resulted in a mean increase in faecal potassium excretion of 1283 mg/day, and a mean decrease in urinary potassium excretion of 1438 mg/day. Daily urinary calcium excretion increased from baseline by 53 mg/day.

In an open label study to assess the time to onset of action, a statistically significant reduction in serum potassium in hyperkalaemic patients was observed at 7 hours after the first dose. Following discontinuation of patiromer, potassium levels remained stable for 24 hours after the last dose, then rose again during a 4-day observation period.

#### Clinical efficacy and safety

The safety and efficacy of patiromer were demonstrated in a two-part, single blind randomised withdrawal study that evaluated this treatment in hyperkalaemic patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) on stable doses of at least one RAAS inhibitor (i.e. angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor [ACEI], angiotensin II receptor blocker [ARB] or aldosterone antagonist [AA]).

In Part A, 243 patients were treated with patiromer for 4 weeks. Patients with a baseline serum potassium of 5.1 mEq/L to <5.5 mEq/L (mmol/L) received a starting dose of 8.4 g patiromer per day (as a divided dose) and patients with a baseline serum potassium of 5.5 mEq/L to <6.5 mEq/L received a starting dose of 16.8 g patiromer per day (as a divided dose). The dose was titrated, as needed, based on the serum potassium level, assessed starting on Day 3 and then at weekly visits to the end of the 4 week treatment period, with the aim of maintaining serum potassium in the target range (3.8 mEq/L to <5.1 mEq/L). The mean daily doses of patiromer were 13 g and 21 g in patients with serum potassium of 5.1 to <5.5 mEq/L and 5.5 to <6.5 mEq/L, respectively.

The mean age of patients was 64 years (54% aged 65 and over, 17% aged 75 and over), 58% of patients were men, and 98% were Caucasian. Approximately 97% of patients had hypertension, 57% had type 2 diabetes, and 42% had heart failure.

Mean serum potassium levels and change in serum potassium from Part A Baseline to Part A Week 4 is shown in Table 1. For the Part A secondary outcome, 76% (95% CI: 70%, 81%) of patients had a serum potassium in the target range of 3.8 mEq/L to <5.1 mEq/L at Part A Week 4.

**Table 1: Patiromer treatment phase (Part A): Primary endpoint**

	Baseline Potassium		Overall Population (n=237)
	5.1 to <5.5 mEq/L (n=90)	5.5 to <6.5 mEq/L (n=147)	
	Serum Potassium (mEq/L)		
Baseline, mean (SD)	5.31 (0.57)	5.74 (0.40)	5.58 (0.51)
Week 4 Change from Baseline, Mean $\pm$ SE (95% CI)	-0.65 $\pm$ 0.05 (-0.74, -0.55)	-1.23 $\pm$ 0.04 (-1.31, -1.16)	-1.01 $\pm$ 0.03 (-1.07, -0.95)
<i>p</i> value			<0.001

In Part B, 107 patients with a Part A baseline serum potassium of 5.5 mEq/L to <6.5 mEq/L and whose serum potassium was in the target range (3.8 mEq/L to <5.1 mEq/L) at Part A Week 4 and still receiving RAAS inhibitor treatment were randomised to continue patiromer or to receive placebo for 8 weeks to evaluate the effect of withdrawing patiromer on serum potassium. In patients randomised to patiromer, the mean daily dose was 21 g at the start of Part B and during Part B.

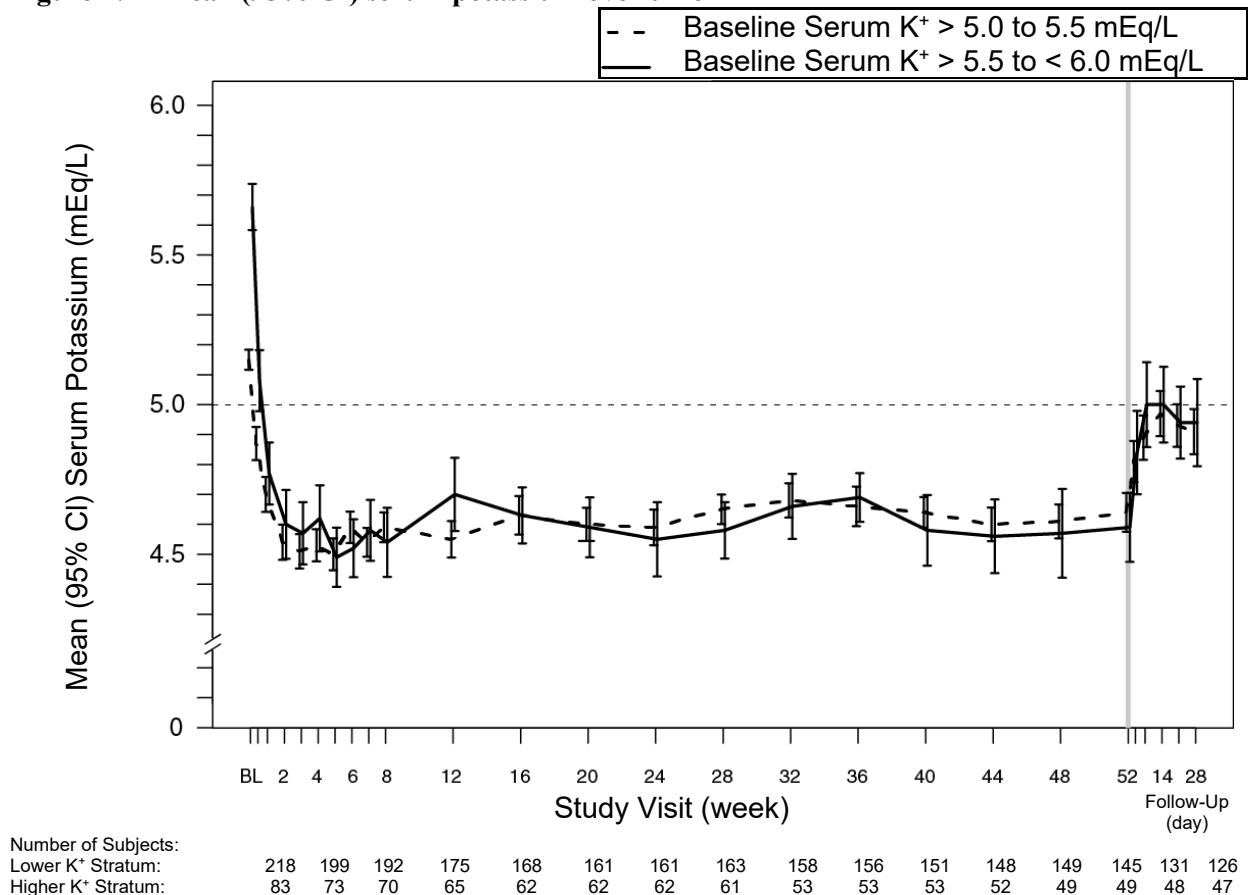
The Part B primary endpoint was the change in serum potassium from Part B baseline to the earliest visit at which the patient's serum potassium was first outside of the range of 3.8 to <5.5 mEq/L or to Part B Week 4 if the patient's serum potassium remained in the range. In Part B, serum potassium in patients on placebo increased significantly relative to patients who remained on patiromer ( $p < 0.001$ ).

More placebo patients (91% [95% CI: 83%, 99%]) developed a serum potassium  $\geq 5.1$  mEq/L at any time during Part B than patiromer patients (43% [95% CI: 30%, 56%]),  $p < 0.001$ . More placebo patients (60% [95% CI: 47%, 74%]) developed a serum potassium  $\geq 5.5$  mEq/L at any time during Part B than patiromer patients (15% [95% CI: 6%, 24%]),  $p < 0.001$ .

The potential of patiromer to enable concomitant RAAS inhibitor treatment was also assessed in part B. Fifty two percent (52%) of subjects receiving placebo discontinued RAAS inhibitor treatment because of recurrent hyperkalaemia compared with 5% of subjects treated with patiromer.

The effect of treatment with patiomer for up to 52 weeks was evaluated in an open label study of 304 hyperkalaemic patients with CKD and type 2 diabetes mellitus on stable doses of a RAAS inhibitor. The mean age of patients was 66 years (59.9% aged 65 and over, 19.7% aged 75 and over), 63% of patients were men, and all were Caucasian. Decreases in serum potassium with patiomer treatment were maintained over 1 year of chronic treatment as shown in Figure 1, with a low incidence of hypokalaemia (2.3%) and the majority of subjects reaching (97.7%) and maintaining target serum potassium levels (overall during maintenance period, serum potassium was within the target range for approximately 80% of the time). In patients with a baseline serum potassium of >5.0 to 5.5 mEq/L who received an initial dose of 8.4 g patiomer per day, the mean daily dose was 14 g; in those with a baseline serum potassium of >5.5 to <6.0 mEq/L who received an initial dose of 16.8 g patiomer per day, the mean daily dose was 20 g during the entire study.

**Figure 1: Mean (95% CI) serum potassium over time**



The ability of patiomer to enable concomitant spironolactone treatment was investigated in a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in heart failure patients who were clinically indicated to receive AA. Patients initiated spironolactone at 25 mg/day at the same time as their randomised treatment (patiomer 12.6 g BID or placebo), and were up-titrated to 50 mg/day after Day 14 if serum potassium was >3.5 and ≤5.1 mEq/L. Of the 105 patients who were randomised and received study treatment (patiomer 56; placebo 49), mean age was 68.3 years, 60.6% were men, 97.1% were Caucasian, and mean eGFR was 81.3 mL/min. Mean baseline serum potassium values were 4.71 mEq/L for patiomer and 4.68 mEq/L for placebo.

The primary efficacy endpoint, change from baseline in serum potassium to the end of the 28-day treatment period, was significantly lower ( $p<0.001$ ) in the patiomer group (LS mean [SEM]: -0.21 [0.07] mEq/L) as compared to the placebo group (LS mean [SEM]: +0.23 [0.07] mEq/L). There were also fewer patients in the patiomer group with serum potassium values >5.5 mEq/L (7.3% vs. 24.5%;  $p=0.027$ ) and more patients on spironolactone 50 mg/day (90.9% versus 73.5%,  $p=0.022$ ).

The ability of patiomer to enable concomitant spironolactone treatment in patients with resistant hypertension and CKD was further investigated in a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled



study over 12 weeks. Normokalaemic patients initiated spironolactone at 25 mg QD together with their randomised treatment (patiromer 8.4 g QD or placebo). Patiromer/placebo was titrated weekly (up to 25.2 g QD) to maintain serum potassium  $\geq 4.0$  mEq/L and  $\leq 5.1$  mEq/L. At week 3 or after, spironolactone dose was increased to 50 mg QD for subjects with systolic blood pressure  $\geq 120$  mmHg and serum potassium  $\leq 5.1$  mEq/L.

Of the 295 randomized patients receiving study treatment (patiromer 147; placebo 148), mean age was 68.1 years, 51.9% were men, 98.3% were Caucasian, and mean eGFR was 35.73 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>. At randomization, mean baseline serum potassium values were 4.74 mEq/L for patiromer and 4.69 mEq/L for placebo. The primary efficacy endpoint, the proportion of subjects remaining on spironolactone at Week 12, was significantly higher ( $p < 0.0001$ ) in the patiromer group (85.7%) compared to the placebo group (66.2%). Significantly more patients received spironolactone 50 mg/day (69.4% versus 51.4%).

Overall, patients in the patiromer group remained on spironolactone 7.1 days longer (95% CI 2.2–12.0;  $p = 0.0045$ ) compared to the placebo group and received significantly higher cumulative doses of spironolactone (2942.3 (SE 80.1) mg vs 2580.7 (SE 95.8) mg,  $p = 0.0021$ ).

There were also significantly fewer patients in the patiromer group with serum potassium values  $\geq 5.5$  mEq/L (35.4% vs. 64.2%,  $p < 0.001$ ).

At Week 12, the mean systolic blood pressure had decreased by 11.0 mmHg (SD 15.34) in the spironolactone + placebo group and by 11.3 mmHg (SD 14.11) in the spironolactone + patiromer group. These decreases from baseline were statistically significant within each treatment group ( $p < 0.0001$ ), but not statistically significant between the groups.

Overall, in the phase 2 and 3 clinical studies, 99.5% of patients were receiving RAAS inhibitor therapy at baseline, 87.0% had CKD with eGFR  $< 60$  mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>, 65.6% had diabetes mellitus and 47.5% had heart failure.

#### Paediatric population

The European Medicines Agency has deferred the obligation to submit the results of studies with patiromer in one or more subsets of the paediatric population in the treatment of hyperkalaemia (see section 4.2 for information on paediatric use).

#### Effect of Food

In an open-label study, 114 patients with hyperkalaemia were randomized to patiromer once daily with food or without food. Serum potassium at the end of treatment, the change from baseline in serum potassium, and the mean dose of patiromer were similar between groups.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Patiromer works by binding potassium in the gastrointestinal tract and thus the serum concentration is not relevant for its efficacy. Due to the insolubility and nonabsorptive characteristics of this medicinal product, many classical pharmacokinetic studies cannot be carried out.

Patiromer is excreted approximately 24 to 48 hours after intake, based on average gastrointestinal transit time.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

In radiolabeled studies in rats and dogs, patiromer was not systemically absorbed and was excreted in the faeces. Quantitative whole-body autoradiography analysis in rats demonstrated that radioactivity was limited to the gastrointestinal tract, with no detectable level of radioactivity in any other tissues or organs.

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity, toxicity to reproduction and development.

Patiromer was not genotoxic in the reverse mutation test (Ames assay), chromosome aberration or rat micronucleus assays.

Carcinogenicity studies have not been performed.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Xanthan gum

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

Not applicable.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store and transport refrigerated (2°C – 8°C).

If stored at room temperature (below 25°C), Veltassa should be used within 6 months of being taken out of the refrigerator.

For either storage condition, Veltassa should not be used after the expiry date printed on the sachet. The mixture should be taken within 1 hour of initial suspension.

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

8.4 g, 16.8 g or 25.2 g of patiromer, as powder in sachets made of five layers: polyethylene, aluminium, polyethylene, polyester and paper.

Pack sizes: boxes of 30, 60 or 90 sachets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

## **7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

## **8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/17/1179/001  
EU/1/17/1179/002

EU/1/17/1179/003  
EU/1/17/1179/004  
EU/1/17/1179/005  
EU/1/17/1179/006  
EU/1/17/1179/007  
EU/1/17/1179/008  
EU/1/17/1179/009

**9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 19 July 2017

**10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

Detailed information on this medicinal product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency <http://www.ema.europa.eu>.

## **ANNEX II**

- A. MANUFACTURER(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE**
- B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE**
- C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION**
- D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

## **A. MANUFACTURERS RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE**

### Name and address of the manufacturers responsible for batch release

Vifor France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

OM Pharma S.A.  
R. da Indústria, 2  
Quinta Grande  
Amadora, 2610-088  
Portugal

The printed package leaflet of the medicinal product must state the name and address of the manufacturer responsible for the release of the concerned batch.

## **B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE**

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

## **C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION**

- **Periodic safety update reports (PSURs)**

The requirements for submission of PSURs for this medicinal product are set out in the list of Union reference dates (EURD list) provided for under Article 107c(7) of Directive 2001/83/EC and any subsequent updates published on the European medicines web-portal. The marketing authorisation holder (MAH) shall submit the first periodic safety update report for this product within 6 months following authorisation

## **D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

- **Risk management plan (RMP)**

The MAH shall perform the required pharmacovigilance activities and interventions detailed in the agreed RMP presented in Module 1.8.2 of the marketing authorisation and any agreed subsequent updates of the RMP.

An updated RMP should be submitted:

- At the request of the European Medicines Agency;
- Whenever the risk management system is modified, especially as the result of new information being received that may lead to a significant change to the benefit/risk profile or as the result of an important (pharmacovigilance or risk minimisation) milestone being reached.

**ANNEX III**  
**LABELLING AND PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## **A. LABELLING**

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**OUTER CARTON – Veltassa 8.4 g**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Veltassa 8.4 g powder for oral suspension  
patiromer

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

Each sachet contains 8.4 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

powder for oral suspension  
30 sachets  
60 sachets  
90 sachets

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

For oral use.

Take within 1 hour after preparation of suspension.  
Read the package leaflet before use.

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator. Can be stored below 25°C for up to 6 months.  
Date when taken out of the refrigerator: \_\_\_\_\_



**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE**

**11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France  
100-101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/17/1179/001	30 sachets
EU/1/17/1179/002	60 sachets
EU/1/17/1179/003	90 sachets

**13. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY**

**15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE**

**16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

VELTASSA 8.4 G

**17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE**

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

**18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER - HUMAN READABLE DATA**

PC  
SN  
NN

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE IMMEDIATE PACKAGING**

**SACHET of Veltassa 8.4 g**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Veltassa 8.4 g powder for oral suspension  
patiromer

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

Each sachet contains 8.4 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

powder for oral suspension

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

For oral use.  
Take within 1 hour after preparation of suspension.  
Read the package leaflet before use.

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator. Can be stored below 25°C for up to 6 months.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE**

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92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

**13. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY**

**15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE**

**16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**OUTER CARTON – Veltassa 16.8 g**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Veltassa 16.8 g powder for oral suspension  
patiromer

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

Each sachet contains 16.8 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

powder for oral suspension  
30 sachets  
60 sachets  
90 sachets

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

For oral use.  
Take within 1 hour after preparation of suspension.  
Read the package leaflet before use.

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator. Can be stored below 25°C for up to 6 months.

Date when taken out of the refrigerator: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE****11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/17/1179/004	30 sachets
EU/1/17/1179/005	60 sachets
EU/1/17/1179/006	90 sachets

**13. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY****15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE****16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

VELTASSA 16.8 G

**17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE**

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

**18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA**

PC  
SN  
NN

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE IMMEDIATE PACKAGING**

**SACHET of Veltassa 16.8 g**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Veltassa 16.8 g powder for oral suspension  
patiromer

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

Each sachet contains 16.8 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

powder for oral suspension

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

For oral use.  
Take within 1 hour after preparation of suspension.  
Read the package leaflet before use.

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator. Can be stored below 25°C for up to 6 months.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE**

**11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

**13. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY**

**15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE**

**16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**



**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**OUTER CARTON – Veltassa 25.2 g**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Veltassa 25.2 g powder for oral suspension  
patiromer

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

Each sachet contains 25.2 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

powder for oral suspension  
30 sachets  
60 sachets  
90 sachets

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

For oral use.  
Take within 1 hour after preparation of suspension.  
Read the package leaflet before use.

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator. Can be stored below 25°C for up to 6 months.  
Date when taken out of the refrigerator: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE****11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/17/1179/007	30 sachets
EU/1/17/1179/008	60 sachets
EU/1/17/1179/009	90 sachets

**13. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY****15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE****16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

VELTASSA 25.2 G

**17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE**

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

**18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA**

PC  
SN  
NN

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE IMMEDIATE PACKAGING**

**SACHET of Veltassa 25.2 g**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Veltassa 25.2 g powder for oral suspension  
patiromer

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

Each sachet contains 25.2 g patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

powder for oral suspension

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

For oral use.  
Take within 1 hour after preparation of suspension.  
Read the package leaflet before use.

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator. Can be stored below 25°C for up to 6 months.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE**

**11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

**13. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY**

**15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE**

**16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

**B. PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## Package leaflet: Information for the patient

**Veltassa 8.4 g powder for oral suspension**  
**Veltassa 16.8 g powder for oral suspension**  
**Veltassa 25.2 g powder for oral suspension**  
patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium)

▼ This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. You can help by reporting any side effects you may get. See the end of section 4 for how to report side effects.

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

### What is in this leaflet

1. What Veltassa is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Veltassa
3. How to take Veltassa
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Veltassa
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### 1. What Veltassa is and what it is used for

Veltassa is a medicine that contains the active substance patiromer.

Veltassa is used to treat adults with high levels of potassium in their blood.

Too much potassium in the blood can affect how your nerves control your muscles. This can lead to weakness or even paralysis. High potassium levels can also result in an abnormal heartbeat, which can cause serious effects on your heart rhythm.

Veltassa works by attaching to potassium in your gut. This prevents potassium from entering your bloodstream and lowers potassium levels in your blood back to normal.

#### 2. What you need to know before you take Veltassa

##### Do not take Veltassa

- if you are allergic to patiromer or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

##### Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Veltassa if you have:

- problems swallowing
- severe stomach or bowel problems
- had major surgery on your stomach or bowel.

Low blood magnesium can occur when taking Veltassa. Your doctor will check the magnesium level during treatment with Veltassa for at least 1 month and may prescribe a magnesium supplement if required.

Veltassa contains sorbitol. If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product. The sorbitol content is approximately 4 g (10.4 kcal) per 8.4 g of patiomer.

### **Children and adolescents**

Do not give Veltassa to children under 18 years, as it has not been studied in this age group.

### **Other medicines and Veltassa**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Veltassa may affect certain medicines if they are taken by mouth and at the same time, such as:

- ciprofloxacin: a medicine to treat bacterial infections
- levothyroxine: a medicine to treat thyroid hormone deficiency
- metformin: a medicine to treat diabetes
- quinidine: a medicine to treat irregular heart rhythm.

Take all medicines taken by mouth at least 3 hours before or after you take Veltassa, unless your doctor or pharmacist gives you different advice. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

### **Pregnancy and breast feeding**

If you are pregnant or breast feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Use Veltassa during pregnancy and breast feeding only if your doctor considers it necessary.

### **Driving and using machines**

Veltassa has no or negligible influence on your ability to drive and use machines.

## **3. How to take Veltassa**

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

The recommended dose is:

- starting dose: 8.4 g patiomer (the content of one 8.4 g sachet) once daily
- maximum dose: 25.2 g patiomer (the content of one 25.2 g sachet) once daily

Your doctor may adjust the dose depending on the potassium level in your blood.

Take Veltassa at least 3 hours before or after other medicines taken by mouth unless your doctor or pharmacist gives you different advice.



## Method of administration

Mix Veltassa with water and stir until it is thoroughly mixed, as follows:

- Prepare about 40 mL (3 tablespoons) of water in a glass.
- Add the required number of Veltassa sachets and stir.
- Add about 40 mL (3 tablespoons) of additional water and stir thoroughly. The powder does not dissolve but forms a suspension, which might feel grainy.
- You may add more water to the mixture to help you swallow the medicine.
- Drink the mixture within 1 hour after preparation. If powder remains in the glass after drinking, add more water, stir and drink immediately. You may need to do this again to make sure that you have taken all the powder.

You can use apple juice or cranberry juice instead of water. Other liquids cannot be used as they may contain high amounts of potassium. You should drink only moderate amounts (less than 400 mL per day) of cranberry juice as it can affect other medicines.

Take the prepared Veltassa suspension with or without food, preferably at the same time each day. Never heat Veltassa or add it to heated foods or liquids. Do not take Veltassa as a dry powder.

### If you take more Veltassa than you should

Stop taking Veltassa and talk to your doctor or pharmacist immediately.

### If you forget to take Veltassa

If you have missed a dose, take it as soon as possible on the same day. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose. If you miss more than one dose, contact your doctor.

### If you stop taking Veltassa

Do not stop taking the medicine without your doctor's approval, as your potassium blood level may increase.

## 4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

The following side effects have been reported:

**Common**, may affect up to 1 in 10 people:

- constipation
- diarrhoea
- abdominal pain
- wind
- low blood magnesium seen in tests

**Uncommon**, may affect up to 1 in 100 people:

- nausea
- vomiting

### Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system](#)

listed in [Appendix V](#). By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store Veltassa**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton or sachet after “EXP”. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store and transport refrigerated (2°C – 8°C).

Once you have received Veltassa, it can be stored below 25°C for up to 6 months.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Veltassa contains**

The active substance is patiromer (as patiromer sorbitex calcium).

- Veltassa 8.4 g powder for oral suspension: each sachet contains 8.4 g of patiromer
- Veltassa 16.8 g powder for oral suspension: each sachet contains 16.8 g of patiromer.
- Veltassa 25.2 g powder for oral suspension: each sachet contains 25.2 g of patiromer.

The other ingredient is xanthan gum.

### **What Veltassa looks like and contents of the pack**

The powder for oral suspension is off white to light brown, with occasional white particles.

Veltassa is available in packs containing 30, 60 or 90 sachets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder**

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

### **Manufacturer**

Vifor France  
100–101 Terrasse Boieldieu  
Tour Franklin La Défense 8  
92042 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

OM Pharma S.A.  
R. da Indústria, 2  
Quinta Grande  
Amadora, 2610-088  
Portugal

For any information about this medicine, please contact the Marketing Authorisation Holder.

**This leaflet was last revised in**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency web site:  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.