

17 January 2013 EMA/CHMP/6584/2013 Committee for medicinal products for human use (CHMP)

Summary of opinion¹ (initial authorisation)

Maruxa

Memantine

On 17 January 2013 the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion, recommending the granting of a marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Maruxa, 10 mg and 20 mg, film coated tablets intended for the treatment of patients with moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease. The applicant for this medicinal product is Krka d.d. Novo mesto. They may request a re-examination of any CHMP opinion, provided they notify the European Medicines Agency in writing of their intention within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

The active substance of Maruxa is memantine hydrochloride, a psychoanaleptic, anti-dementia drug (N06DX01). Memantine is a voltage-dependent, moderate-affinity non-competitive N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor antagonist, modulating the effects of pathologically elevated tonic levels of glutamate that may lead to neuronal dysfunction.

Maruxa is a generic of Ebixa, which has been authorised in the EU since 15 May 2002. Studies have demonstrated the satisfactory quality of Maruxa, a bioequivalence study versus the reference product Ebixa was not required. A question and answer document on generic medicines can be found <u>here</u>.

A pharmacovigilance plan for Maruxa will be implemented as part of the marketing authorisation.

The approved indication is: Treatment of patients with moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease. It is proposed that Maruxa is prescribed by physicians experienced in the treatment of Alzheimer's dementia.

Detailed recommendations for the use of this product will be described in the summary of product characteristics (SmPC), which will be published in the European public assessment report (EPAR), and will be available in all official European Union languages after the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.

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¹ Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the commission decision, which will normally be issued 67 days from adoption of the opinion.

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The CHMP, on the basis of quality, safety and efficacy data submitted, considers there to be a favourable benefit to risk balance for Maruxa and therefore recommends the granting of the marketing authorisation.