IMPORTANT

Dear Healthcare Professional Letter of Rapid Safety Communication

Blue letter, May 2013

Careram® Tablets 25mg; KOLBET® Tablets 25mg (Iguratimod)

-Risk of severe haemorrhages by a suspected interaction with warfarin

To date, a fatal case of pulmonary alveolar haemorrhage associated with a suspected interaction between iguratimod (Careram® Tablets, KOLBET® Tablets, herein after referred to as “the drug”) and warfarin has been reported.

There have been reported 9 cases of haemorrhages or abnormalities on tests of hemostasis (increased PT-INR) associated with the concomitant use of the drug and warfarin (of them, there were 3 severe cases including the above-described fatal case) during the period from its release date of September 12, 2012 to May 17, 2013 (The number of patients using the drug since its market launch: approximately 2660). Based on an evaluation by experts, there were 6 cases (of them, there were 3 severe cases including the above-described fatal case) where a possible interaction between the drug and warfarin could not be ruled out.

In light of the situation, concomitant use of the drug and warfarin has been contraindicated.

When using the drug, healthcare professionals are reminded of the following recommendations:

1. For patients who are taking the drug in combination with warfarin, discontinuation of the drug should be considered.
2. When patients are required to receive warfarin therapy, they should not be administered the drug.

Please refer to the next page of this letter for any inquiries

For Inquiries regarding this letter, please contact the following phone numbers:

Brand name	Marketing authorization holder	Telephone number
Careram® Tablets 25mg	Eisai Co., Ltd Please make an inquiry to : hhc hotline, Eisai Co., Ltd.	Toll free number: 0120-419-497 From 9:00a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (For Saturday, Sunday and National holidays: from 9:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
KOLBET® Tablets 25mg	TOYAMA CHEMICAL CO.,LTD Please make an inquiry to : Customer service office, TOYAMA CHEMICAL CO.,LTD	Toll free number: 0120-591-818 From 8:30 a.m-5:00 p.m.

Translated by
Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency

Office of Safety Ⅰ,
Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency
3-3-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
100-0013 Japan
E-mail: safety.info@pmda.go.jp