Direct Healthcare Professional Communication

30th July 2020

Leuprorelin-containing depot products: need to strictly follow instructions for reconstitution and administration to reduce the risk of handling errors that may result in lack of efficacy

Dear Healthcare Professional,

In agreement with the European Medicines Agency and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), the Marketing Authorisation Holders of leuprorelin-containing depot medicinal products would like to inform you of the following:

Summary

- **Handling errors have been reported with leuprorelin-containing depot medicinal products, potentially resulting in lack of efficacy.**
- **The risk of handling errors is increased when there are multiple steps in the product reconstitution and administration process.**
- **Leuprorelin-containing depot products should be prepared, reconstituted (if applicable) and administered only by healthcare professionals who are familiar with these procedures.**
- **It is important to strictly follow instructions for reconstitution and administration provided in the product information.**

Background on the safety concern

Leuprorelin-containing medicines are used to treat prostate cancer, breast cancer and conditions that affect the female reproductive system (endometriosis, uterine fibroids) and early puberty. They are available as depot formulation (implants and powders and solvents for the preparation of injections). Cases of handling errors potentially resulting in lack of efficacy have been reported with depot formulations (for a list of currently licensed leuprorelin depot products, please see Company contacts below).

The present recommendations are made following an EU-wide review of this issue which concluded that the risk for handling errors is increased when there are multiple steps in the product reconstitution and administration process. To minimise the risk of handling errors, measures will be introduced, including updates to the product information (summary of product characteristics and package leaflet) to strengthen the importance that the instructions for reconstitution and administration need to be strictly followed and to recommend that these products should be only prepared and administered by healthcare professionals who are familiar with these procedures. In case of suspected or known handling error with the medicine, patients should be monitored appropriately.

Call for reporting

Please continue to report suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs) to the MHRA through the Yellow Card scheme. You can report suspected side effects electronically via:

- the Yellow Card website
- the free Yellow Card app; download now from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store
- some clinical IT systems (EMIS/SystmOne/Vision/MiDatabank) for healthcare professionals

When reporting please provide as much information as possible, including information about medical history, any concomitant medication, onset, treatment dates, and product brand name.

Company contacts

This letter concerns all leuprorelin-containing depot medicinal products that are licensed in the UK and has been agreed by the below listed companies.

Overview of Local Marketing Authorisation Holders and licensed leuprorelin-containing depot products

Marketing Authorisation Holder	**Registered Product Name**	**Contact details**
Takeda UK Ltd	Prostap 3 DCS Prostap SR DCS	Takeda UK Ltd 1 Kingdom Street London W2 6BD Tel: 03333 000181 medinfoemea@takeda.com
Amdeepcha Limited	Staladex	Amdeepcha Limited 85 Yarmouth Road Blofield Norwich NR13 6LQ Tel: 01603 722480 pharmacovigilance@typharm.com
GP-Pharm S.A.	Lutrate 1 month depot Lutrate 3 month depot These products are not currently marketed in the UK	GP-Pharm S.A Plaza Europa 9-11, Planta 13 08908 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat Barcelona Spain Tel: +34 936 649 018 Ext. 1410 farmacovigilancia@gp-pharm.com

Signed on behalf of the above MA Holders

Dr Simon Meadowcroft
Medical Director, Takeda UK Ltd