On 18 October 2012, the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion recommending a variation to the terms of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Isentress. The marketing authorisation holder for this medicinal product is Merck Sharp & Dohme Ltd. They may request a reexamination of the CHMP opinion, provided that they notify the European Medicines Agency in writing of their intention within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

The extension adopted by the CHMP is to add two new strengths and a new pharmaceutical form (25 mg and 100 mg Chewable tablets) to the existing product range.

The CHMP also adopted a change to an indication, as follows:

“ISENTRESS is indicated in combination with other anti-retroviral medicinal products for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection in adults, adolescents, and children from the age of 2 years. (see sections 4.2, 4.4, 5.1 and 5.2).”

Detailed conditions for the use of this product will be described in the updated summary of product characteristics (SmPC), which will be published in the revised European public assessment report (EPAR), and will be available in all official European Union languages after the variation to the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.

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1 Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the Commission decision, which will normally be issued within 44 days (Type II variations) and 67 days (Annex II applications) from adoption of the opinion.

2 The text in bold represents the new or the amended indication.