VALITUS 50

(**Vildagliptin 50mg Tablets**)

COMPOSITION:
Each film coated tablet contains:
Vildagliptin 50mg

PHARMACOKINETICS:
Absorption:
Absorption

Following oral administration in the fasting state, vildagliptin is rapidly absorbed, with peak plasma concentrations observed at 1.7 hours. Food slightly delays the time to peak plasma concentration to 2.5 hours, but does not alter the overall exposure (AUC). Administration of vildagliptin with food resulted in a decreased Cmax (19%). However, the magnitude of change is not clinically significant, so that Valitus can be given with or without food. The absolute bioavailability is 85%.

Distribution

The plasma protein binding of vildagliptin is low (9.3%) and vildagliptin distributes equally between plasma and red blood cells. The mean volume of distribution of vildagliptin at steady-state after intravenous administration (Vss) is 71 litres, suggesting extravascular distribution.

Biotransformation

Metabolism is the major elimination pathway for vildagliptin in humans, accounting for 69% of the dose. The major metabolite (LAY 151) is pharmacologically inactive and is the hydrolysis product of the cyano moiety, accounting for 57% of the dose, followed by the glucuronide (BQS867) and the amide hydrolysis products (4% of dose). In vitro data in human kidney microsomes suggest that the kidney may be one of the major organs contributing to the hydrolysis of vildagliptin to its major inactive metabolite, LAY151. DPP-4 contributes partially to the hydrolysis of vildagliptin based on an in vivo study using DPP-4 deficient rats. Vildagliptin is not metabolised by CYP 450 enzymes to any quantifiable extent. Accordingly, the metabolic clearance of vildagliptin is not anticipated to be affected by co-medications that are CYP 450 inhibitors and/or inducers. In vitro studies demonstrated that vildagliptin does not inhibit/induce CYP 450 enzymes. Therefore, vildagliptin is not likely to affect metabolic clearance of co-medications metabolised by CYP 1A2, CYP 2C8, CYP 2C9, CYP 2C19, CYP 2D6, CYP 2E1 or CYP 3A4/5.

Elimination

Following oral administration of [14C] vildagliptin, approximately 85% of the dose was excreted into the urine and 15% of the dose is recovered in the faeces. Renal excretion of the unchanged vildagliptin accounted for 23% of the dose after oral administration. After intravenous administration to healthy subjects, the total plasma and renal clearances of vildagliptin are 41 and 13 l/h, respectively. The mean elimination half-life after intravenous administration is approximately 2 hours. The elimination half-life after oral administration is approximately 3 hours.

PHARMACODYNAMICS:
Pharmacotherapeutic group: Drugs used in diabetes, dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP-4) inhibitors,
ATC code: A10BH02

Mechanism of action

The administration of vildagliptin results in a rapid and complete inhibition of DPP-4 activity, resulting in increased fasting and postprandial endogenous levels of the incretin hormones GLP-1 (glucagon-like peptide 1) and GIP (glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide).

Pharmacodynamic effects

By increasing the endogenous levels of these incretin hormones, vildagliptin enhances the sensitivity of beta cells to glucose, resulting in improved glucose-dependent insulin secretion. Treatment with vildagliptin 50-100 mg daily in patients with type 2 diabetes significantly improved markers of beta cell function including HOMA-β (Homeostasis Model Assessment–β), proinsulin to insulin ratio and measures of beta cell responsiveness from the frequently-sampled meal tolerance test. In non-diabetic (normal glycaemic) individuals, vildagliptin does not stimulate insulin secretion or reduce glucose levels.

By increasing endogenous GLP-1 levels, vildagliptin also enhances the sensitivity of alpha cells to glucose, resulting in more glucose-appropriate glucagon secretion.

The enhanced increase in the insulin/glucagon ratio during hyperglycaemia due to increased incretin hormone levels results in a decrease in fasting and postprandial hepatic glucose production, leading to reduced glycaemia.

The known effect of increased GLP-1 levels delaying gastric emptying is not observed with vildagliptin treatment

INDICATIONS:
Vildagliptin is indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycaemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus:

- as monotherapy in patients in whom metformin is inappropriate due to contraindications or intolerance.
- in combination with other medicinal products for the treatment of diabetes, including insulin, when these do not provide adequate glycaemic control

CONTRAINDICATIONS:
Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients
POSOLOGY & ADMINISTRATIONS:
Posology

Adults

When used as monotherapy, in combination with metformin, in combination with thiazolidinedione, in combination with metformin and a sulphonylurea, or in combination with insulin (with or without metformin), the recommended daily dose of vildagliptin is 100 mg, administered as one dose of 50 mg in the morning and one dose of 50 mg in the evening.

When used in dual combination with a sulphonylurea, the recommended dose of vildagliptin is 50 mg once daily administered in the morning. In this patient population, vildagliptin 100 mg daily was no more effective than vildagliptin 50 mg once daily.

When used in combination with a sulphonylurea, a lower dose of the sulphonylurea may be considered to reduce the risk of hypoglycaemia.

Doses higher than 100 mg are not recommended.

If a dose of Valitus is missed, it should be taken as soon as the patient remembers. A double dose should not be taken on the same day.

The safety and efficacy of vildagliptin as triple oral therapy in combination with metformin and a thiazolidinedione have not been established.

Additional information on special populations

Elderly (≥ 65 years)

No dose adjustments are necessary in elderly patients.

Renal impairment

No dose adjustment is required in patients with mild renal impairment (creatinine clearance ≥ 50 ml/min). In patients with moderate or severe renal impairment or with end-stage renal disease (ESRD), the recommended dose of Valitus is 50 mg once daily

Hepatic impairment

Valitus should not be used in patients with hepatic impairment, including patients with pre-treatment alanine aminotransferase (ALT) or aspartate aminotransferase (AST) > 3x the upper limit of normal (ULN) .

Paediatric population

Valitus is not recommended for use in children and adolescents (< 18 years). The safety and efficacy of Valitus in children and adolescents (< 18 years) have not been established. No data are available .

Method of administration

Oral use

Valitus can be administered with or without a meal

WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS:
General

Valitus is not a substitute for insulin in insulin-requiring patients. Valitus should not be used in patients with type 1 diabetes or for the treatment of diabetic ketoacidosis.

Renal impairment

There is limited experience in patients with ESRD on haemodialysis. Therefore Valitus should be used with caution in these patients .

Hepatic impairment

Valitus should not be used in patients with hepatic impairment, including patients with pre-treatment ALT or AST > 3x ULN .

Liver enzyme monitoring

Rare cases of hepatic dysfunction (including hepatitis) have been reported. In these cases, the patients were generally asymptomatic without clinical sequelae and liver function test results returned to normal after discontinuation of treatment. Liver function tests should be performed prior to the initiation of treatment with Valitus in order to know the patient's baseline value. Liver function should be monitored during treatment with Valitus at three-month intervals during the first year and periodically thereafter. Patients who develop increased transaminase levels should be monitored with a second liver function evaluation to confirm the finding and be followed thereafter with frequent liver function tests until the abnormality(ies) return(s) to normal. Should an increase in AST or ALT of 3x ULN or greater persist, withdrawal of Valitus therapy is recommended.

Patients who develop jaundice or other signs suggestive of liver dysfunction should discontinue Valitus.

Following withdrawal of treatment with Valitus and LFT normalisation, treatment with Valitus should not be reinitiated.

Cardiac failure

A clinical trial of vildagliptin in patients with New York Heart Association (NYHA) functional class I-III showed that treatment with vildagliptin was not associated with a change in left-ventricular function or worsening of pre-existing congestive heart failure (CHF) versus placebo. Clinical experience in patients with NYHA functional class III treated with vildagliptin is still limited and results are inconclusive .

There is no experience of vildagliptin use in clinical trials in patients with NYHA functional class IV and therefore use is not recommended in these patients.

Skin disorders

Skin lesions, including blistering and ulceration have been reported in extremities of monkeys in non-clinical toxicology studies. Although skin lesions were not observed at an increased incidence in clinical trials, there was limited experience in patients with diabetic skin complications. Furthermore, there have been post-marketing reports of bullous and exfoliative skin lesions. Therefore, in keeping with routine care of the diabetic patient, monitoring for skin disorders, such as blistering or ulceration, is recommended.

Acute pancreatitis

Use of vildagliptin has been associated with a risk of developing acute pancreatitis. Patients should be informed of the characteristic symptom of acute pancreatitis.

If pancreatitis is suspected, vildagliptin should be discontinued; if acute pancreatitis is confirmed, vildagliptin should not be restarted. Caution should be exercised in patients with a history of acute pancreatitis.

Hypoglycaemia

Sulphonylureas are known to cause hypoglycaemia. Patients receiving vildagliptin in combination with a sulphonylurea may be at risk for hypoglycaemia. Therefore, a lower dose of sulphonylurea may be considered to reduce the risk of hypoglycaemia

DRUG INTERACTIONS:
Vildagliptin has a low potential for interactions with co-administered medicinal products. Since vildagliptin is not a cytochrome P (CYP) 450 enzyme substrate and does not inhibit or induce CYP 450 enzymes, it is not likely to interact with active substances that are substrates, inhibitors or inducers of these enzymes.

Combination with pioglitazone, metformin and glyburide

Results from studies conducted with these oral antidiabetics have shown no clinically relevant pharmacokinetic interactions.

Digoxin (Pgp substrate), warfarin (CYP2C9 substrate)

Clinical studies performed with healthy subjects have shown no clinically relevant pharmacokinetic interactions. However, this has not been established in the target population.

Combination with amlodipine, ramipril, valsartan or simvastatin

Drug-drug interaction studies in healthy subjects were conducted with amlodipine, ramipril, valsartan and simvastatin. In these studies, no clinically relevant pharmacokinetic interactions were observed after co-administration with vildagliptin.

Combination with ACE-inhibitors

There may be an increased risk of angioedema in patients concomitantly taking ACE-inhibitors.

As with other oral antidiabetic medicinal products the hypoglycaemic effect of vildagliptin may be reduced by certain active substances, including thiazides, corticosteroids, thyroid products and sympathomimetics.

ADVERSE REACTIONS
During treatment initiation, the most common adverse reactions are nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain and loss of appetite which resolve spontaneously in most cases. To prevent them, it is recommended to take in 2 or 3 daily doses and to increase slowly the doses. At the start of treatment, transient visual disturbances may occur due to a decrease in glycaemia levels.
PREGNANCY & LACTATION:
Pregnancy

There are no adequate data from the use of vildagliptin in pregnant women. Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity at high doses . The potential risk for humans is unknown. Due to lack of human data, Valitus should not be used during pregnancy.

Breast-feeding

It is unknown whether vildagliptin is excreted in human milk. Animal studies have shown excretion of vildagliptin in milk. Valitus should not be used during breast-feeding.

OVERDOSE:
Symptoms

Information on the likely symptoms of overdose was taken from a rising dose tolerability study in healthy subjects given Valitus for 10 days. At 400 mg, there were three cases of muscle pain, and individual cases of mild and transient paraesthesia, fever, oedema and a transient increase in lipase levels. At 600 mg, one subject experienced oedema of the feet and hands, and increases in creatine phosphokinase (CPK), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), C-reactive protein (CRP) and myoglobin levels. Three other subjects experienced oedema of the feet, with paraesthesia in two cases. All symptoms and laboratory abnormalities resolved without treatment after discontinuation of the study medicinal product.

Management

In the event of an overdose, supportive management is recommended. Vildagliptin cannot be removed by haemodialysis. However, the major hydrolysis metabolite (LAY 151) can be removed by haemodialysis

STORAGE: Store below 30°C. Protect from light and moisture.

SHELF LIFE: 36 months

PRESENTATION:
VALITUS 50 : ALU-ALU Pack of 10×10 tablets.

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