GlaxoSmithKline

IMPORTANT NEW SAFETY INFORMATION ON THE DOSE OF EPTIFIBATIDE (INTEGRILIN) IN PATIENTS WITH MODERATE RENAL IMPAIRMENT

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Dear Health Care Provider,

GSK in accordance with the EMEA and National Competent Authorities, including the Irish Medicines Board (IMB), wishes to inform you of important changes to the prescribing information regarding the use of eptifibatide (Integrilin) solution for injection in patients with moderate renal impairment. Eptifibatide is a glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitor, and is used as an anti-platelet agent for the prevention of early myocardial infarction (MI) in patients presenting with unstable angina or non-Q wave MI with the last episode of chest pain occurring within 24 hours and with ECG changes and/or elevated cardiac enzymes.

Data from a recent pharmacokinetic study performed in patients with renal impairment[1] showed that clearance of eptifibatide was reduced by approximately 50% and steady-state plasma levels were approximately doubled in subjects with moderate to severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance [CrCl] < 50 ml/min) compared to subjects with normal renal function or mild renal impairment. By reducing the standard infusion dose of eptifibatide from 2.0 µg/kg/min to 1.0 µg/kg/min in patients with moderate renal impairment (i.e. CrCl 30-50 ml/min), appropriate therapeutic exposures to eptifibatide were achieved, while maintaining the efficacy as measured by inhibition of platelet aggregation. Review of clinical trial safety data related to bleeding showed that patients with moderate renal impairment who received reduced eptifibatide dose had a lower risk of bleeding.

The following recommendation regarding administration and dosing has been incorporated into the Summary of Product Characteristics and approved by the EMEA in January 2007:

In patients with moderate renal impairment (creatinine clearance ≥30 but < 50 ml/min), an intravenous bolus of 180 microgram/kg should be administered followed by a continuous infusion dose of 1.0 microgram/kg/min for the duration of therapy.

We remind prescribers that:

Eptifibatide remains contraindicated in patients with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 ml/min) or with dependency on renal dialysis.

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We remind you that any suspected adverse reactions should be reported to GlaxoSmithKline Ireland or the Pharmacovigilance Section of the Irish Medicines Board according to the national spontaneous reporting system.

Please see www.medicines.ie for the current Integrilin Summary of Product Characteristics. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our medical information department on 1800 244 255.

Sincerely,

Martina Dempsey

Martina Dempsey PhD
Director of Medical & Regulatory Affairs

1. Gretler DD, Guerciolini R, Williams PJ. Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties of eptifibatide in subjects with normal or impaired renal function. Clin Ther. 2004; 26(3):390-398.