

SPC CHANGES

Glivec

The summary of product characteristics for Glivec (imatinib; Novartis) has been updated to include the following rare ($\leq 1/1,000$) serious adverse reactions: aseptic necrosis of bone, mainly in the femoral head; gastrointestinal perforation; and diverticulitis. See SPC.

PRESCRIPTION PRODUCTS

Humalog Mix 50

Humalog Mix 50 (50 per cent insulin lispro, 50 per cent insulin lispro protamine) cartridges 100 units/ml will be available to order from Lilly from 15 May. Net price, 5 x 3ml £29.46. Legal category: POM.

Lisinopril

Lisinopril tablets are now available from Alpharma. Net price, 28 x 2.5mg £0.32, 28 x 5mg £0.38, 28 x 10mg £0.59, 28 x 20mg £0.99. Legal category: POM.

Meloxicam

Meloxicam tablets are now available from Alpharma. Net price, 30 x 7.5mg £4.99, 30 x 15mg £5.99. Legal category: POM.

Vivaglobin

Vivaglobin (normal immunoglobulin) injection for subcutaneous use is now available from ZLB Behring. Net price, 10ml £59.20. Legal category: POM.

PRODUCTS MISCELLANY

Fanhdi



Fanhdi (high purity, solvent detergent and heat-treated, human coagulation factor VIII; Grifols UK) can now be stored at room temperature ($< 30^{\circ}\text{C}$). The shelf-life has been extended to three years. A 24-hour shelf-life of refrigerated reconstituted product has been introduced. The labelling of the product has also changed: Fanhdi 500IU becomes Fanhdi 50IU/ml, Fanhdi 1000IU becomes Fanhdi 100IU/ml. The packaging has

changed to a single carton containing the vial of concentrate and all the items needed to reconstitute the product.

Topamax

The packaging for Topamax (topiramate; Janssen-Cilag) tablets has changed. The new bottles have a child-resistant closure and include a desiccant inserted into the cap. The size of the outer carton has also changed.

DISCONTINUED PRODUCTS

Paediasure

Paediasure Fibre 250ml can (Abbott) will be discontinued from the end of May. Paediasure Fibre will still be available in a 500ml ready-to-hang presentation and in 200ml Tetrapak.

Sinequan

Sinequan (doxepin) capsules are being discontinued by Pfizer. The 50mg strength will be discontinued in June and the 10mg, 25mg and 75mg strengths are expected to be discontinued in October. Further information is available from Pfizer medical information on 01304 616161.

Uprima

Uprima (apomorphine hydrochloride; Abbott) sublingual tablets 2mg and 3mg have been discontinued.

SUPPLY ISSUES

Acupan

Acupan (nefopam hydrochloride; 3M Health Care) tablets 30mg are temporarily unavailable. Supply is expected to resume in June. Further information from customer services on 01509 613082.

DRUG TARIFF UPDATES

NCSO

The Department of Health and the National Assembly for Wales have

agreed to allow "No cheaper stock obtainable" (NCSO) endorsements for diamorphine 5mg, 100mg and 500mg injection ampoules and ketoprofen 100mg capsules for May 2006 prescriptions.

APPOINTMENTS

NPA chairman



Umesh Patel has been appointed chairman of the National Pharmacy Association's management board for 2006-07. Mr Patel, from Sunderland, became NPA vice-chairman last year and has been an NPA board member since 1998. Mr Patel's replacement as vice-chairman is Dilip Joshi, from south-west

London. Wally Dove has been reappointed as treasurer for the fifth year in succession.

APTUK president

Sarah Wilcox was elected the new president of the Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK during its annual general meeting on 8 April. Mrs Wilcox is former vice-president of APTUK, and takes over from Darren Leech.

FUTURE EVENTS

Procurement

Summer symposium of the Guild of Healthcare Pharmacist's Procurement and Distribution Interest Group, 8 June, Hilton Hotel, Coventry. Further details are available at the GHP website (www.ghp.org.uk) or by e-mailing jean.fairhurst@ntlworld.com.

CORRECTIONS

BPSA conference

Jennifer deVal is currently undertaking her preregistration training at Barts and The London NHS Trust and not as reported last week (*PJ*, 29 April, p508).

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Events

The Journal welcomes details of future events relevant to pharmacists. There is no charge for insertion of an item but The Journal is unable to guarantee insertion on any given date. Details can be sent by e-mail to notice-board@pharmj.org.uk