

Customer Care Line: +44 (0) 1256 315000

XX July 2008

The content of this letter has been agreed with the European Regulatory Authorities

Dear Healthcare Professional,

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION CELANCE/Pergolide

Eli Lilly is writing to inform you of important safety information and changes to the prescribing information for CELANCE/ pergolide prompted by reports of fibrotic reactions, including valvulopathy, in chronic users of ergot-derived dopamine receptor agonists. These changes have been agreed to by the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) during an EU referral procedure (EMA/H/A-31/881) which reassessed the risk profile of ergot-derived dopamine receptor agonists.

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Further information on the safety concern

Recent data from published literature suggest that higher doses and/or cumulative exposure of ergot-derived dopamine receptor agonists are risk factors for development of valvular pathology. Based on these findings, the Posology, Contra-indications, Warnings and Undesirable Effects sections of the Summary of Product Characteristics have been modified.

Changes to the Summary of Product Characteristics

The following points highlight the changes:

- The maximum dose of pergolide has been reduced from 5mg per day to 3mg per day.
- Before initiating treatment, all patients must undergo a cardiovascular evaluation, including echocardiogram.
- Evidence of cardiac valvulopathy, as determined by pre-treatment echocardiography, is a contra-indication.
- Clinical diagnostic monitoring for development of valvular disease or fibrosis, as appropriate, is now considered essential rather than recommended. Following treatment initiation, the first echocardiogram must occur within 3-6 months; thereafter, the frequency of echocardiographic monitoring should be determined by appropriate individual clinical assessment but must occur at least every 6 to 12 months.

- Cardiac valvulopathy (including regurgitation) and related cardiac disorders (pericarditis and pericardial effusion) are listed as very common undesirable effects.

Strict adherence to these requirements is important to protect patient safety.

Healthcare Professionals are reminded that pergolide is indicated only as second line therapy in Parkinson's disease.

A copy of revised wording for sections of the Summary of Product Characteristics adopted by the CHMP is attached.

Call for reporting

Healthcare Professionals are reminded of the need to report adverse reactions in accordance with the national spontaneous reporting system:

The contact details are as follows:

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
10-2 Market Towers
1 Nine Elms Lane
London, SW8 5NQ
Tel: 020 7084 2000 (weekdays 0900 -1700)
Tel: 020 7210 3000 (other times)
Fax: 020 7084 2353
Email: info@mhra.gsi.gov.uk

The following is the website for online reporting of safety issues to the MHRA:

<http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>

Contact details for reporting to Marketing Authorisation Holder is:

GPS UK Affiliate
Eli Lilly & Co Ltd
Erl Wood Manor
Sunninghill Road
Windlesham, Surrey
GU20 6PH, UK
E-mail: UK_TEAM_GBMAIL-GPS@LILLY.COM
Fax: +44 (0)1276 452463
Tel: +44 (0) 1256 315000

Communication information

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this important safety information, please contact the Lilly Medical Information department on 01256 315 999.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Maurício Silva de Lima M.D., Ph.D.
UK & ROI Medical Director