European Medicines Agency
Pre-Authorisation Evaluation of Medicines for Human Use

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COMMITTEE FOR MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE
SUMMARY OF POSITIVE OPINION*
for
INTELENCE

International Nonproprietary Name (INN): ***etravirine***

On 26 June 2008 the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion,** recommending to grant a conditional marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Intelence, 100 mg, tablet intended for treatment of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection in antiretroviral treatment-experienced adult patients. The applicant for this medicinal product is Janssen-Cilag International NV.

The active substance of Intelence is etravirine, a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI) of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (ATC Code: not yet assigned). It inhibits viral replication by binding directly to the reverse transcriptase and blocking viral DNA polymerase activities.

The benefits with Intelence when used in combination with a boosted protease inhibitor and other antiretroviral medicinal products are its ability to reduce the amount of HIV in plasma (viral load) and to increase the number of T cells (specifically CD4 cells) in treatment-experienced adult patients infected with HIV-1. This was shown in two double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled studies evaluating the efficacy, tolerability and safety of etravirine (200 mg b.i.d.) as part of an antiretroviral therapy including darunavir/ritonavir and an investigator-selected optimised background regimen (OBR) in HIV-1 infected subjects with limited to no treatment options. Patients in these studies were infected with HIV that showed resistance to non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (at least 1 NNRTI resistance-associated mutation) and protease inhibitors (3 or more primary PI mutations). At Week 24, etravirine is shown to be statistically superior to placebo in terms of percentage of patients achieving undetectable viral load. The most common side effects are rash, diarrhoea and nausea. Rash was most frequently mild to moderate, occurred mostly in the beginning of therapy and generally resolved on continued therapy. Occasionally rash may become severe. Rash has been identified as an important risk and will hence specifically be followed up.

A pharmacovigilance plan for Intelence, as for all medicinal products, will be implemented as part of the marketing authorisation.

The approved indication is: “Intelence, in combination with a boosted protease inhibitor and other antiretroviral medicinal products, is indicated for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in antiretroviral treatment-experienced adult patients (see sections 4.4, 4.5 and 5.1). This indication is based on week 24 analyses from 2 randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase III trials in highly pre-treated patients with viral strains harbouring mutations of resistance to non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors and protease inhibitors, where Intelence was investigated in combination with an optimised background regimen (OBR) which included darunavir/ritonavir (see section 5.1).” It is proposed that therapy with Intelence should be initiated by a physician experienced in the management of HIV infection.

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* Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the Commission Decision, which will normally be issued within 67 days from adoption of the Opinion.

** Applicants may request a re-examination of any CHMP opinion, provided they notify the EMEA in writing of their intention to request a re-examination within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

7 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf, London E14 4HB, UK
Tel. (44-20) 74 18 84 00 Fax (44-20) 74 18 86 13
E-mail: mail@emea.europa.eu http://www.emea.europa.eu

Detailed recommendations for the use of this product will be described in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) which will be published in the European Public Assessment Report (EPAR) and will be available in all official European Union languages after the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.

The CHMP, on the basis of quality, safety and efficacy data submitted, considers that there is a favourable benefit to risk balance for Intelence and therefore recommends the granting of the marketing authorisation. The marketing authorisation is conditional[***].

[***] A conditional marketing authorisation is granted to a medicinal product that fulfils an unmet medical need when the benefit to public health of immediate availability outweighs the risk inherent in the fact that additional data are still required. The marketing authorisation holder is likely to provide comprehensive clinical data at a later stage.