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Pfizer Healthcare Ireland

<<Insert Address>>

December 17, 2010
UKPV/10/260

Direct Healthcare Professional Communication on the association of Thelin (sitaxentan) with serious liver injury

Dear <<Dr XXX>>,

Pfizer would like to inform you about the voluntary worldwide withdrawal of Thelin (sitaxentan) from the market due to unpredictable cases of serious liver injury. Thelin belongs to the class of endothelin receptor antagonists and is indicated for the treatment of patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) to improve exercise capacity.

Summary

- Pfizer announced its decision to voluntarily withdraw Thelin from the market worldwide on December 10, 2010 due to reports of serious liver injury.

- Patients taking Thelin should be transitioned to alternate treatment according to local best practice as soon as possible. Until then, patients should be advised not to stop taking Thelin and to consult their treating physician as soon as possible. A supply of Thelin will be available during the transition period.

- No new patients should be prescribed Thelin.

- All clinical trials with sitaxentan are being discontinued.

Further information on the safety concern
Pfizer has completed a review of fatalities associated with hepatic injury, which included a 2009 post-marketing case from the UK and two 2010 clinical trial cases from India and the Ukraine. A newly identified idiosyncratic pattern of liver injury associated with Thelin, cannot be excluded; this effect does not appear to be related to identifiable risk factors or

likely to be detected by monthly monitoring and, at least in some cases, does not resolve when Thelin is discontinued.

Based on the information available and given the availability of alternative treatments, Pfizer has concluded that the overall benefit of Thelin no longer outweighs the risk in the general population of PAH patients.

Further information on the product
Thelin (sitaxentan) is indicated for the treatment of patients with PAH classified as WHO functional class III, to improve exercise capacity.

Thelin has been known to be associated with liver toxicity since approval of the initial marketing authorisation, and has been contra-indicated in patients with mild to severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A-C) or elevated aminotransferases prior to initiation of treatment. Following the 2009 post-marketing case in the UK, Thelin's product information was updated to provide more guidance regarding hepatic safety monitoring.

According to current product information, patients with abnormal liver enzymes at the time of Thelin discontinuation should continue to be monitored regularly.

Call for reporting
If you become aware of any adverse reactions in association with the use of Thelin, please report promptly to Pfizer at 1800 633363. Alternatively, this information may be reported to the Irish Medicines Board (IMB) by calling: (01) 6764971, using on-line reporting forms at: www.imb.ie or Using post-paid Report Cards (Yellow Cards) e-mail: imbpharmacovigilance@imb.ie

Communication information
For more information about Thelin, please contact Pfizer Medical Information at Pfizer Limited, Walton Oaks, Dorking Road, Tadworth, Surrey, KT20 7NS or Tel: 1800 633363.

Sincerely,

Declan O'Callaghan
Director of Medical Affairs
Pfizer Ireland