

I. ANNOTATED PACKAGE INSERT

A. Introduction

The drug product that is the subject of this NDA is called DOX-SL Injection. "DOXIL" is an early name for the product and is used synonymously with DOX-SL throughout this document.

The following section presents the proposed text of the DOX-SL labeling. The annotations that appear to the right of the text refer to sections in this NDA of literature references. The literature references cited in the text of the labeling are listed in subsection M below. For the remainder of this Overall NDA Summary, a list of reference citations is presented in Section X.

DOX-SL™
(pegylated liposomal doxorubicin HCl) Injection
FOR INTRAVENOUS USE ONLY

R_x

A Product of Liposome Technology, Inc.

WARNINGS

1. Experience with DOX-SL™ is limited in evaluating cardiac risk. Therefore warnings related to use of doxorubicin HCl, USP should be observed.

With doxorubicin HCl, USP serious irreversible myocardial toxicity with delayed congestive failure often unresponsive to any cardiac supportive therapy may be encountered as total dosage of doxorubicin in any formulation approaches 550 mg/m². Caution should be observed in patients who have received other anthracyclines.

This toxicity may occur at lower cumulative doses in patients with prior mediastinal irradiation or on concurrent cyclophosphamide therapy.

Until more information is known, cardiac function should be carefully monitored in patients treated with DOX-SL.

Patients with a history of cardiovascular disease should be administered DOX-SL only when the benefit outweighs the risk to the patient.

2. Severe myelosuppression may occur.

3. DOX-SL should be administered only under the supervision of a physician who is experienced in the use of cancer chemotherapeutic agents.

ADRIAMYCIN PFS™ Package
Labeling. In: *Physician's Desk*
Reference®. 47th ed. Montvale,
NJ: Medical Economics
Data;1993: 560 - 561.

DESCRIPTION

DOX-SL™ is doxorubicin hydrochloride (HCl) encapsulated in Stealth® liposomes for intravenous (IV) administration.

The active ingredient of DOX-SL is doxorubicin HCl, USP; a cytotoxic anthracycline antibiotic obtained from *Streptomyces peucetius* var. *caesius*.

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DOX-SL is provided as a sterile, translucent, red suspension in 10-mL glass, single use vials.

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Each vial contains 20 mg doxorubicin HCl at a concentration of 2.0 mg/mL and a pH of 6.5.

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The Stealth liposome carriers are composed of N-(Carbamoyl-methoxypolyethylene glycol 2000)-1,2-distearoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine sodium salt (MPEG-DSPE), fully hydrogenated soy phosphatidylcholine (HSPC), and cholesterol.

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Other ingredients are sucrose, ammonium sulfate, and histidine.

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Greater than 90% of the drug is encapsulated in the Stealth liposomes. DOX-SL is preservative-free.

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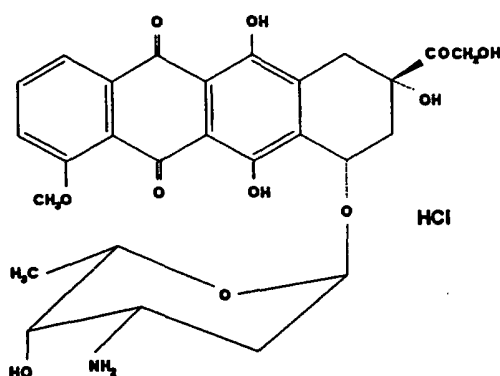
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Doxorubicin hydrochloride is designated chemically as (8S,10S)-10-[(3-Amino-2,3,6-trideoxy- α -L-*lyxo*-hexopyranosyl)oxy]-8-glycoloyl-7,8,9,10-tetrahydro-6,8,11-trihydroxy-1-methoxy-5,12-naphthacenedione hydrochloride.

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Doxorubicin HCl has the following structural formula:

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The molecular formula of the drug is $C_{27}H_{29}NO_{11} \cdot HCl$; its weight is 579.99.

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CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action

The active ingredient of DOX-SL is doxorubicin HCl.

The mechanism of action of doxorubicin is thought to be related to its ability to bind DNA and inhibit nucleic acid synthesis.

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Medical Economics Data; 1993: 560 -

561.

Cell culture studies have demonstrated rapid cell penetration and perinuclear chromatin binding, rapid inhibition of mitotic activity and nucleic acid synthesis, mutagenesis and chromosomal aberrations.

DOX-SL is doxorubicin HCl encapsulated in long-circulating Stealth liposomes.

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Stealth liposomes are microscopic vesicles composed of a lipid bilayer that contains surface-bound methoxy polyethylene glycol (MPEG).

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The hydrophilic MPEG molecules on the liposome surface inhibit binding of plasma proteins to the Stealth liposomes, decrease the interaction of the liposomes with endothelial cells, and reduce the uptake of the liposomes by the macrophages of the mononuclear phagocytic system (MPS).

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This results in a significantly increased blood circulation	Vol. 1.51, Page 64
time compared to conventional liposomes and	Vol. 1.52, Page 1
doxorubicin HCl, USP. Stealth liposomes have a half-life	Vol. 1.320, Page 80
up to approximately 55 hours in humans.	Vol. 1.57, Page 49, Table 11

They are stable in blood, and direct measurement of	Vol. 1.51, Page 166, Table 1
liposomal doxorubicin shows that greater than 90%-95%	Vol. 1.321, Page 202
of the drug remains liposome-encapsulated during	Vol. 1.51, Page 172
circulation. However, the assay used cannot quantify less	Vol. 1.56, Page 64
than 5%-10% free doxorubicin, and pharmacokinetic	
modeling suggests that more than 99% of the doxorubicin	
remains within the liposome. (See Pharmacokinetics.)	

It is hypothesized that by virtue of their increased	Vol. 1.317, Page 20
circulation time and reduced clearance, the small DOX-SL	Vol. 1.320, Page 137
liposomes have an increased likelihood of extravasation	Vol. 1.320, Page 143
through the altered and often compromised vasculature of	Vol. 1.316, Page 1
many types of tumors.	Vol. 1.319, Page 1
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This hypothesis is supported by studies using colloidal	Vol. 1.331, Page 8
gold-containing Stealth liposomes, which can be visualized	
microscopically. ¹	

Evidence of extravasation of Stealth liposomes from blood vessels and their entry and accumulation in tumors has been seen in mice with C26 colon carcinoma tumors and in transgenic mice with Kaposi's sarcoma-like lesions.

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In mice, release of doxorubicin from the Stealth liposomes accumulated in the tumor accounts for the improved anti-tumor efficacy of DOX-SL compared to doxorubicin HCl, USP.

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Pharmacokinetics

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The plasma pharmacokinetics of DOX-SL were evaluated in 42 patients with Kaposi's sarcoma who received single doses of 10 or 20 mg/m² administered by a 30-minute infusion.

The following values were observed after the 10 and 20 mg/m² doses of DOX-SL.

Vol. 1.57, Page 49, Table 11

Pharmacokinetic Parameters in DOX-SL-Treated Patients

Parameter	Mean ± Standard Error	
	DOX-SL 10 mg/m ² (n=23)	DOX-SL 20 mg/m ² (n=23)
Maximum Plasma Concentration ^a (µg/mL)	4.12 ± 0.215	8.34 ± 0.490
Plasma Clearance (L/h/m ²)	0.0572 ± 0.0103	0.0419 ± 0.00401
Volume of Distribution (L/m ²)	2.84 ± 0.124	2.77 ± 0.129
AUC (µg/mL·h)	252 ± 28.5	577 ± 57.2
λ ₁ half-lives (hours)	5.80 ± 1.07	5.61 ± 1.21
λ ₂ half-lives (hours)	50.1 ± 5.71	56.6 ± 5.74

^a Measured at end of 30-minute infusion.

The plasma pharmacokinetics of DOX-SL in humans differed significantly from those reported in the literature for doxorubicin HCl, USP. Doxorubicin HCl, USP displays extensive tissue distribution (volume of distribution, 700-1100 L/m²), rapid plasma clearance (24-35 L/h/m²), and a terminal half-life of 28 hours.^{2,3} In contrast to the pharmacokinetics of doxorubicin HCl, the pharmacokinetic profile of DOX-SL indicates that

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DOX-SL is confined mostly to the vascular fluid volume and that the elimination of doxorubicin is dependent upon the liposomal carrier. However, doxorubicin becomes available after the liposomes are extravasated and enter the tissue compartment. Consequently, at equivalent doses, the plasma concentration and AUC values of DOX-SL are significantly higher than those achieved with doxorubicin HCl, USP.

Kaposi's sarcoma lesion and normal skin biopsies were obtained 48 and 96 hours post-infusion. Drug levels in the lesions were 3- to 14-fold higher compared to the normal skin. In another study, patients received equal doses of doxorubicin HCl or DOX-SL. The concentration of doxorubicin HCl in the KS lesions biopsied 72 hours after dosing was 5-11 times higher in patients receiving DOX-SL compared to levels in patients receiving doxorubicin HCl.

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Vol. 1.57, Page 52, Table 14

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Clinical Studies

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In two open-label studies, the majority of patients with AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma were treated with 20 mg/m² every three weeks.

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The first study included 136 patients. Of these patients, 41 were considered "failed or intolerant." Patients were defined as failed or intolerant to prior treatment either because their disease progressed after receiving at least 2 cycles of combination systemic chemotherapy (e.g., bleomycin and vincristine or Adriamycin, bleomycin and vincristine) or because they were intolerant to continued combination chemotherapy as evidenced by unacceptable toxicity.

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These 41 patients are noted as failed or intolerant patients in the following table. Twenty-six of these 41 patients had received prior doxorubicin HCl (Adriamycin).

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Of these 41 failed or intolerant patients treated with DOX-SL, 27 patients, based on the primary analysis of 5 indicator lesions, had a partial response, 10 had stable disease, and 4 had disease progression as their best response. Among the 26 patients who received prior doxorubicin in combination with bleomycin and a vinca alkaloid, 16 had a partial response, 7 had stable disease, and 3 had disease progression as their best response.

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The median number of cycles needed to reach a partial response was 4. The median duration of partial response, measured from the day of response, was 78 days.

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In addition, these failed or intolerant patients had significant improvement over baseline in KS lesion pain, color, edema, and flattening of lesions.

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A second study conducted in Europe and Australia included 238 AIDS-KS patients at doses of 10 to 20 mg/m² every two weeks. In this study the proportion of responders (partial and complete) was 80.7%.

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Response and duration of response for these studies are summarized in the tables below.

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Clinical Response in Patients with AIDS-KS

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	Study 30-12 Failed or Intolerant Patients	Study 30-12 All Patients	Study 30-03 All Patients
Number of Patients	41	136	238
Best Response			
Complete	0	0	15 (6.3%)
Partial	27 (65.9%)	84 (61.8%)	177 (74.4%)
Stable	10 (24.4%)	36 (26.5%)	44 (18.5%)
Progression	4 (9.8%)	16 (11.8%)	2 (0.8%)

Duration of Response in Patients with AIDS-KS

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	Study 30-12 Failed or Intolerant Patients	Study 30-12 All Patients	Study 30-03 All Patients
Number of Patients	41	136	238
Duration of PR and/or CR (Days)			
Mean (SE)	86.6 (10.69)	82.0 (6.85)	117.2 (7.13)
Median	78.0	75.0	91.0

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Note: Mean, SE, and median are Kaplan-Meier estimates.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

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DOX-SL is indicated for AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma in patients who have failed prior systemic combination chemotherapy either due to progression of disease or unacceptable toxicity.

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CONTRAINDICATIONS

DOX-SL is contraindicated in patients who have a history of hypersensitivity reactions to doxorubicin HCl, USP or the components of DOX-SL.

WARNINGS

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Experience with DOX-SL is limited in evaluating cardiac risk. Therefore warnings related to use of doxorubicin HCl, USP should be observed.

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With doxorubicin HCl, USP serious irreversible myocardial toxicity with delayed congestive failure often unresponsive to any cardiac supportive therapy may be encountered as total dosage of doxorubicin in any formulation approaches 550 mg/m². Caution should be observed in patients who have received other anthracyclines.

This toxicity may occur at lower cumulative doses in patients with prior mediastinal irradiation or on concurrent cyclophosphamide therapy.

Until more information is known, cardiac function should be carefully monitored in patients treated with DOX-SL.

Patients with a history of cardiovascular disease should be administered DOX-SL only when the benefit outweighs the risk to the patient.

Radiation-induced toxicity to the myocardium, mucosae, skin and liver have been reported to be increased by the administration of doxorubicin HCl, USP.

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Infusion-associated reactions characterized by flushing, shortness of breath, facial swelling, back pain and/or hypotension have occurred in approximately 6.4% (29/452) of patients treated with DOX-SL.

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These reactions resolved over the course of several hours once the infusion was terminated.

DOX-SL contains doxorubicin HCl which is known to lower peripheral blood counts. Severe myelosuppression may occur.

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At some time during treatment, 38% of patients required G-CSF (or GM-CSF) to support their blood counts.

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Appropriate monitoring of blood counts should be conducted while treating patients with DOX-SL.

Dosing may need to be modified based on patients' blood counts.

Although not formally studied, DOX-SL, like doxorubicin HCl, USP; may potentiate the toxicity of other anti-cancer therapies. Exacerbation of cyclophosphamide-induced hemorrhagic cystitis and enhancement of the hepatotoxicity of 6-mercaptopurine have been reported with doxorubicin HCl, USP.

DOX-SL dosage should be reduced in patients with impaired hepatic function.

Prior to DOX-SL administration, evaluation of hepatic function is recommended using conventional clinical laboratory tests such as SGOT, SGPT, alkaline phosphatase and bilirubin (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Patients with Impaired Hepatic Function).

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PRECAUTIONS

Injection Site Effects

Although DOX-SL should be considered a vesicant, animal experience indicates that extravasation injury of DOX-SL is less severe than with doxorubicin HCl, USP.

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If any signs or symptoms of extravasation occur, the infusion should be immediately terminated and restarted in another vein.