18 February 2014
EMA/COMP/35549/2014
Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products (COMP)

Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products (COMP) meeting report on the review of applications for orphan designation

February 2014

The Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products held its 153rd plenary meeting on 4-6 February 2014.

Orphan medicinal product designation

Positive opinions

The COMP adopted 13 positive opinions recommending the following medicines for designation as orphan medicinal products to the European Commission (EC):

1. Opinions adopted at the second COMP discussion, following the sponsor's response to the COMP list of questions:

- **Caffeine citrate** for prevention of bronchopulmonary dysplasia; Viridian Pharma Ltd
- **Cysteamine bitartrate** for treatment of pancreatic cancer; Raptor Pharmaceuticals Europe BV
- **Eculizumab** for prevention of graft rejection following solid organ transplantation; Alexion Europe SAS
- **Ex-vivo-cultured human mesenchymal stromal cells** for prevention of graft rejection following solid organ transplantation; iCell Science AB
- **Phosphorothioate oligonucleotide targeted to transthyretin** for treatment of ATTR-amyloidosis; Isis USA Ltd.
- **Recombinant human alpha-glucosidase conjugated with multiple copies of synthetic bismannose-6-phosphate-tetra-mannose glycan** for treatment of glycogen storage disease type II (Pompe's disease); Genzyme Europe BV
- **Recombinant human surfactant protein D** for prevention of bronchopulmonary dysplasia; Dr Ulrich Granzer

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2. Opinions adopted at the first COMP discussion:

- **Adeno-associated viral vector serotype 8 containing the human *GUCY2D* gene** for treatment of Leber's congenital amaurosis; Fondazione Telethon
- **Amikacin sulfate** for treatment of nontuberculous mycobacterial lung disease; Insmed Limited
- **Autologous CD34+ cells transduced with a lentiviral vector containing the human *RAG1* gene** for treatment of recombination-activating gene 1 deficient severe combined immunodeficiency; Prof. F.J.T. Staal
- **Doxorubicin(6-maleimidocaproyl)hydrazone** for treatment of soft tissue sarcoma; Eudax Srl
- **Fixed-dose combination of (R-S) baclofen, naltrexone hydrochloride and D-sorbitol** for treatment of Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease type 1A; Pharnext SAS
- **Volasertib** for treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia; Boehringer Ingelheim International GmbH

Appeal opinion

Following the appeal to the COMP opinion of 18 November 2013, the COMP adopted their final opinion recommending the refusal of the orphan medicinal product designation for the following medicine:

- **5-Chloro-N2-[2-isopropoxy-5-methyl-4-(4-piperidinyl)phenyl]-N4-[2-(isopropylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2,4-pyrimidinediamine** for treatment of non-small cell lung carcinoma (NSCLC) that is anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK)-positive; Novartis Europharm Limited

Public summaries of opinions will be available on the EMA website following adoption of the respective decisions on orphan designation[1] by the European Commission.

Lists of questions

The COMP adopted 9 lists of questions on initial applications. These applications will be discussed again at the next COMP meeting prior to the adoption of an opinion.

Oral hearings

10 oral hearings took place.

Withdrawals of applications for orphan medicinal product designation

The COMP noted that 4 applications for orphan medicinal product designation were withdrawn.

Detailed information on the orphan designation procedures

An overview of orphan designation procedures since 2000 is provided in Annex 1.

The list of medicinal products for which decisions on orphan designation have been given by the European Commission since the last COMP meeting is provided in Annex 2.

[1] Details of all orphan designations granted to date by the European Commission are entered in the EU Register of Orphan Medicinal Products

Applications for marketing authorisation for orphan medicinal products

No orphan medicinal products have been subject of a new European Union marketing authorisation application through the centralised procedure since the last COMP meeting.

Details on the authorised orphan medicinal products can be found on the EMA website.

Article 5(12) (b) of Regulation (EC) No 141/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council

In line with its responsibility to review whether or not a designated orphan medicinal product still fulfils the designation criteria prior to the granting of a marketing authorisation, the COMP adopted 1 opinion recommending to the European Commission that the following orphan medicinal product be kept in the EU registry of orphan medicinal product:

- **Adempas** (methyl 4,6-diamino-2-[1-(2-fluorobenzyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-3-yl]-5-pyrimidinyl(methyl)carbamate) for treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension including treatment of chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension; Bayer Pharma AG (EU/3/07/518)

The COMP also reviewed their opinion of 12 December 2013 recommending to the European Commission that the following orphan medicinal product be kept in the EU registry of orphan medicinal product:

- **Cholic Acid FGK** for treatment of inborn errors of primary bile acid synthesis responsive to treatment with cholic acid; FGK Representative Service GmbH (EU/3/09/683)

Appeal opinion

Following the appeal to the COMP opinion of 9 January 2014, the COMP adopted their final opinion recommending to the European Commission that the following orphan medicinal products be kept in the EU registry of orphan medicinal product:

- **Para-aminosalicylic acid Lucane** (para-aminosalicylic acid) for treatment of tuberculosis; Lucane Pharma SA (EU/3/10/826)

Other matters

The main topics addressed during the meeting related to:

- Protocol assistance advice
- COMP article *Use of biomarkers in the context of orphan medicines designation in the European Union* published in the Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases on 24 January 2014

Upcoming meetings

- Joint EMA/FDA/MHLW-PMDA orphan medicinal product workshop will be held on 10 March 2014
- The 154th meeting of the COMP will be held on 11-12 March 2014

Note

This monthly report, together with other information on the work of the European Medicines Agency, can be found on the EMA website: www.ema.europa.eu

Contact our press officer

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Annex 1

Overview for orphan medicinal product designation procedure since 2000

Year	Applications submitted	Applications discussed in reporting year	Positive COMP opinions	Applications withdrawn	Final negative COMP opinions	EC designations	Orphan medicinal products[2] authorised	Orphan designations included in authorised therapeutic indication
2014	18	36	28 (78%)	7 (19%)	1 (3%)	13	0	0
2013	201	197	136 (69%)	60 (30%)	1 (1%)	136	7	8
2012	197	192	139 (72%)	52 (27%)	1 (1%)	148	10	12
2011	166	158	111 (70%)	45 (29%)	2 (1%)	107	5	5
2010	174	176	123 (70%)	51 (29%)	2 (1%)	128	4	4
2009	164	136	113 (83%)	23 (17%)	0[3] (0%)	106	9	9
2008	119	118	86 (73%)	31 (26%)	1 (1%)	73	6	7
2007	125	117	97 (83%)	19 (16%)	1 (1%)	98	13	13
2006	104	103	81 (79%)	20 (19%)	2 (2%)	80	9	11
2005	118	118	88 (75%)	30 (25%)	0 (0%)	88	4	4
2004	108	101	75 (74%)	22 (22%)	4 (4%)	73	6	6
2003	87	96	54 (56%)	41 (43%)	1 (1%)	55	5	5
2002	80	75	43 (57%)	30 (40%)	2[4] (3%)	49	4	4
2001	83	90	62[4] (70%)	27 (29%)	1 (1%)	64	3	3
2000	72	32	26 (81%)	6 (19%)	0 (0%)	14	0	0
Total	**1816**	**1745**	**1262 (72%)**	**464 (27%)**	**19 (1%)**	**1232**	**85**	**91**

[2] Number of authorised orphan medicinal products may cover more than one orphan designation
[3] Negative opinion adopted in 2009 was revised and finalised in 2010, therefore it is not included in 2009 listing
[4] Following a quality assurance exercise it was identified that this figure needed correction

Annex 2

Medicinal products granted a European Union designation as orphan medicinal product by the European Commission since the January 2014 COMP monthly report

Active substance	Orphan indication	Sponsor	COMP opinion date	EC designation date
(2*R*,3*R*,4*S*,5*R*)-2-(6-amino-9*H*-purin-9-yl)-5-((((1*r*,3*S*)-3-(2-(5-(*tert*-butyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)ethyl)cyclobutyl)(isopropyl) amino)methyl)tetrahydrofuran-3,4-diol	Treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia	Voisin Consulting S.A.R.L	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
(2*R*,3*R*,4*S*,5*R*)-2-(6-amino-9*H*-purin-9-yl)-5-((((1*r*,3*S*)-3-(2-(5-(*tert*-butyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)ethyl)cyclobutyl)(isopropyl) amino)methyl)tetrahydrofuran-3,4-diol	Treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia	Voisin Consulting S.A.R.L	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
(6aS)-1,10-dimethoxy-6-methyl-5,6,6a,7-tetrahydro-4H-dibenzo[de,g]quinoline-2,9-diol	Treatment of dystrophic myotonia	Valentia BioPharma S.L.	17 December 2013	16 January 2014
Adenovirus-specific T-cells derived from allogeneic donor leukocytes, expanded ex vivo	Treatment of adenovirus infection in allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplant recipients	Cell Medica Ltd	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
Allantoin	Treatment of epidermolysis bullosa	ORS Oxford Ltd	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
Allogeneic bone-marrow derived adherent ex-vivo expanded multipotent adult progenitor cells	Prevention of graft-versus-host disease	ReGenesys BVBA	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
Amatuximab	Treatment of malignant mesothelioma	Eisai Europe Limited	12 December 2013	16 January 2014

Active substance	Orphan indication	Sponsor	COMP opinion date	EC designation date
Autologous dendritic cells pulsed with allogeneic tumour cell lysate	Treatment of malignant mesothelioma	Amphera BV	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
Inecalcitol	Treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia / small lymphocytic lymphoma	Hybrigenics SA	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
Lonafarnib	Treatment of hepatitis delta virus infection	Eiger Biopharmaceuticals Europe Limited	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
N-(3-(5-fluoro-2-(4-(2-methoxyethoxy)phenylamino)pyrimidin-4-ylamino)phenyl)acrylamide benzenesulfonic acid salt	Treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia / small lymphocytic lymphoma	Celgene Europe Limited	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
Obeticholic acid	Treatment of primary sclerosing cholangitis	Intercept Italia S.R.L.	12 December 2013	16 January 2014
Sodium nitrite	Treatment of aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage	Hope Pharmaceuticals Ltd	17 December 2013	16 January 2014