Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information

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Executive Summary

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For full text version of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information (PMDSI) No. 305, interested readers are advised to consult the PMDA website for upcoming information. The contents of this month's PMDSI are outlined below.

1. Hydroxyethyl Starch-containing Solutions and Renal Impairment

The MHLW/PMDA recommended on September 17, 2013 that the Marketing Authorization Holders of blood substitutes hydroxyethyl starch (HES)-containing solutions should revise PRECAUTIONS in the package inserts to include a caution about use of HES solutions in critically ill patients including patients with severe sepsis as well as an alert against renal impairment, following an assessment of available data including domestic and foreign adverse reaction reports, regulatory actions of foreign national authorities and relevant literature.

- The package insert of hydroxyethyl starch 70000 (as of September 2013)

-Warnings and Precautions about the treatment of patients with severe sepsis

Precautions for Indications	HES 70000 should not be used for the treatment of relative hypovolaemia in critically ill patients including patients with severe sepsis.
Clinically significant adverse reactions (similar drug)	Renal impairment Renal impairment including acute renal failure has been reported in patients treated with other HES-containing solutions with different molecular weights and degrees of substitution. Patients should be carefully monitored. If any abnormalities are observed, appropriate measures should be taken.

- The package insert of hydroxyethyl starch 130000 (as of September 2013)

-Warnings and Precautions about the treatment of patients with severe sepsis

Warnings	If HES 130000 is used for the treatment of relative hypovolaemia in critically ill patients including severe sepsis, the condition of the patient may be aggravated. HES 130000 should therefore be used only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Important Precautions	Renal impairment Renal impairment including acute renal failure may occur and renal replacement therapy may be required. Renal function should be monitored periodically.
Clinically significant adverse reactions	Renal impairment including acute renal failure may occur and renal replacement therapy may be required. Patients should be carefully monitored. If any abnormalities are observed, appropriate measures should be taken.

Details will be provided in section 1 of the full text.

2. Project of Japan Drug Information Institute in Pregnancy

The MHLW established the Japan Drug Information Institute in Pregnancy in the National Center for Child Health and Development in October 2005 to provide consultation services and perform surveys. The system was strengthened in FY 2013 by receiving cooperation from four hospitals that have recently joined.

Details will be provided in section 2 of the full text.

3. Important Safety Information

Regarding the revision of the Precautions section of package inserts of drugs in accordance with the Notification dated August 6, 2013, the contents of important revisions and case summaries that served as the basis for these revisions will be provided in section 3 of the full text.

1. Alogliptin Benzoate-containing products
2. Valsartan-containing products
3. Vildagliptin
4. Orengedokuto, Kamishoyosan and Shin'iseihaito

4. Revision of Precautions (No. 249)

Revisions of Precautions etc. for the following pharmaceuticals:
Isoflurane, Desflurane, Levodopa, levodopa/carbidopa hydrate, levodopa benserazide hydrochloride, Ganirelix Acetate, Degarelix Acetate, Cyanamid, Linagliptin, Diazoxide, Thalidomide, Orengedokuto (OTC drug), Kamishoyosan (OTC drug), Shin'iseihaito (OTC drug) and Pseudoephedrine hydrochloride or sulfate (OTC drug)

5. List of Products Subject to Early Post-marketing Phase Vigilance (as of September 2013)

A list of products subject to Early Post-marketing Phase Vigilance as of September 1, 2013 will be provided in section 5 of the full text.