

STEPS TAKEN AFTER GRANTING THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION

For procedures finalised after 1 August 2003 please refer to module 8B.

On the 9 March 2000 the Marketing Authorisation Holder applied for the change of the tradename from Virtron to Viraferon. The MAH submitted a plan for switching to the centralised approved name Intron A, as part of the follow up measures requested by the CPMP.

Subsequent post Marketing Authorisation applications agreed upon are summarised in the table below:

Scope	Application number	Type of modification	Notification/Opinion issued on	Commission Decision Issued/amended on
Update of summary of product characteristics and package leaflet to bring the package leaflet in line with the text of the SPC regarding the dose for the melanoma induction therapy and the in-use storage conditions	0002	II	13.04.00	28.08.00
Minor change of manufacturing process of active substance	0003	I/II	25.05.00	N/A
New purification process for the interferon alfa-2-b	0004	II	27.07.00	N/A
Changes in test procedures of the medicinal product	0005	I/II	23.06.00	28.08.00
Change in the batch size of finished product	0006	I/II	27.07.00	28.08.00
Minor changes in the manufacture of the medicinal product	0007	I/II	27.07.00	N/A
Change in specifications of active substance	0008	I	19.12.00	N/A
Change in specifications of active substance	0009	I	19.12.00	N/A
Change in specifications of active substance	0010	I	19.10.00	N/A
Change in specifications of active substance	0011	I	19.10.00	N/A
Change in specifications of active substance	0012	I	19.12.00	N/A
Change in the test procedures of active substance	0013	I	19.12.00	N/A
Change in the test procedures of active substance	0014	I	04.01.01	N/A
Quality changes	0015	II	20.09.01	12.10.01
Change in the batch size of finished product	0016	I	28.03.01	N/A
Extension of shelf-life as foreseen at time of authorisation	0018	I	01.06.01	N/A
Update of the Summary of Product Characteristics (sections 4.4, 4.8) to include the adverse reactions: hypertriglyceridaemia and sarcoidosis as requested by the CPMP following the assessments of the second PSURs for Viraferon and ViraferonPeg; and to update corresponding text in the Package Leaflet. The Package Leaflet was also harmonised with the Summary of Product Characteristics with respect to the warning on aplastic anaemia. In addition changes were made to contact details of the local representatives in the Package Leaflet.	0019	II	17.01.02	19.04.02
Increase of the shelf-life of interferon alfa-2b, manufactured using the isoform conversion purification process, to 24 months.	0020	I	28.02.02	N/A
Tighten the E.coli protein release specification for Interferon alfa-2b drug substance manufactured using the Isoform Conversion Process. The Company has proposed to tighten the current release specification from 0.02% of total protein to less than or equal to 0.01% of total protein.	0021	I	26.03.02	N/A
Include the following two changes to the release and stability specifications for interferon alfa-2b drug substance: - Reverse phase HPLC purity test: introduction of release and stability specifications - SDS-PAGE: change of reducing and non reducing release and stability specifications	0022	II	25.07.02	N/A
Increase of the retention time window for the integration of impurity peaks in the Viraferon Solution for Injection Vials RP-HPLC purity test.	0023	I	13.08.02	N/A
Update of the SPC (sections 4.4, 4.8), to reinforce the warning and safety information with regard to ophthalmic disorders. A corresponding warning in the Package leaflet was also requested. Section 4.8 was also modified to indicate that reactions could occur with Intron A monotherapy as well as with combination therapy.	0024	II	19.09.02	05.12.02
Extend the currently approved in-use shelf-life from 12 days with a total of 6 injections (3 times a week) to 27 days with a total of 12 injections (3 times a week). As a consequence, the number of needles and swaps provided per pen must be doubled and new pack sizes are proposed as a consequential variation.	0025	I	28.08.02	10.10.02
Update of the flow-charts of the secondary packaging sites.	0026	I	10.09.02	N/A
Replacement of RAU-SIK silicone tubing by RAUMEDIC-PLATIN-SIK silicone tubing for filling Viraferon powder for Injection batches in Operations 1, Building 4 of the manufacturing facility in Brinny (Ireland).	0027	I	17.10.02	N/A

Replace the current Polysorbate 80 from animal origin used as an excipient for the drug product by Polysorbate 80 from vegetable origin.	0028	I	22.11.02	N/A
Additional supplier of HSA (Instituto Grifols S.A., Barcelona, Spain). The Marketing Authorisation Holder took the opportunity to change the pharmacopoeial reference to Ph. Eur. for Dibasic Sodium Phosphate Anhydrous.	0029	II	19.03.03	N/A
Update of section 4.4 of the SPC to reinforce the warning on auto-immune disorders and to add a warning regarding HCV/HIV co-infected patients. A statement on the use of paracetamol was removed. Section 4.8 was updated to add the adverse events: Stevens Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis and erythema multiforme. Information on auto-immune and immune mediated disorders was also added. The MAH took the opportunity to bring section 4.8 into line with current guidelines with the consequential change of section 4.8 to a tabular format with the addition of adverse reactions occurring at the 1% level. A warning regarding the teratogenicity and embryocidity of ribavirin was added to section 4.6 since the recommended use of Intron A in the treatment of hepatitis C is in combination with ribavirin. The term "histologically proven" was deleted from 4.1 and a cross reference to a new warning in 4.4 inserted. Minor changes to section 4.2 were requested to remove a discrepancy between two statements. Corresponding changes were made to the Package Leaflet	0030	II	25.04.03	29.07.03
Introduction of a low control limit (in addition to the existing high control limit) for the quantity of TCA precipitate used in the TCA precipitate extraction step of the interferon alfa-2b active substance purification process.	0031	I/II	26.06.03	