JENTIN MET

(Sitagliptin /Metformin HCI Ph. Eur)

50mg/500mg & 50mg/1000mg

Tablets

WARNING

LACTIC ACIDOSIS

Post marketing cases of metformin-associated lactic acidosis have resulted in death, hypothermia, hypotension, and resistant bradyarrhythmias. The onset of metformin-associated lactic acidosis is often subtle, accompanied only by nonspecific symptoms such as malaise, myalgias, respiratory distress, somnolence, and abdominal pain. Metformin-associated lactic acidosis was characterized by elevated blood lactate levels (>5 mmol/Liter), anion gap acidosis (without evidence of ketonuria or ketonemia), an increased lactate/pyruvate ratio, and metformin plasma levels generally >5 mcg/mL.

Risk factors for metformin-associated lactic acidosis include renal impairment, concomitant use of certain drugs (e.g., carbonic anhydrase inhibitors such as topiramate), age 65 years old or greater, having a radiological study with contrast, surgery and other procedures, hypoxic states (e.g., acute congestive heart failure), excessive alcohol intake, and hepatic impairment.

Necessary steps should be taken to reduce the risk of and manage metformin-associated lactic acidosis in high risk groups.

If metformin-associated lactic acidosis is suspected, immediately discontinue Jentin met and institute general supportive measures in a hospital setting. Prompt hemodialysis is recommended.

COMPOSITION

THERAPEUTIC INDICATIONS

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Limitations of Use Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should not be used in patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus or for the treatment of diabetic ketoacidosis.

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination has not been studied in patients with a history of pancreatitis. It is unknown whether patients with a history of pancreatitis are at increased risk for the development of pancreatitis while using Sitagliptin and Metformin combination

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Recommended Dosing:

The dosage of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should be individualized on the basis of the patient's current regimen, effectiveness, and tolerability while not exceeding the maximum recommended daily dose of 100 mg sitagliptin and 2000 mg metformin hydrochloride (HCI). Initial combination therapy or maintenance of combination therapy should be individualized and left to the discretion of the health care provider.

The starting dose of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should be based on the patient's current regimen. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should be given twice daily with meals.

The recommended starting dose in patients not currently treated with metformin is 50 mg sitagliptin/500 mg metformin HCl twice daily, with gradual dose escalation recommended to reduce gastrointestinal side effects associated with metformin.

The starting dose in patients already treated with metformin should provide sitagliptin dosed as 50 mg twice daily (100 mg total daily dose) and the dose of metformin already being taken.

For patients taking metformin 850 mg twice daily, the recommended starting dose of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is 50 mg sitagliptin/1000 mg metformin HCl twice daily.

No studies have been performed specifically examining the safety and efficacy of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination in patients previously treated with other oral antihyperglycemic agents and switched to Sitagliptin and Metformin combination. Any change in therapy of type 2 diabetes should be undertaken with care and appropriate monitoring as changes in glycemic control can occur.

Recommendations for Use in Renal Impairment:

Assess renal function prior to initiation of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination and periodically thereafter. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is contraindicated in patients with an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) below 30 mL/min/1.73 m². Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is not recommended in patients with an eGFR between 30 and less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m 2 because these patients require a lower dosage of sitagliptin than what is available in the fixed combination Sitagliptin and Metformin combination product.

Discontinuation for Iodinated Contrast Imaging Procedures:

Discontinue Sitagliptin and Metformin combination at the time of, or prior to, an iodinated contrast imaging procedure in patients with an eGFR between 30 and 60 mL/min/1.73 m 2; in patients with a history of liver disease, alcoholism, or heart failure; or in patients who will be administered intraarterial iodinated contrast. Reevaluate eGFR 48 hours after the imaging procedure; restart Sitagliptin and Metformin combination if renal function is stable.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is contraindicated in patients with: • Severe renal impairment (eGFR below 30 mL/min/1.73 m²)

• Acute or chronic metabolic acidosis, including diabetic ketoacidosis. Diabetic ketoacidosis should be treated with insulin.

• History of a serious hypersensitivity reaction to Sitagliptin and Metformin combination, sitagliptin, or metformin, such as anaphylaxis or angioedema.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Lactic Acidosis

There have been post marketing cases of metformin-associated lactic acidosis, including fatal cases. These cases had a subtle onset and were accompanied by nonspecific symptoms such as malaise, myalgias, abdominal pain, respiratory distress, or increased somnolence; however, hypothermia, hypotension and resistant bradyarrhythmias have occurred with severe acidosis. Metformin-associated lactic acidosis was characterized by elevated blood lactate concentrations (>5 mmol/Liter), anion gap acidosis (without evidence of ketonuria or ketonemia), and an increased lactate/pyruvate ratio; metformin plasma levels were generally >5 mcg/mL. Metformin decreases liver uptake of lactate increasing lactate blood levels which may increase the risk of lactic acidosis, especially in patients at risk.

If metformin-associated lactic acidosis is suspected, general supportive measures are used.

In Sitagliptin and Metformin combination treated patients with a diagnosis or strong suspicion of lactic acidosis, prompt hemodialysis is recommended to correct the acidosis and remove accumulated metformin Hemodialysis has often resulted in reversal of symptoms and recovery.

For each of the known and possible risk factors for metformin-associated lactic acidosis, recommendations to reduce the risk of and manage metformin-associated lactic acidosis are provided below:

<u>Renal Impairment:</u> The post marketing metformin-associated lactic acidosis cases primarily occurred in patients with significant renal impairment. Clinical recommendations based upon the patient's renal function include:

• Before initiating Sitagliptin and Metformin combination, obtain an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR).

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is contraindicated in patients with an eGFR below 30 mL/min/1.73 m².

• Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is not recommended in patients with an eGFR between 30 and less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m 2 because these patients require a lower dosage of sitagliptin than what is available in the fixed combination Sitagliptin and Metformin combination product.

• Obtain an eGFR at least annually in all patients taking Sitagliptin and Metformin combination. In patients at increased risk for the development of renal impairment (e.g., the elderly), renal function should be assessed more frequently.

Drug Interactions:

The concomitant use of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination with specific drugs may increase the risk of metformin associated lactic acidosis such as those that impair renal function, result in significant hemodynamic change, interfere with acid-base balance or increase metformin accumulation. Therefore, consider more frequent monitoring of patients.

Age 65 or Greater:

The risk of metformin-associated lactic acidosis increases with the patient's age because elderly patients have a greater likelihood of having hepatic,

renal, or cardiac impairment than younger patients. Assess renal function more frequently in elderly patients.

Radiological Studies with Contrast:

Administration of intravascular iodinated contrast agents in metformin-treated patients has led to an acute decrease in renal function and the occurrence of lactic acidosis. Stop Sitagliptin and Metformin combination at the time of, or prior to, an iodinated contrast imaging procedure in patients with an eGFR between 30 and 60 mL/min/1.73 m²; in patients with a history of hepatic impairment, alcoholism, or heart failure; or in patients who will be administered intra-arterial iodinated contrast. Re-evaluate eGFR 48 hours after the imaging procedure, and restart Sitagliptin and Metformin combination if renal function is stable.

Surgery and Other Procedures:

Withholding of food and fluids during surgical or other procedures may increase the risk for volume depletion, hypotension and renal impairment. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should be temporarily discontinued while patients have restricted food and fluid intake.

Hypoxic States:

Several of the post marketing cases of metformin-associated lactic acidosis occurred in the setting of acute congestive heart failure (particularly when accompanied by hypoperfusion and hypoxemia). Cardiovascular collapse (shock), acute myocardial infarction, sepsis, and other conditions associated with hypoxemia have been associated with lactic acidosis and may also cause prerenal azotemia. When such events occur, discontinue Sitagliptin and Metformin combination.

Excessive Alcohol Intake:

Alcohol potentiates the effect of metformin on lactate metabolism and this may increase the risk of metformin-associated lactic acidosis. Warn patients against excessive alcohol intake while receiving Sitagliptin and Metformin combination

Hepatic Impairment:

Patients with hepatic impairment have developed with cases of metforminassociated lactic acidosis. This may be due to impaired lactate clearance resulting in higher lactate blood levels. Therefore, avoid use of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination in patients with clinical or laboratory evidence of hepatic disease.

Pancreatitis:

There have been post marketing reports of acute pancreatitis, including fatal and non-fatal hemorrhagic or necrotizing pancreatitis, in patients taking Sitagliptin and Metformin combination After initiation of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination, patients should be observed carefully for signs and symptoms of pancreatitis. If pancreatitis is suspected, Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should promptly be discontinued and appropriate management should be initiated. It is unknown whether patients with a history of pancreatitis are at increased risk for the development of pancreatitis while using Sitagliptin and Metformin combination

Heart Failure:

An association between dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitor treatment and heart failure has been observed in cardiovascular outcomes trials for two other members of the DPP-4 inhibitor class. These trials evaluated patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. Consider the risks and benefits of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination prior to initiating treatment in patients at risk for heart failure, such as those with a prior history of heart failure and a history of renal impairment, and observe these patients for signs and symptoms of heart failure during therapy. Advise patients of the characteristic symptoms of heart failure and to immediately report such symptoms. If heart failure develops, evaluate and manage according to current standards of care and consider discontinuation of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination.

Assessment of Renal Function:

Metformin and sitagliptin are known to be substantially excreted by the kidney. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is contraindicated in patients with severe renal impairment. Sitagliptin There have been post marketing reports of worsening renal function, including acute renal failure, sometimes requiring dialysis. Before initiation of therapy with Sitagliptin and Metformin combination and at least annually thereafter, renal function should be assessed. In patients in whom development of renal dysfunction is

anticipated, particularly in elderly patients, renal function should be assessed more frequently and Sitagliptin and Metformin combination discontinued if evidence of renal impairment is present.

Vitamin B12 Deficiency:

In controlled clinical trials of metformin of 29 weeks duration, a decrease to subnormal levels of previously normal serum vitamin B12 levels was observed in approximately 7% of patients. Such decrease, possibly due to interference with B12 absorption from the B12-intrinsic factor complex, may be associated with anemia but appears to be rapidly reversible with discontinuation of metformin or vitamin B12 supplementation. Certain individuals (those with inadequate vitamin B12 or calcium intake or absorption) appear to be predisposed to developing subnormal vitamin B12 levels. Measure hematologic parameters on an annual basis and vitamin B12 measurements at 2- to 3-year intervals in patients on Sitagliptin and Metformin combination and manage any abnormalities.

Change in Clinical Status of Patients with Previously Controlled Type 2 Diabetes:

A patient with type 2 diabetes previously well controlled on Sitagliptin and Metformin combination who develops laboratory abnormalities or clinical illness (especially vague and poorly defined illness) should be evaluated promptly for evidence of ketoacidosis or lactic acidosis. Evaluation should include serum electrolytes and ketones, blood glucose and, if indicated, blood pH, lactate, pyruvate, and metformin levels. If acidosis of either form occurs, Sitagliptin and Metformin combination must be stopped immediately and other appropriate corrective measures initiated.

Use with Medications Known to Cause Hypoglycemia

<u>Sitaqliptin:</u> When sitagliptin was used in combination with a sulfonylurea or with insulin, medications known to cause hypoglycemia, the incidence of hypoglycemia was increased over that of placebo used in combination with a sulfonylurea or with insulin. Therefore, patients also receiving an insulin secretagogue (e.g., sulfonylurea) or insulin may require a lower dose of the insulin secretagogue or insulin to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia.

Metformin HCI: Hypoglycemia does not occur in patients receiving metformin alone under usual circumstances of use, but could occur when caloric intake is deficient, when strenuous exercise is not compensated by caloric supplementation, or during concomitant use with other glucose-lowering agents (such as sulfonylureas and insulin) or ethanol. Elderly, debilitated, or malnourished patients, and those with adrenal or pituitary insufficiency or alcohol intoxication are particularly susceptible to hypoglycemic effects. Hypoglycemia may be difficult to recognize in the elderly, and in people who are taking β-adrenergic blocking drugs.

Loss of Control of Blood Glucose:

When a patient stabilized on any diabetic regimen is exposed to stress such as fever, trauma, infection, or surgery, a temporary loss of glycemic control may occur. At such times, it may be necessary to withhold Sitagliptin and Metformin combination and temporarily administer insulin. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination may be reinstituted after the acute episode is resolved

Hypersensitivity Reactions:

There have been post marketing reports of serious hypersensitivity reactions in patients treated with sitagliptin, one of the components of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination These reactions include anaphylaxis, angioedema, and exfoliative skin conditions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome. Onset of these reactions occurred within the first 3 months after initiation of treatment with sitagliptin, with some reports occurring after the first dose. If a hypersensitivity reaction is suspected, discontinue Sitagliptin and Metformin combination, assess for other potential causes for the event, and institute alternative treatment for diabetes. Angioedema has also been reported with other DPP-4 inhibitors because it is unknown whether such patients will be predisposed to angioedema with Sitagliptin and Metformin combination

Severe and Disabling Arthralgia:

There have been post marketing reports of severe and disabling arthralgia in patients taking DPP-4 inhibitors. The time to onset of symptoms following initiation of drug therapy varied from one day to years. Patients experienced relief of symptoms upon discontinuation of the medication. A subset of patients experienced a recurrence of symptoms when restarting the same drug or a different DPP-4 inhibitor. Consider DPP-4 inhibitors as a possible cause for severe joint pain and discontinue drug if appropriate.

Bullous Pemphigoid

Postmarketing cases of bullous pemphigoid requiring hospitalization have been reported with DPP-4 inhibitor use. In reported cases, patients typically recovered with topical or systemic immunosuppressive treatment and discontinuation of the DPP-4 inhibitor. Tell patients to report development of blisters or erosions while receiving Sitagliptin and Metformin combination. If bullous pemphigoid is suspected, Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should be discontinued and referral to a dermatologist should be considered for diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

Macrovascular Outcomes:

There have been no clinical studies establishing conclusive evidence of macrovascular risk reduction with Sitagliptin and Metformin combination

DRUG INTERACTIONS

<u>Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors:</u> Topiramate or other carbonic anhydrase inhibitors (e.g., zonisamide, acetazolamide or dichlorphenamide) frequently cause a decrease in serum bicarbonate and induce non-anion gap, hyperchloremic metabolic acidosis. Concomitant use of these drugs with Sitagliptin and Metformin combination may increase the risk of lactic acidosis. Consider more frequent monitoring of these patients.

<u>Drugs that Reduce Metformin Clearance</u>: Concomitant use of drugs that interfere with common renal tubular transport systems involved in the renal elimination of metformin (e.g., organic cationic transporter-2 [OCT2] / multidrug and toxin extrusion [MATE] inhibitors such as ranolazine, vandetanib, dolutegravir, and cimetidine) could increase systemic exposure to metformin and may increase the risk for lactic acidosis. Consider the benefits and risks of concomitant use.

<u>Alcohol:</u> Alcohol is known to potentiate the effect of metformin on lactate metabolism. Warn patients against excessive alcohol intake while receiving Sitagliptin and Metformin combination

Insulin Secretagogues or Insulin: Coadministration of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination with an insulin secretagogue (e.g., sulfonylurea) or insulin may require lower doses of the insulin secretagogue or insulin to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia.

<u>Use of Metformin with Other Drugs:</u> Certain drugs tend to produce hyperglycemia and may lead to loss of glycemic control. These drugs include the thiazides and other diuretics, corticosteroids, phenothiazines, thyroid products, estrogens, oral contraceptives, phenytoin, nicotinic acid, sympathomimetics, calcium channel blocking drugs, and isoniazid. When such drugs are administered to a patient receiving Sitagliptin and Metformin combination the patient should be closely observed to maintain adequate glycemic control.

Digoxin: there was a slight increase in the area under the curve (AUC, 11%) and mean peak drug concentration (Cmax, 18%) of digoxin in patients receiving sitagliptin. Patients receiving digoxin should be monitored appropriately. No dosage adjustment of digoxin or Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is recommended.

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Pregnancy

There are no adequate data from the use of sitagliptin in pregnant women. Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity at high doses of sitagliptin.

A limited amount of data suggests the use of metformin in pregnant women is not associated with an increased risk of congenital malformations. Animal studies with metformin do not indicate harmful effects with respect to pregnancy, embryonic or foetal development, parturition or postnatal development.

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination should not be used during pregnancy. If a patient wishes to become pregnant or if a pregnancy occurs, treatment should be discontinued and the patient switched to insulin treatment as soon as possible.

Lactation

No studies in lactating animals have been conducted with the combined active substances of this medicinal product. In studies performed with the individual active substances, both sitagliptin and metformin are excreted in the milk of lactating rats. Metformin is excreted in human milk in small amounts. It is not known whether sitagliptin is excreted in human milk. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination must therefore not be used in women who are breast-feeding.

Pediatric

Use Safety and effectiveness of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination in pediatric patients under 18 years have not been established. Geriatric Use

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination Because sitagliptin and metformin are substantially excreted by the kidney, and because aging can be associated with reduced renal function, renal function should be assessed more frequently in elderly patients.

Renal Impairment:

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is not recommended in patients with an eGFR between 30 and less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m 2 because these patients require a lower dosage of sitagliptin than what is available in the fixed dose combination of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is contraindicated in severe renal impairment, patients with an eGFR below 30 mL/min/1.73 m²

Use of metformin in patients with hepatic impairment has been associated with some cases of lactic acidosis. Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is not recommended in patients with hepatic impairment.

EFFECTS ON ABILITY TO DRIVE AND USE MACHINES

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines. However, when driving or using machines, it should be taken into account that dizziness and somnolence have been reported with sitagliptin.

In addition, patients should be alerted to the risk of hypoglycemia when Sitagliptin and Metformin combination is used in combination with a sulphonylurea or with insulin.

ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS

Summary of the safety profile

Serious adverse reactions including pancreatitis and hypersensitivity reactions have been reported. Hypoglycaemia has been reported in combination with sulphonylurea and insulin.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

Adverse reactions are listed below as MedDRA preferred term by system organ class and absolute frequency (Table 1). Frequencies are defined as: very common (\geq 1/10); common (\geq 1/100 to < 1/10); uncommon (\geq 1/1,000 to < 1/1,000); very rare (< 1/10,000) and not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

Table 1: The frequency of adverse reactions identified from placebocontrolled clinical studies of sitagliptin and metformin alone, and postmarketing experience

| Adverse reaction | Frequency of adverse reaction | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Blood and lymphatic system disorders | | | | |
| thrombocytopenia | Rare | | | |
| Immune system disorders | | | | |
| hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylactic responses *.† | Frequency not known | | | |
| Metabolism and nutrition disorders | | | | |
| hypoglycemia [†] | Common | | | |
| Nervous system disorders | | | | |
| somnolence | Uncommon | | | |
| Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders | | | | |
| interstitial lung disease* | Frequency not known | | | |
| Gastrointestinal disorders | | | | |
| diarrhoea | Uncommon | | | |
| nausea | Common | | | |
| flatulence | Common | | | |
| constipation | Uncommon | | | |
| upper abdominal pain | Uncommon | | | |
| vomiting | Common | | | |
| acute pancreatitis *,†,‡ | Frequency not known | | | |
| fatal and non-fatal hemorrhagic and necrotizing pancreatitis ^{*,†} | Frequency not known | | | |
| Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders | | | | |
| Pruritus | Uncommon | | | |
| Angioedema | Frequency not known | | | |
| Rash | Frequency not known | | | |
| Urticaria | Frequency not known | | | |
| cutaneous vasculitis | Frequency not known | | | |
| exfoliative skin conditions including Stevens- Johnson syndrome | Frequency not known | | | |
| bullous pemphigoid* | Frequency not known | | | |
| Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders | | | | |
| arthralgia* | Frequency not known | | | |
| myalgia* | Frequency not known | | | |

| pain in extremity* | Frequency not known |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| back pain* | Frequency not known |
| arthropathy* | Frequency not known |
| Renal and urinary disorders | |
| impaired renal function* | Frequency not known |
| acute renal failure* | Frequency not known |

*Adverse reactions were identified through post-marketing surveillance. Description of selected adverse reactions

Some adverse reactions were observed more frequently in studies of combination use of sitagliptin and metformin with other anti-diabetic medicinal products than in studies of sitagliptin and metformin alone. These included hypoglycaemia (frequency very common with sulphonylurea or insulin), constipation (common with sulphonylurea), peripheral oedema (common with pioglitazone), and headache and dry mouth (uncommon with insulin).

Sitagliptin

In monotherapy studies of sitagliptin: adverse reactions reported were headache, hypoglycaemia, constipation, and dizziness. Among these patients, adverse events reported regardless of causal relationship to medicinal product occurring in at least 5 % included upper respiratory tract infection and nasopharyngitis. In addition, osteoarthritis and pain in extremity were reported with frequency uncommon (> 0.5 % higher among sitagliptin users than that in the control group).

Metformin

Gastrointestinal symptoms were reported very commonly in clinical studies and post-marketing use of metformin. Gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain and loss of appetite occur most frequently during initiation of therapy and resolve spontaneously in most cases. Additional adverse reactions associated with metformin include metallic taste (common); lactic acidosis, liver function disorders, hepatitis, urticaria, erythema, and pruritus (very rare). Long-term treatment with metformin has been associated with a decrease in vitamin B12 absorption which may very rarely result in clinically significant vitamin B12 deficiency (e.g., megaloblastic anaemia). Frequency categories are based on information available from metformin Summary of Product Characteristics available in the EU.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorization of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions at pv@searlecompany.com.

OVERDOSE

During controlled clinical trials in healthy subjects, single doses of up to 800 mg sitagliptin were administered. Minimal increases in QTc, not considered to be clinically relevant, were observed in one study at a dose of 800 mg sitagliptin. There is no experience with doses above 800 mg in clinical studies. In Phase I multiple-dose studies, there were no dose-related clinical adverse reactions observed with sitagliptin with doses of up to 600 mg per day for periods of up to 10 days and 400 mg per day for periods of up to 28 days.

A large overdose of metformin (or co-existing risks of lactic acidosis) may lead to lactic acidosis which is a medical emergency and must be treated in hospital. The most effective method to remove lactate and metformin is hemodialysis.

In clinical studies, approximately 13.5 % of the dose was removed over a 3to 4-hour hemodialysis session. Prolonged hemodialysis may be considered if clinically appropriate. It is not known if sitagliptin is dialysable by peritoneal dialysis.

In the event of an overdose, it is reasonable to employ the usual supportive measures, e.g., remove unabsorbed material from the gastrointestinal tract, employ clinical monitoring (including obtaining an electrocardiogram), and institute supportive therapy if required.

PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Drugs used in diabetes, Combinations of oral blood glucose lowering drugs, ATC code: A10BD07

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination combines two antihyperglycemic medicinal products with complementary mechanisms of action to improve glycaemic control in patients with type 2 diabetes: sitagliptin phosphate, a dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP-4) inhibitor, and metformin hydrochloride, a member of the biguanide class. Sitagliptin

Mechanism of action

Sitagliptin phosphate is an orally-active, potent, and highly selective inhibitor of the dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP-4) enzyme for the treatment of type 2 diabetes. The DPP-4 inhibitors are a class of agents that act as incretin enhancers. By inhibiting the DPP-4 enzyme, sitagliptin increases the levels of two known active incretin hormones, glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) and glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP). The incretins are part of an endogenous system involved in the physiologic regulation of glucose homeostasis. When blood glucose concentrations are normal or elevated, GLP-1 and GIP increase insulin synthesis and release from pancreatic beta cells. GLP-1 also lowers glucagon secretion from pancreatic alpha cells, leading to reduced hepatic glucose production. When blood glucose levels are low, insulin release is not enhanced and glucagon secretion is not suppressed. Sitagliptin is a potent and highly selective inhibitor of the enzyme DPP-4 and does not inhibit the closely-related enzymes DPP-8 or DPP-9 at therapeutic concentrations. Sitagliptin differs in chemical structure and pharmacological action from GLP-1 analogues, insulin, sulphonylureas or meglitinides, biguanides, peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma (PPARy) agonists, alpha-glucosidase inhibitors, and amylin analogues.

In a two-day study in healthy subjects, sitagliptin alone increased active GLP-1 concentrations, whereas metformin alone increased active and total GLP-1 concentrations to similar extents. Co-administration of sitagliptin and metformin had an additive effect on active GLP-1 concentrations. Sitagliptin, but not metformin, increased active GIP concentrations.

Pharmacokinetic properties

Sitagliptin and Metformin combination

A bioequivalence study in healthy subjects demonstrated that the Sitagliptin and Metformin combination (sitagliptin/metformin hydrochloride) combination tablets are bioequivalent to co-administration of sitagliptin phosphate and metformin hydrochloride as individual tablets.

The following statements reflect the pharmacokinetic properties of the individual active substances of Sitagliptin and Metformin combination. <u>Sitagliptin</u>

Absorption

Following oral administration of a 100-mg dose to healthy subjects, sitagliptin was rapidly absorbed, with peak plasma concentrations (median T_{max}) occurring 1 to 4 hours post-dose, mean plasma AUC of sitagliptin was 8.52 μ M-hr, C_{max} was 950 nM. The absolute bioavailability of sitagliptin is approximately 87 %. Since co-administration of a high-fat meal with sitagliptin had no effect on the pharmacokinetics, sitagliptin may be administered with or without food.

Plasma AUC of sitagliptin increased in a dose-proportional manner. Doseproportionality was not established for C_{max} and C_{24hr} (C_{max} increased in a greater than dose-proportional manner and C_{24hr} increased in a less than dose-proportional manner).

Distribution

The mean volume of distribution at steady state following a single 100-mg intravenous dose of sitagliptin to healthy subjects is approximately 198 litres. The fraction of sitagliptin reversibly bound to plasma proteins is low (38 %). *Biotransformation*

Sitagliptin is primarily eliminated unchanged in urine, and metabolism is a minor pathway. Approximately 79 % of sitagliptin is excreted unchanged in the urine.

Following a [¹⁴C]sitagliptin oral dose, approximately 16 % of the radioactivity was excreted as metabolites of sitagliptin. Six metabolites were detected at trace levels and are not expected to contribute to the plasma DPP-4 inhibitory activity of sitagliptin. *In vitro* studies indicated that the primary enzyme responsible for the limited metabolism of sitagliptin was CYP3A4, with contribution from CYP2C8.

In vitro data showed that sitagliptin is not an inhibitor of CYP isoenzymes CYP3A4, 2C8, 2C9, 2D6, 1A2, 2C19 or 2B6, and is not an inducer of CYP3A4 and CYP1A2.

Elimination

Following administration of an oral [¹⁴C]sitagliptin dose to healthy subjects, approximately 100 % of the administered radioactivity was eliminated in feces (13 %) or urine (87 %) within one week of dosing. The apparent terminal t₂ following a 100-mg oral dose of sitagliptin was approximately 12.4 hours. Sitagliptin accumulates only minimally with multiple doses. The renal clearance was approximately 350 mL/min.

Elimination of sitagliptin occurs primarily via renal excretion and involves active tubular secretion. Sitagliptin is a substrate for human organic anion transporter-3 (hOAT-3), which may be involved in the renal elimination of sitagliptin. The clinical relevance of hOAT-3 in sitagliptin transport has not been established. Sitagliptin is also a substrate of p-glycoprotein, which may also be involved in mediating the renal elimination of sitagliptin. However, ciclosporin, a p-glycoprotein inhibitor, did not reduce the renal clearance of sitagliptin. Sitagliptin is not a substrate for OCT2 or OAT1 or PEPT1/2 transporters. *In vitro*, sitagliptin did not inhibit OAT3 (IC50=160 μ M) or p-glycoprotein (up to 250 μ M) mediated transport at therapeutically relevant plasma concentrations. In a clinical study sitagliptin had a small effect on plasma digoxin concentrations indicating that sitagliptin may be a mild inhibitor of p-glycoprotein.

Characteristics in patients

The pharmacokinetics of sitagliptin were generally similar in healthy subjects and in patients with type 2 diabetes.

Renal impairment

A single-dose, open-label study was conducted to evaluate the pharmacokinetics of a reduced dose of sitagliptin (50 mg) in patients with varying degrees of chronic renal impairment compared to normal healthy control subjects. The study included patients with mild, moderate, and severe renal impairment, as well as patients with ESRD on haemodialysis. In addition, the effects of renal impairment on sitagliptin pharmacokinetics in patients with type 2 diabetes and mild, moderate, or severe renal impairment (including ESRD) were assessed using population pharmacokinetic analyses.

Compared to normal healthy control subjects, plasma AUC of sitagliptin was increased by approximately 1.2-fold and 1.6-fold in patients with mild renal impairment (GFR \ge 60 to < 90 mL/min) and patients with moderate renal impairment (GFR \ge 45 to < 60 mL/min), respectively. Because increases of this magnitude are not clinically relevant, dosage adjustment in these patients is not necessary.

Plasma AUC of sitagliptin was increased approximately 2-fold in patients with moderate renal impairment (GFR \geq 30 to < 45 mL/min), and approximately 4-fold in patients with severe renal impairment (GFR < 30 mL/min), including patients with ESRD on haemodialysis. Sitagliptin was modestly removed by haemodialysis (13.5 % over a 3- to 4-hour haemodialysis session starting 4 hours post-dose).

Hepatic impairment

No dose adjustment for sitagliptin is necessary for patients with mild or moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score \leq 9). There is no clinical experience in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score > 9). However, because sitagliptin is primarily renally eliminated, severe hepatic impairment is not expected to affect the pharmacokinetics of sitagliptin.

Elderly

No dose adjustment is required based on age. Age did not have a clinically meaningful impact on the pharmacokinetics of sitagliptin based on a population pharmacokinetic analysis of Phase I and Phase II data. Elderly subjects (65 to 80 years) had approximately 19 % higher plasma concentrations of sitagliptin compared to younger subjects.

Paediatric

No studies with sitagliptin have been performed in paediatric patients. *Other patient characteristics*

No dose adjustment is necessary based on gender, race, or body mass index (BMI). These characteristics had no clinically meaningful effect on the pharmacokinetics of sitagliptin based on a composite analysis of Phase I pharmacokinetic data and on a population pharmacokinetic analysis of Phase I and Phase II data.

Metformin

Absorption

After an oral dose of metformin, T_{max} is reached in 2.5 h. Absolute bioavailability of a 500 mg metformin tablet is approximately 50-60 % in healthy subjects. After an oral dose, the non-absorbed fraction recovered in faeces was 20-30 %.

After oral administration, metformin absorption is saturable and incomplete. It is assumed that the pharmacokinetics of metformin absorption is non-linear. At the usual metformin doses and dosing schedules, steady state plasma concentrations are reached within 24-48 h and are generally less than 1 µg/mL. In controlled clinical trials, maximum metformin plasma levels (C_{max}) did not exceed 5 µg/mL, even at maximum doses.

Food decreases the extent and slightly delays the absorption of metformin. Following administration of a dose of 850 mg, a 40 % lower plasma peak concentration, a 25 % decrease in AUC and a 35 min prolongation of time to peak plasma concentration was observed. The clinical relevance of this decrease is unknown.

Distribution

Plasma protein binding is negligible. Metformin partitions into erythrocytes. The blood peak is lower than the plasma peak and appears at approximately the same time. The red blood cells most likely represent a secondary compartment of distribution. The mean Vd ranged between 63 – 276 L. *Biotransformation*

Metformin is excreted unchanged in the urine. No metabolites have been identified in humans.

Elimination

Renal clearance of metformin is > 400 mL/min, indicating that metformin is eliminated by glomerular filtration and tubular secretion. Following an oral dose, the apparent terminal elimination half-life is approximately 6.5 h. When renal function is impaired, renal clearance is decreased in proportion to that of creatinine and thus the elimination half-life is prolonged, leading to increased levels of metformin in plasma.

Summary of Clinical Studies

Clinical efficacy and safety

Overall, sitagliptin improved glycaemic control when used as monotherapy or in combination treatment.

In clinical trials, sitagliptin as monotherapy improved glycaemic control with significant reductions in haemoglobin A_{1c} (HbA_{1c}) and fasting and postprandial glucose. Reduction in fasting plasma glucose (FPG) was observed at 3 weeks, the first time point at which FPG was measured. The observed incidence of hypoglycaemia in patients treated with sitagliptin was similar to placebo. Body weight did not increase from baseline with sitagliptin therapy. Improvements in surrogate markers of beta cell function, including HOMA- β (Homeostasis Model Assessment- β), proinsulin to insulin ratio, and measures of beta cell responsiveness from the frequently-sampled meal tolerance test were observed.

Studies of sitagliptin in combination with metformin

In a 24-week, placebo-controlled clinical study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of the addition of sitagliptin 100 mg once daily to ongoing metformin, sitagliptin provided significant improvements in glycaemic parameters compared with placebo. Change from baseline in body weight was similar for patients treated with sitagliptin relative to placebo. In this study there was a similar incidence of hypoglycaemia reported for patients treated with sitagliptin or placebo.

In a 24-week placebo-controlled factorial study of initial therapy, sitagliptin 50 mg twice daily in combination with metformin (500 mg or 1,000 mg twice daily) provided significant improvements in glycaemic parameters compared with either monotherapy. The decrease in body weight with the combination of sitagliptin and metformin was similar to that observed with metformin alone or placebo; there was no change from baseline for patients on sitagliptin alone. The incidence of hypoglycaemia was similar across treatment groups. Study of sitagliptin in combination with metformin and a sulphonylurea

A 24-week placebo-controlled study was designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of sitagliptin (100 mg once daily) added to glimepiride (alone or in combination with metformin). The addition of sitagliptin to glimepiride and metformin provided significant improvements in glycaemic parameters. Patients treated with sitagliptin had a modest increase in body weight (+1.1 kg) compared to those given placebo.

Study of sitagliptin in combination with metformin and a PPARy agonist

A 26-week placebo-controlled study was designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of sitagliptin (100 mg once daily) added to the combination of pioglitazone and metformin. The addition of sitagliptin to pioglitazone and metformin provided significant improvements in glycaemic parameters. Change from baseline in body weight was similar for patients treated with sitagliptin relative to placebo. The incidence of hypoglycaemia was also similar in patients treated with sitagliptin or placebo.

Study of sitagliptin in combination with metformin and insulin

A 24-week placebo-controlled study was designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of sitagliptin (100 mg once daily) added to insulin (at a stable dose for at least 10 weeks) with or without metformin (at least 1,500 mg). In patients taking pre-mixed insulin, the mean daily dose was 70.9 U/day. In patients taking non-pre-mixed (intermediate/long-acting) insulin, the mean daily dose was 44.3 U/day. Data from the 73 % of patients who were taking metformin are presented in Table 2. The addition of sitagliptin to insulin provided significant improvements in glycaemic parameters. There was no meaningful change from baseline in body weight in either group.

| Table | 2: | HbA _{1c} results | in | placebo-controlled | combination | therapy |
|--------|------|---------------------------|------|--------------------|-------------|---------|
| studie | s of | f sitagliptin and | l me | etformin* | | |

| Study | Mean baseline HbA _{1c} (%) | Mean change from baseline HbA _{1c} (%) | Placebo- corrected mean change in HbA _{1c} (%) (95 % CI) |
|--|---|---|---|
| Sitagliptin 100 mg once daily added to ongoing metformin therapy [%] (N=453) | | -0.7† | -0.7 ^{†.‡} (-0.8, -0.5) |
| Sitagliptin 100 mg once daily added to ongoing glimepiride + metformin therapy [%] (N=115) | | -0.6† | -0.9 ^{†.‡} (-1.1, -0.7) |
| Sitagliptin 100 mg once daily added to ongoing pioglitazone + metformin therapy ¹ (N=152) | | -1.2† | -0.7 ^{†.‡} (-1.0, -0.5) |
| Sitagliptin 100 mg once daily added to ongoing insulin + metformin therapy [%] (N=223) | | -0.7 [§] | -0.5 ^{§,‡} (-0.7, -0.4) |

| Initial Therapy (twice daily) [%] : Sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin 500 mg (N=183) | | -1.4 [†] | -1.6 ^{†.‡} (-1.8, -1.3) |
|---|-----|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Initial Therapy (twice daily)%: Sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin 1,000 mg (N=178) | 8.8 | -1.9 [†] | -2.1 ^{†.‡} (-2.3, -1.8) |

* All Patients Treated Population (an intention-to-treat analysis).

[†]Least squares means adjusted for prior antihyperglycaemic therapy status and baseline value.

[‡]p< 0.001 compared to placebo or placebo + combination treatment.

[%] HbA_{1c} (%) at week 24.

[¶]HbA_{1c} (%) at week 26.

[§]Least squares mean adjusted for insulin use at Visit 1 (pre-mixed vs. nonpre-mixed [intermediate- or long-acting]), and baseline value.

In a 52-week study, comparing the efficacy and safety of the addition of sitagliptin 100 mg once daily or glipizide (a sulphonylurea) in patients with inadequate glycaemic control on metformin monotherapy, sitagliptin was similar to glipizide in reducing HbA1c (-0.7 % mean change from baselines at week 52, with baseline HbA_{1c} of approximately 7.5 % in both groups). The mean glipizide dose used in the comparator group was 10 mg per day with approximately 40 % of patients requiring a glipizide dose of \leq 5 mg/day throughout the study. However, more patients in the sitagliptin group discontinued due to lack of efficacy than in the glipizide group. Patients treated with sitagliptin exhibited a significant mean decrease from baseline in body weight (-1.5 kg) compared to a significant weight gain in patients administered glipizide (+1.1 kg). In this study, the proinsulin to insulin ratio, a marker of efficiency of insulin synthesis and release, improved with sitagliptin and deteriorated with glipizide treatment. The incidence of hypoglycaemia in the sitagliptin group (4.9 %) was significantly lower than that in the glipizide group (32.0 %).

A 24-week placebo-controlled study involving 660 patients was designed to evaluate the insulin-sparing efficacy and safety of sitagliptin (100 mg once daily) added to insulin glargine with or without metformin (at least 1,500 mg) during intensification of insulin therapy. Among patients taking metformin, baseline HbA1c was 8.70 % and baseline insulin dose was 37 IU/day. Patients were instructed to titrate their insulin glargine dose based on fingerstick fasting glucose values. Among patients taking metformin, at Week 24, the increase in daily insulin dose was 19 IU/day in patients treated with sitagliptin and 24 IU/day in patients treated with placebo. The reduction in HbA1c for patients treated with sitagliptin, metformin, and insulin was -1.35 % compared to -0.90 % for patients treated with placebo, metformin, and insulin, a difference of -0.45 % [95 % CI: -0.62, -0.29]. The incidence of hypoglycaemia was 24.9 % for patients treated with sitagliptin, metformin, and insulin and 37.8 % for patients treated with placebo, metformin, and insulin. The difference was mainly due to a higher percentage of patients in the placebo group experiencing 3 or more episodes of hypoglycaemia (9.1 vs. 19.8 %). There was no difference in the incidence of severe hypoglycaemia.

Metformin

Mechanism of action

Metformin is a biguanide with antihyperglycaemic effects, lowering both basal and postprandial plasma glucose. It does not stimulate insulin secretion and therefore does not produce hypoglycaemia.

Metformin may act via three mechanisms:

- by reduction of hepatic glucose production by inhibiting gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis

- in muscle, by modestly increasing insulin sensitivity, improving peripheral glucose uptake and utilisation

- by delaying intestinal glucose absorption

Metformin stimulates intracellular glycogen synthesis by acting on glycogen synthase. Metformin increases the transport capacity of specific types of membrane glucose transporters (GLUT-1 and GLUT-4).

Clinical efficacy and safety

In humans, independently of its action on glycaemia, metformin has favourable effects on lipid metabolism. This has been shown at therapeutic doses in controlled, medium-term or long-term clinical studies: metformin reduces total cholesterol, LDLc and triglyceride levels.

The prospective randomised (UKPDS) study has established the long-term benefit of intensive blood glucose control in type 2 diabetes. Analysis of the results for overweight patients treated with metformin after failure of diet alone showed:

- a significant reduction of the absolute risk of any diabetes-related complication in the metformin group (29.8 events/1,000 patient-years) versus diet alone (43.3 events/1,000 patient-years), p=0.0023, and versus the combined sulphonylurea and insulin monotherapy groups (40.1 events/1,000 patient-years), p=0.0034

- a significant reduction of the absolute risk of any diabetes-related mortality: metformin 7.5 events/1,000 patient-years, diet alone 12.7 events/1,000 patient-years, p=0.017

- a significant reduction of the absolute risk of overall mortality: metformin 13.5 events/1,000 patient-years versus diet alone 20.6 events/1,000 patient-years, (p=0.011), and versus the combined sulphonylurea and insulin monotherapy groups 18.9 events/1,000 patient-years (p=0.021)

- a significant reduction in the absolute risk of myocardial infarction: metformin 11 events/1,000 patient-years, diet alone 18 events/1,000 patient-years, (p=0.01).

The TECOS was a randomised study in 14,671 patients in the intention-totreat population with an HbA_{1c} of \geq 6.5 to 8.0 % with established CV disease who received sitagliptin (7,332) 100 mg daily (or 50 mg daily if the baseline eGFR was \geq 30 and < 50 mL/min/1.73 m²) or placebo (7,339) added to usual care targeting regional standards for HbA_{1c} and CV risk factors. Patients with an eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73 m² were not to be enrolled in the study. The study population included 2,004 patients \geq 75 years of age and 3,324 patients with renal impairment (eGFR < 60 mL/min/1.73 m²).

Over the course of the study, the overall estimated mean (SD) difference in HbA_{1c} between the sitagliptin and placebo groups was 0.29 % (0.01), 95 % CI (-0.32, -0.27); p < 0.001.

The primary cardiovascular endpoint was a composite of the first occurrence of cardiovascular death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, nonfatal stroke, or hospitalization for unstable angina. Secondary cardiovascular endpoints included the first occurrence of cardiovascular death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, or nonfatal stroke; first occurrence of the individual components of the primary composite; all-cause mortality; and hospital admissions for congestive heart failure.

After a median follow up of 3 years, sitagliptin, when added to usual care, did not increase the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events or the risk of hospitalization for heart failure compared to usual care without sitagliptin in patients with type 2 diabetes (Table 3).

| Table 3: Rates | of Composi | te Cardiovascular | Outcomes | and | Key |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|----------|-----|-----|
| Secondary Outco | omes | | | | - |

| Secondary Outcom | Sitagliptin 100 Placebo mg | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|---------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| | N (%) | Incidence rate per 100 patient- years* | N (%) | Incidence rate per 100 patient- years* | Hazard Ratio (95% CI) | p- value [†] | | | |
| Analysis in the Intention-to-Treat Population | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of patients | 7,332 | | 7,339 | | 0.98 (0.89– | <0.001 | | | |
| Primary Composite Endpoint (Cardiovascular death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, nonfatal stroke, or hospitalization for unstable angina) | 839 (11.4) | 4.1 | 851 (11.6) | 4.2 | 1.08) | | | | |
| nonfatal stroke) | 745 (10.2) | 3.6 | 746 (10.2) | 3.6 | 0.99 (0.89– 1.10) | <0.001 | | | |
| Secondary Outcom | e | | | | | | | | |
| Cardiovascular death | 380 (5.2) | 1.7 | 366 (5.0) | 1.7 | 1.03 (0.89- 1.19) | 0.711 | | | |
| All myocardial infarction (fatal and non-fatal) | 300 (4.1) | 1.4 | 316 (4.3) | 1.5 | 0.95 (0.81– 1.11) | 0.487 | | | |
| All stroke (fatal and non-fatal) | 178 (2.4) | 0.8 | 183 (2.5) | 0.9 | 0.97 (0.79– 1.19) | 0.760 | | | |
| Hospitalization for unstable angina | 116 (1.6) | 0.5 | 129 (1.8) | 0.6 | 0.90 (0.70– 1.16) | 0.419 | | | |

| Death cause | from | any | 547 (7.5) | 2.5 | 537 (7.3) | 2.5 | 1.01 (0.90– 1.14) | 0.875 |
|---------------------------|------|-----|--------------|-----|--------------|-----|-------------------------|-------|
| Hospitaliz heart failu | | for | 228 (3.1) | 1.1 | 229 (3.1) | 1.1 | 1.00 (0.83– 1.20) | 0.983 |

* Incidence rate per 100 patient-years is calculated as $100 \times (\text{total number of patients with } \ge 1$ event during eligible exposure period per total patient-years of follow-up).

[†] Based on a Cox model stratified by region. For composite endpoints, the pvalues correspond to a test of non-inferiority seeking to show that the hazard ratio is less than 1.3. For all other endpoints, the p-values correspond to a test of differences in hazard rates.

[‡]The analysis of hospitalization for heart failure was adjusted for a history of heart failure at baseline.

Paediatric population

The European Medicines Agency has waived the obligation to submit the results of studies with Sitagliptin and Metformin combination in all subsets of the pediatric population in type 2 diabetes mellitus

PRECLINICAL SAFETY DATA

No animal studies have been conducted with Sitagliptin and Metformin combination.

In 16-week studies in which dogs were treated with either metformin alone or a combination of metformin and sitagliptin, no additional toxicity was observed from the combination. The NOEL in these studies was observed at exposures to sitagliptin of approximately 6 times the human exposure and to metformin of approximately 2.5 times the human exposure.

The following data are findings in studies performed with sitagliptin or metformin individually.

Sitagliptin

Renal and liver toxicity were observed in rodents at systemic exposure values 58 times the human exposure level, while the no-effect level was found at 19 times the human exposure level. Incisor teeth abnormalities were observed in rats at exposure levels 67 times the clinical exposure level; the no-effect level for this finding was 58-fold based on the 14-week rat study. The relevance of these findings for humans is unknown. Transient treatment-related physical signs, some of which suggest neural toxicity, such as openmouth breathing, salivation, white foamy emesis, ataxia, trembling, decreased activity, and/or hunched posture were observed in dogs at exposure levels approximately 23 times the clinical exposure level. In addition, very slight to slight skeletal muscle degeneration was also observed histologically at doses resulting in systemic exposure levels of approximately 23 times the clinical exposure level for these findings was found at an exposure level. A no-effect level for these findings was

Sitagliptin has not been demonstrated to be genotoxic in preclinical studies. Sitagliptin was not carcinogenic in mice. In rats, there was an increased incidence of hepatic adenomas and carcinomas at systemic exposure levels 58 times the human exposure level. Since hepatotoxicity has been shown to correlate with induction of hepatic neoplasia in rats, this increased incidence of hepatic tumours in rats was likely secondary to chronic hepatic toxicity at this high dose. Because of the high safety margin (19-fold at this no-effect level), these neoplastic changes are not considered relevant for the situation in humans.

No treatment related effects on fertility were observed in male and female rats given sitagliptin prior to and throughout mating.

In a pre-/post-natal development study performed in rats sitagliptin showed no adverse effects.

Reproductive toxicity studies showed a slight treatment-related increased incidence of foetal rib malformations (absent, hypoplastic and wavy ribs) in the offspring of rats at systemic exposure levels more than 29 times the human exposure levels. Maternal toxicity was seen in rabbits at more than 29 times the human exposure levels. Because of the high safety margins, these findings do not suggest a relevant risk for human reproduction. Sitagliptin is secreted in considerable amounts into the milk of lactating rats (milk/plasma ratio: 4:1).

Metformin

Preclinical data for metformin reveal no special hazard for humans based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity, carcinogenic potential, toxicity to reproduction.

PRESENTATION

Jentin met 50mg/500mg tablets are available in alu-alu blister pack of 2 x 7 Tablets.

Jentin met 50mg/1000mg tablets are available in alu-alu blister pack of 2 x 7 Tablets

INSTRUCTIONS

To be sold on prescription of a registered medical practitioner only.

Protect from moisture, freezing, excessive heat and sunlight.

Keep out of the reach of children.

REGISTRATION NUMBER

Jentin met 50mg/500mg: 075872

Jentin met 50mg/1000mg: 075871

M.L. 000016

NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS OF THE HOLDER OF THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Manufactured by:

The Searle Company Limited

F-319, S.I.T.E., Karachi-Pakistan.

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