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

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COMMITTEE FOR ORPHAN MEDICINAL PRODUCTS
MARCH 2009 PLENARY MEETING
MONTHLY REPORT

The Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products (COMP) held its ninety-ninth plenary meeting on 3-4 March 2009.

ORPHAN MEDICINAL PRODUCT DESIGNATION

The COMP adopted ten positive opinions recommending the following medicines for designation as orphan medicinal products to the European Commission:

For the following medicines the EMEA review began on 5 January 2009 with an active review time of 58-59 days.

- **Adeno-associated viral vector containing porphobilinogen deaminase gene,** from Amsterdam Molecular Therapeutics NV, for treatment of acute intermittent porphyria.
- **Autologous haematopoietic stem cells transduced with lentiviral vector encoding the human beta-globin gene,** from EGT San Rocco Italia SRL, for Treatment of beta-thalassaemia intermedia and major.
- **Autologous tumour-derived gp96 heat shock protein-peptide complex,** from Antigenics Therapeutics Limited, for treatment of glioma.
- **Guanabenz,** from Acure Pharma AB, for treatment of traumatic spinal cord injury.
- **Lintuzumab,** from Seattle Genetics UK, Limited, for treatment of myelodysplastic syndrome.
- **Lintuzumab,** from Seattle Genetics UK, Limited, for treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia.
- **Mercaptopurine (oral suspension),** from Nova Laboratories Limited, for treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.
- **Nanobody directed towards the human A1 domain of von Willebrand factor,** from Ablynx NV, for treatment of thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura.
- **Skin equivalent graft genetically corrected with a *COL7A1*-encoding SIN retroviral vector,** from Prof. Alain Hovnanian, for treatment of dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa.
- **Talampanel,** from Teva Pharma GmbH, for treatment of glioma.

Prior to this meeting, the Committee adopted three positive opinions recommending the following medicines for designation as orphan medicinal products to the European Commission via written procedure on 9 February 2009. The following medicines the EMEA review began on 5 December 2008 with an active review time of 67 days.

- **(R)-3-(4-(7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)-3-cyclopentylpropanenitrile phosphate,** from Incyte Corporation Ltd, for treatment of patients with post-polycythemia vera and post-essential thrombocythemia myelofibrosis.

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

- **2,2-dimethylbutyric acid, sodium salt,** from Isabelle Ramirez, for treatment of sickle cell disease.
- **N-(5-tert-Butylisoxazol-3-yl)-N'-{4-[7-(2-(morpholin-4-yl)ethoxy)imidazo[2,1-b][1,3]benzothiazol-2-yl]phenyl}urea di-hydrochloride salt,** from Ambit Europe Limited, for treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia.

Public summaries of opinion will be available on the EMEA website which the Agency updates following adoption of the respective decisions on orphan designation by the European Commission.

OTHER INFORMATION ON THE ORPHAN MEDICINAL PRODUCT DESIGNATION

Lists of questions

The COMP adopted five lists of questions on initial applications. These applications will be discussed again at the next COMP plenary meeting prior to adoption of the opinion.

Oral hearing

One oral hearing took place.

Withdrawals of applications for orphan medicinal product designation

The COMP noted that three applications for orphan medicinal product designation were withdrawn.

Detailed information on the orphan designation procedure

An overview of orphan designation procedures since 2000 is provided in **Annex 1**.

The list of medicinal products for which decisions on orphan designation[1] have been given by the European Commission since the last COMP plenary meeting is provided in **Annex 2**.

Applications for marketing authorisation for orphan medicinal products

Details of those designated orphan medicinal products that have been subject of a new community marketing authorisation application through the centralised procedure since the last COMP plenary meeting are provided in **Annex 3**.

Details on the opinions for marketing authorisation for orphan medicinal products adopted by the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) can be found in the CHMP Monthly Report on the EMEA website.

Article 5 (12) of Regulation (EC) No 141/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council

In line with its responsibility to review whether or not a designated orphan medicinal product still fulfils the designation criteria prior to the granting of a marketing authorisation, prior to this meeting, the Committee adopted one opinion recommending to the European Commission that the following orphan medicinal products be kept in the Community registry of orphan medicinal products via written procedure on 9 February 2009:

- **Zavesca** (miglustat)**,** from Actelion Registration Ltd., for treatment of Niemann-Pick disease, type C.

[1] Details of all orphan designations granted to date by the European Commission are entered in the Community Register of Orphan Medicinal Products (http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/pharmaceuticals/index_en.htm)

UPCOMING MEETINGS FOLLOWING THE APRIL 2009 COMP PLENARY MEETING

- The Informal COMP meeting will be held on 9 -10 March 2009 in Prague.
- The hundredth meeting of the COMP will be held on 1-2 April 2009.

ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

The main topics addressed during the March 2009 COMP meeting related to:

- Discussion on the COMP Work Programme 2006-2009.
- Discussion on the 9th Workshop of the Eurordis Round Table of Companies on "Significant Benefit of Orphan Drugs: Impact on Clinical Development and Assessment" held on 12 December 2008 in Paris.
- Adoption of agenda for the Informal COMP Meeting to be held on 9-10 March 2009 in Prague.
- One Protocol Assistance letter was adopted.

NOTE: This Monthly Report and other documents may be found on the internet at the following location: http://www.emea.europa.eu

For further information, please contact:
Martin Harvey Allchurch, EMEA press officer
Tel. (+44-20) 74 18 84 27
E-mail: press@emea.europa.eu

OVERVIEW FOR ORPHAN MEDICINAL PRODUCT DESIGNATION PROCEDURE SINCE 2000

Year	Applications submitted	Positive COMP Opinions	Applications withdrawn	Final negative COMP Opinions	Designations granted by Commission
2009	14	20	4	-	16
2008	119	86	31	1	73
2007	125	97	19	1	98
2006	104	81	20	2	80
2005	118	88	30	0	88
2004	108	75	22	4	72
2003	87	54	41	1	55
2002	80	43	30	3	49
2001	83	64	27	1	64
2000	72	26	6	0	14

MEDICINAL PRODUCTS GRANTED A COMMUNITY DESIGNATION AS ORPHAN MEDICINAL PRODUCT SINCE THE FEBRUARY 2009 COMP PLENARY REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Active substance	2,3,4,5 tetrahydro-2,8-dimethyl-5-[2-(6-methyl-3-pyridinyl)ethyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indole dihydrochloride
Sponsor	Innovative Drug European Associates Limited
Orphan Indication	Treatment of Huntington's disease
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	20/01/2009

Active substance	Adeno-associated viral vector serotype 5 containing the human ABCA4 gene
Sponsor	Fondazione telethon
Orphan Indication	Treatment of Stargardt's disease
COMP Opinion date	10/12/2008
Orphan Designation date	06/02/2009

Active substance	Cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylic acid [4-(6,7-dimethoxy-quinolin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-amide (4-fluoro-phenyl)-amide, (L)-malate salt
Sponsor	PPD Global Ltd
Orphan Indication	Treatment of medullary thyroid carcinoma
COMP Opinion date	10/12/2008
Orphan Designation date	06/02/2009

Active substance	Human anti-intercellular adhesion molecule-1 monoclonal antibody
Sponsor	BioInvent International AB
Orphan Indication	Treatment of multiple myeloma
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	20/01/2009

Active substance	Milatuzumab
Sponsor	Immunomedics GmbH
Orphan Indication	Treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	19/01/2009

Active substance	Milatuzumab
Sponsor	Immunomedics GmbH
Orphan Indication	Treatment of multiple myeloma
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	19/01/2009

Active substance	Monoclonal antibody against CD30 covalently linked to the cytoxin monomethylauristatin E
Sponsor	Seattle Genetics UK Limited
Orphan Indication	Treatment of anaplastic large cell lymphoma
COMP Opinion date	08/10/2008
Orphan Designation date	15/01/2009

Active substance	Monoclonal antibody against CD30 covalently linked to the cytoxin monomethylauristatin E
Sponsor	Seattle Genetics UK Limited
Orphan Indication	Treatment of Hodgkin lymphoma
COMP Opinion date	08/10/2008
Orphan Designation date	15/01/2009

Active substance	Pralatrexate
Sponsor	European Medical Advisory Services
Orphan Indication	Treatment of non-papillary transitional cell carcinoma of the urinary bladder
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	19/01/2009

Active substance	Recombinant human minibody against complement component C5 fused with RGD-motif
Sponsor	Adienne S.r.l.
Orphan Indication	Prevention of ischemia/reperfusion injury associated with solid organ transplantation
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	20/01/2009

Active substance	Recombinant human hepatocarcinoma-intestine-pancreas/ pancreatic associated protein
Sponsor	Alfact Innovation SAS
Orphan Indication	Treatment of acute liver failure
COMP Opinion date	10/12/2008
Orphan Designation date	11/02/2009

Active substance	Recombinant human monoclonal antibody to human Nogo-A protein of the IgG4/kappa class
Sponsor	Novartis Europharm Limited
Orphan Indication	Treatment of spinal cord injury
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	19/01/2009

Active substance	Recombinant human residue 41 glutamic acid to glutamine variant of Interferon-alfa-2b
Sponsor	Creabilis Therapeutics S.p.A.
Orphan Indication	Treatment of Behçet's disease
COMP Opinion date	05/11/2008
Orphan Designation date	19/01/2009

Active substance	Recombinant human proinsulin
Sponsor	ProRetina Therapeutics S.L.
Orphan Indication	Treatment of retinitis pigmentosa
COMP Opinion date	10/12/2008
Orphan Designation date	11/02/2009

Active substance	Type I native bovine skin collagen
Sponsor	arGentis Autoimmune Europe limited
Orphan Indication	Treatment of Systemic Sclerosis
COMP Opinion date	10/12/2008
Orphan Designation date	09/02/2009

Active substance	Yttrium (^{90}Y)-DOTA-radiolabelled humanized monoclonal antibody against mucin 1
Sponsor	Immunomedics GmbH
Orphan Indication	Treatment of pancreatic cancer
COMP Opinion date	10/12/2008
Orphan Designation date	06/02/2009

DESIGNATED ORPHAN MEDICINAL PRODUCTS THAT HAVE BEEN SUBJECT OF A NEW COMMUNITY MARKETING AUTHORISATION APPLICATION UNDER THE CENTRALISED PROCEDURE SINCE THE JANUARY 2009 COMP MONTHLY REPORT

Active substance	Invented name	Sponsor/applicant	EU Designation Number	Designated Orphan Indication
Treprostinil sodium (inhalation use)	Tyvaso	United Therapeurics Europe Ltd	EU/3/04/197	Treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension and chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension
Ofatumumab	Arzerra	Glaxo Group Limited	EU/3/08/581	Treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia