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Human Medicines Research and Development Support Division

Public summary of the evaluation of the proposed paediatric investigation plan

Expanded human allogeneic mesenchymal adult stem cells extracted from adipose tissue (Cx601) for treatment of anal fistulas

On 15 August 2014, the Paediatric Committee of the European Medicines Agency agreed a Paediatric Investigation Plan* (PIP) for expanded human allogeneic mesenchymal adult stem cells extracted from adipose tissue (Cx601) for treatment of anal fistulas (EMEA-001561-PIP01-13).

What are expanded human allogeneic mesenchymal adult stem cells extracted from adipose tissue (Cx601), and how are they expected to work?

Expanded human allogeneic mesenchymal adult stem cells extracted from adipose tissue (Cx601) are not authorised in the European Union. This medicine is proposed in adults for the treatment of complex anal fistulas.

This medicine is expected to diminish inflammation in the anal area and thereby allowing anal fistulas to heal.

What was the proposal from the applicant?

For children, the applicant proposed:

To study the medicine in children from 4 years to 18 years old, affected by anal fistula of Crohn's disease aetiology, in a paediatric investigation plan*. The future indication proposed for children is: Treatment of complex anal fistulas.

Is there a need to treat children affected by anal fistulas?

Taking into account the proposed indication in adults, and the characteristics of the medicine, the Paediatric Committee considered this medicine of potential use for the treatment of anal fistulas. This condition occurs also in children.

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What did the Paediatric Committee conclude on the potential use of this medicine in children?

At present, surgery for the treatment of anal fistulas in children in the European Union is known to work. Therefore, the Committee considered that new data are required to decide whether the use of this medicine will bring a benefit to the children affected by anal fistulas, and to understand any potential risks.

Because there is a need for more medicines for the treatment of anal fistulas in children, and this medicine has a potential interest for children, the Committee considered that non-clinical and clinical studies were necessary.

What is the content of the Plan after evaluation?

The Paediatric Committee considered that:

- Studies are not necessary in children from birth to less than 4 years old, because clinical studies with the specific medicinal product cannot be expected to be of significant therapeutic benefit to or fulfil a therapeutic need of the specified paediatric subset.
- Studies in animals need to be performed, to identify any risk before the medicine is used in children.
- It is necessary to study if the medicine is efficacious to treat anal fistulas in children. This will be done in 1 study comparing the medicine to historical controls.

What happens next?

The applicant has now received the EMA Decision* on this medicine. The Decision itself is necessary for the applicant to request in the future a marketing authorisation* for this medicine in adults and in children.

The Decision* on the agreed Paediatric Investigation Plan means that the applicant is bound to perform the studies and trials with children in the next months or years. In case of difficulties, or a change in current knowledge or availability of new data, the applicant may request changes to the plan at a later stage. This can be done through a modification of the PIP.

The agreed completion of all the studies and trials included in the Paediatric Investigation Plan is December 2025.

Trials in the Paediatric Investigation Plan will be listed in the public EU Clinical Trials Register (https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu/) as soon as they have been authorised to be started, and their results will have to be listed in the register within 6 months after they have completed.

The results of the studies conducted in accordance with the agreed Paediatric Investigation Plan will be assessed, and any relevant information will be included in the Product Information (summary of product characteristics, package leaflet). If the medicine proves to be efficacious and safe to use in children, it can be authorised for paediatric use, with appropriate recommendations on the dose and on necessary precautions. The product information will also describe which adverse effects are expected with the medicine, and wherever possible, how to prevent or reduce these effects.

*Definitions:

Applicant	The pharmaceutical company or person proposing the Paediatric Investigation Plan or requesting the Product-Specific Waiver
Children	All children, from birth to the day of the 18th birthday.
Paediatric investigation plan (PIP)	Set of studies and measures, usually including clinical studies in children, to evaluate the benefits and the risks of the use of a medicine in children, for a given disease or condition. A PIP may include "partial" waivers (for example, for younger children) and/or a deferral (see below).
Waiver	An exemption from conducting studies in children, for a given disease or condition. This can be granted for all children (product-specific waiver), or in specific subsets (partial waiver): for example, in boys or in children below a given age.
Deferral	The possibility to request marketing authorisation for the use of the medicine in adults, before completing one or more of the studies /measures included in a PIP. The Paediatric Committee may grant a deferral to avoid a delay in the availability of the medicine for adults.
Opinion	The result of the evaluation by the Paediatric Committee of the European Medicines Agency. The opinion may grant a product-specific waiver, or agree a PIP.
Decision	The legal act issued by the European Medicines Agency, which puts into effect the Opinion of the Paediatric Committee.
Pharmaceutical form	The physical aspect of the medicine (the form in which it is presented), for example: a tablet, capsule, powder, solution for injection, etc. A medicine can have more than one pharmaceutical form.
Route of administration	How a medicine is given to the patient. For example: for oral use, for intramuscular use, for intravenous use, etc. The same medicine, or the same pharmaceutical form, may be given through more than one route of administration.
Patent	A form of protection of intellectual property rights. If a medicinal product is protected by a patent, the patent holder has the sole right to make, use, and sell the product, for a limited period. In certain circumstances, a patent for a medicinal product may be extended for a variable period by a Supplementary Protection Certificate.
Marketing Authorisation	When a Marketing Authorisation is granted, the pharmaceutical company may start selling the medicine in the relevant country (in the whole European Union, if the procedure was a centralised one).