Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information

No. 244 February 2008

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This *Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information (PMDSI)* is issued based on safety information collected by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. It is intended to facilitate safer use of pharmaceuticals and medical devices by healthcare providers. PMDSI is available on the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency website (http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/index.html) and on the MHLW website (http://www.mhlw.go.jp/) (Japanese only).

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This translation of the original Japanese text is for information purpose only (in the event of inconsistency, the Japanese text shall prevail).

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information

No. 244 February 2008

Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan

[Outline of Information]

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D: Distribution of Dear Healthcare Professional Letters *P*: Revision of PRECAUTIONS *C*: Case Reports

Reporting of safety information such as adverse reactions to the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare is a duty of medical and pharmaceutical providers.

If medical and pharmaceutical providers such as physicians, dentists, and pharmacists detect adverse reactions, infections associated with drugs or medical devices, or medical device adverse events, they are obligated to report them to the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare directly or through the marketing authorisation holder. As medical and pharmaceutical providers, drug retailers with a second-class license and household distributors are also required to report safety issues related to drugs and medical devices.

1

Revision of PRECAUTIONS (No. 194)

This section presents details of revisions to the PRECAUTIONS section of package inserts and brand names of drugs that have been revised according to the Notification dated January 10, 2008.

1 <IVD (in vitro diagnostics)> GEM-Premier 3000 PAK

[Warning]

WARNING

The following patients should not be treated with this product, since overestimation of blood glucose levels may occur. (Inappropriate administration of a hypoglycaemic agent including insulin, based on a false high glucose reading can lead to serious symptoms of hypoglycemia such as coma.)

- Patients receiving pralidoxime iodide

[Precautions (interfering substances/drugs)]

Pralidoxime iodide may cause overestimation of blood glucose results.

2 <Hyperlipidemia agents> Ezetimibe

[Brand Name]

Zetia Tablets 10 mg (Schering-Plough K.K.)

[Adverse Reactions (clinically significant adverse reactions)]

Hepatic function disorder: Hepatic function disorder with increase in AST (GOT), ALT (GPT), etc. may occur. Patients should be carefully monitored, and appropriate measures, such as discontinuing treatment, should be taken if any abnormal findings are observed.

3 <Expectorants> L-Carbocisteine

[Brand Name]

Mucodyne Fine Granules, Mucodyne Tablets 250 mg and 500 mg, Mucodyne Syrup 5%, Mucodyne DS (Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.) and others

[Contraindications]

Patients with a history of hypersensitivity to any components of this product

[Adverse Reactions (clinically significant adverse reactions)]

Shock, anaphylactoid reactions: Shock and anaphylactoid reactions (including dyspnoea, oedema and urticaria) may occur. Patients should be carefully monitored, and if any abnormal findings are observed, administration should be discontinued and appropriate measures should be taken.

<Other hormone preparations>

4 Goserelin Acetate (3.6 mg)

[Brand Name] Zoladex 3.6 mg depot (AstraZeneca K.K.)

[Adverse Reactions (clinically significant adverse reactions)]

<Prostate cancer>
Development or exacerbation of diabetes mellitus: Development or exacerbation of diabetes mellitus may occur. If any abnormalities are observed, appropriate measures should be taken.

<Other hormone preparations>

5 Goserelin Acetate (10.8 mg)

[Brand Name] Zoladex LA 10.8 mg depot (AstraZeneca K.K.)

[Adverse Reactions (clinically significant adverse reactions)]

Development or exacerbation of diabetes mellitus: Development or exacerbation of diabetes mellitus may occur. If any abnormalities are observed, appropriate measures should be taken.

<Acting mainly on gram-positive bacteria and gram-negative bacteria>

6 Doripenem Hydrate

[Brand Name] Finibax 0.25 g IV Solution, Finibax 0.25 g IV Solution Kit (Shionogi & Co., Ltd.)

[Adverse Reactions (clinically significant adverse reactions)]

Hepatic function disorder and jaundice: Hepatic function disorder or jaundice may occur. Patients should be carefully monitored through periodic clinical and laboratory tests. If any abnormalities are observed, administration of this drug should be discontinued and appropriate measures should be taken.
Renal failure acute: Serious renal disorder including renal failure acute may occur. Patients should be carefully monitored through periodic clinical and laboratory tests. If any abnormalities are observed, administration of this drug should be discontinued and appropriate measures should be taken.

<Antivirals>

7 Oseltamivir Phosphate

[Brand Name] Tamiflu Capsule 75, Tamiflu Dry Syrup 3% (Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.)

[Adverse Reactions (clinically significant adverse reactions)]

Hepatitis fulminant, hepatic function disorder, and jaundice: Serious hepatitis such as hepatitis fulminant, hepatic function disorder with a marked increase in AST (GOT), ALT (GPT), γ-GTP, or Al-P levels, or jaundice may occur. Patients should be monitored closely, and if any abnormalities are observed, administration of this drug should be discontinued and appropriate measures should be taken.

<Chemotherapeutics-Miscellaneous>

8 Terbinafine Hydrochloride (oral dosage form)

[Brand Name] Lamisil Tablets 125 mg (Novartis Pharma K.K.) and others

[Important Precautions] Sleepiness and dizziness/lightheadedness, etc. may occur. Patients should be cautioned against operating machines with hazardous activities such as working at heights and driving a car.

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9 <Vaccines> Yellow Fever Vaccine

[Brand Name] Yellow Fever Vaccine (Sanofi Pasteur-Daiichi Sankyo Vaccine Co., Ltd.)

[Adverse Reactions (clinically significant adverse reactions)]

Guillain-Barre syndrome: Guillain-Barre syndrome may occur. Patients should be carefully monitored after vaccination with this product. If any abnormalities are observed, appropriate measures should be taken.

Convulsions: Convulsions may occur. If such symptoms develop, appropriate measures should be taken.

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10 Over the counter drugs Products Containing L-Carbocisteine

[Brand Name] New SS Bron Tablets-Ace, New Hustenon (SSP Co., Ltd.), Stona Expectorant Capsules (Sato Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.) and others

[When not to use the product]

These products should not be used in the following persons.

People who have had allergic symptoms in relation to this drug.

[Consultation] In case of the following, immediately discontinue administration and bring this document to your doctor or pharmacist for consultation.

If the following symptoms are observed after taking this drug

In rare instances, the following serious symptoms may occur. Visit a physician immediately in such a case.

Shock (anaphylaxis): Immediately after administration, urticaria, oedema, chest distress, etc. may occur concurrently with pallor facial, cold hands and feet, cold sweat and respiratory discomfort.

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11 Over the counter drugs Polygoni Multiflori Radix (Polygonum Root)

[Brand Name] Shuuhen (Matsuura Yakugyo Co., Ltd.)

[Consultation] In case of the following, immediately discontinue administration and bring this document to your doctor or pharmacist for consultation.

If the following symptoms are observed after taking this drug

In rare instances, the following serious symptoms may occur. Visit a physician immediately in such a case.

Hepatic function disorder: General fatigue, jaundice (skin and white of the eyes become yellow) etc. may occur.

2

List of products subject to Early Post-marketing Phase Vigilance

(As of February 1, 2008)

Nonproprietary name / Brand name	Name of the marketing authorisation holder	Date of EPPV initiation
Estradiol / l'estrogel 0.06%	Shiseido Co., Ltd.	August 9, 2007
Tadalafil / Cialis Tablets 5 mg, 10 mg, and 20 mg	Eli Lilly Japan K.K.	September 12, 2007
Topiramate / Topina Tablets 50 mg and 100 mg	Kyowa Hakko Kogyo Co., Ltd.	September 26, 2007
Montelukast Sodium / Kipres Fine Granules 4 mg	Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	October 2, 2007
Montelukast Sodium / Singulair Fine Granules 4 mg	Banyu Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	October 2, 2007
Rocuronium Bromide / Eslax Intravenous 25 mg/2.5 mL and 50 mg/5.0 mL	Nippon Organon K.K.	October 2, 2007
Garenoxacin Mesilate Hydrate / Geninax Tablets 200 mg	Toyama Chemical Co., Ltd.	October 5, 2007
Idursulfase (Genetical recombination) / Elaprase Solution for Intravenous Drip 6 mg	Genzyme Japan K.K.	October 17, 2007
Pilocarpine Hydrochloride / Salagen Tablets 5 mg[*1]	Kissei Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	October 19, 2007
Nicorandil / Sigmart Injection 2 mg, 12 mg, and 48 mg[*2]	Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	October 19, 2007
Clopidogrel Sulfate / Plavix Tablets 25 mg and 75 mg[*3]	Sanofi-Aventis K.K.	October 19, 2007
Loratadine / Claritin Tablets 10 mg, Claritin RediTab Tablets 10 mg[*4]	Schering-Plough K.K.	October 19, 2007
Travoprost / Travatanz Ophthalmic Solution 0.004%	Alcon Japan Ltd.	October 25, 2007
Strontium Chloride (^{89}Sr) / Metastron Injectable	Nihon Medi-Physics Co., Ltd.	October 31, 2007
Eplerenone / Selara Tablets 25 mg, 50 mg, and 100 mg	Pfizer Japan Inc.	November 13, 2007
Estradiol / Divigel 1 mg	Pola Pharma Inc.	November 20, 2007
Imiquimod / Beselna Cream 5%	Mochida Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd	December 10, 2007
Darunavir Ethanolate / Prezista Tablets 300 mg	Janssen Pharmaceutical K.K.	December 10, 2007
Insulin Detemir (Genetical recombination) / Levemir 300, Levemir 300 FlexPen	Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd.	December 14, 2007

Nelarabine Arranon G Injection 250 mg	GlaxoSmithKline K.K.	December 14, 2007
Erlotinib Hydrochloride Tarceva Tablets 25 mg, 100 mg, and 150 mg	Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	December 18, 2007
Methylphenidate Hydrochloride Concerta Tablets 18 mg and 27 mg	Janssen Pharmaceutical K.K.	December 19, 2007
Beraprost Sodium Careload LA Tablets 60 μg	Toray Industries, Inc.	December 19, 2007
Beraprost Sodium Berasus LA Tablets 60 μg	Kaken Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	December 19, 2007
Dienogest Dinagest Tab. 1mg	Mochida Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd	January 21, 2008
Loratadine Claritin Dry Syrup 1%	Schering-Plough K.K.	January 21, 2008
Gadoxetate Sodium EOB·Primovist Inj. Syringe	Bayer Yakuhin, Ltd.	January 25, 2008
Cinacalcet Hydrochloride Regpara Tablets 25 mg and 75 mg	Kirin Pharma Company, Limited	January 25, 2008

*1: An additional indication for "the treatment of symptoms of dry mouth in patients with Sjogren's syndrome"
*2: An additional indication for "cardiac failure acute (including acute exacerbation of cardiac failure chronic)"
*3: An additional indication for "acute coronary syndrome (unstable angina pectoris, non ST segment elevation myocardial infarction) to which percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) is being planned"
*4: Additional administration for "pediatrics"