22 May 2014
EMA/CHMP/277292/2014
Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP)

Summary of opinion[1] (initial authorisation)

Envarsus

tacrolimus

On 22 May 2014, the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion, recommending the granting of a marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Envarsus, 0.75 mg, 1 mg and 4 mg, prolonged-release tablets intended for the prophylaxis of transplant rejection in adult kidney or liver allograft recipients and the treatment of allograft rejection resistant to treatment with other immunosuppressive medicinal products in adult patients.

The applicant for this medicinal product is Chiesi Farmaceutici S.p.A. They may request a re-examination of any CHMP opinion, provided they notify the European Medicines Agency in writing of their intention within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

The active substance of Envarsus is tacrolimus, an immunosuppressant (L04AD02).

The benefits with Envarsus are its ability to inhibit the formation of cytotoxic lymphocytes, which are mainly responsible for graft rejection. Tacrolimus suppresses T-cell activation and T-helper-cell dependent B-cell proliferation, as well as the formation of lymphokines (such as interleukins-2, -3, and γ-interferon) and the expression of the interleukin-2 receptor. The results from the study in stable and de novo kidney transplant patients showed that there was no clinical difference between the Envarsus group and the tacrolimus immediate-release one in the conversion and de novo settings. Results of the studies with Envarsus including both stable liver transplant recipients (‘conversion’ setting), and de novo liver transplant recipients also showed no significant clinical difference between the Envarsus group and the tacrolimus immediate-release formulation one.

The most common side effects are Diarrhoea, UTI, blood creatinine increased and nausea are the most common AEs reported for patients in Phase 2/ 3 clinical kidney transplant studies.

A pharmacovigilance plan for Envarsus will be implemented as part of the marketing authorisation.

The approved indication is: "Prophylaxis of transplant rejection in adult kidney or liver allograft recipients.

[1] Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the Commission decision, which will normally be issued 67 days from adoption of the opinion.

7 Westferry Circus ● Canary Wharf ● London E14 4HB ● United Kingdom
Telephone +44 (0)20 7418 8400 **Facsimile** +44 (0)20 7523 7455
E-mail info@ema.europa.eu **Website** www.ema.europa.eu
An agency of the European Union

Treatment of allograft rejection resistant to treatment with other immunosuppressive medicinal products in adult patients".

It is proposed that Envarsus be prescribed by physicians experienced in immunosuppressive therapy and the management of transplant patients.

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

The CHMP, on the basis of quality, safety and efficacy data submitted, considers there to be a favourable benefit-to-risk balance for Envarsus and therefore recommends the granting of the marketing authorisation.