



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

EMA/CHMP/413708/2018  
Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP)

## Summary of opinion<sup>1</sup> (initial authorisation)

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### Symkevi

tezacaftor / ivacaftor

On 26 July 2018, the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion, recommending the granting of a marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Symkevi, intended for the combination treatment of patients with cystic fibrosis (CF) aged 12 years and older. Symkevi was designated as an orphan medicinal product on 27 February 2017. The applicant for this medicinal product is Vertex Pharmaceuticals (Europe) Ltd.

Symkevi will be available as film-coated tablets containing 100 mg tezacaftor and 150 mg ivacaftor (ATC code: R07AX31). Symkevi is to be used in patients with *F508del* mutations affecting the CF transmembrane conductance regulator (*CFTR*) gene, which encodes for the CFTR protein. Tezacaftor facilitates the cellular processing and trafficking of the CFTR protein to the cell membrane, while ivacaftor improves CFTR protein function by increasing CFTR channel gating.

The benefits with Symkevi are its ability to improve pulmonary function and decrease the number and rate of pulmonary exacerbations in CF patients, measured over 24 weeks and 8 weeks in two pivotal studies. The most commonly observed adverse reactions are headache and nasopharyngitis.

The full indication is:

"Symkevi is indicated in a combination regimen with ivacaftor 150 mg tablets for the treatment of patients with cystic fibrosis (CF) aged 12 years and older who are homozygous for the *F508del* mutation or who are heterozygous for the *F508del* mutation and have one of the following mutations in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (*CFTR*) gene: *P67L*, *R117C*, *L206W*, *R352Q*, *A455E*, *D579G*, *711+3A→G*, *S945L*, *S977F*, *R1070W*, *D1152H*, *2789+5G→A*, *3272-26A→G*, and *3849+10kbC→T*".

It is proposed that Symkevi be prescribed by physicians with experience in the treatment of CF. If the patient's genotype is unknown, an accurate and validated genotyping method should be performed to confirm the presence of an indicated mutation using a genotyping assay. As part of the combination regimen, Symkevi is to be taken in the morning and ivacaftor alone in the evening.

Detailed recommendations for the use of this product will be described in the summary of product

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<sup>1</sup> Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the Commission decision, which will normally be issued 67 days from adoption of the opinion



characteristics (SmPC), which will be published in the European public assessment report (EPAR) and made available in all official European Union languages after the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.