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COMMITTEE FOR MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE
POST-AUTHORISATION SUMMARY OF POSITIVE OPINION*
for
VELMETIA

International Nonproprietary Name (INN): *sitagliptin / metformin hydrochloride*

On 24 September 2009 the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion** to recommend the variation to the terms of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Velmetia. The Marketing Authorisation Holder for this medicinal product is Merck Sharp & Dohme Ltd.

The CHMP adopted a new indication as follows:

“Velmetia is also indicated as add-on to insulin (i.e. triple combination therapy) as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycaemic control in patients when stable dosage of insulin and metformin alone do not provide adequate glycaemic control.”

Detailed conditions for the use of this product will be described in the updated Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) which will be published in the revised European Public Assessment Report (EPAR) and will be available in all official European Union languages after the variation to the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.

For information, the full indications for Velmetia will be as follows***:

“For patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus:

Velmetia is indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycaemic control in patients inadequately controlled on their maximal tolerated dose of metformin alone or those already being treated with the combination of sitagliptin and metformin.

Velmetia is indicated in combination with a sulphonylurea (i.e., triple combination therapy) as an adjunct to diet and exercise in patients inadequately controlled on their maximal tolerated dose of metformin and a sulphonylurea.

Velmetia is indicated as triple combination therapy with a PPAR γ agonist (i.e., a thiazolidinedione) as an adjunct to diet and exercise in patients inadequately controlled on their maximal tolerated dose of metformin and a PPAR γ agonist.

Velmetia is also indicated as add-on to insulin (i.e. triple combination therapy) as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycaemic control in patients when stable dosage of insulin and metformin alone do not provide adequate glycaemic control.”

* Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the Commission Decision, which will normally be issued within 44 days (Type II variations) and 67 days (Annex II applications) from adoption of the Opinion.

** Marketing Authorisation Holders may request a re-examination of any CHMP opinion, provided they notify the EMEA in writing of their intention to request a re-examination within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

*** The text in bold represents the new or the amended indication.