Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

M E D I C I N E S N O T I F I C A T I O N

CLASS 4 MEDICINES DEFECT INFORMATION

Caution in Use
Distribute to Pharmacy/Wholesaler Level

Date: 10 October 2024 EL (24)A/48 DMRC Ref: 31944581

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Sandoz Limited

Linezolid 600 mg film-coated tablets **PL 04416/1389**

SNOMED Code: 31684511000001106

Batch Number	Expiry Date	Pack Size	First Distributed
NS2637	Feb 2027	X10	13-May-2024

Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient: linezolid

Brief description of the problem
Sandoz Ltd. has informed the MHRA that there is missing safety information in the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) and Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) for Linezolid 600 mg film-coated tablets. The summary of the missing safety information is tabulated in Annex 1.

Advice for healthcare professionals
There is no risk to product quality or impact to safety of the medicine listed in this notification because of this missing information, full details in Annex 1.

The missing information from the SmPC is already covered under other sections:

- The missed extension of thrombocytopenia to patients with hepatic impairment under **section 4.4** of the SmPC is already included in same section under sub section special population where it is recommended that linezolid should be given to patients with severe hepatic insufficiency only when the perceived benefit outweighs the theoretical risk. Hyponatremia and/ (SIADH) is already listed twice under **section 4.8** of the SmPC under metabolism disorders & investigations
- The missed ADR of Hypersensitivity vasculitis missing under **section 4.8** of the SmPC SOC skin & subcutaneous tissue disorders is covered under broader topic as a contraindication in **section 4.3**
- The missed warning under **section 4.4** of the SmPC on Impairment of fertility is limited to adult male rats and already covered under **section 4.6** of the SmPC “Fertility, pregnancy & lactation”.
- The missed frequency upgrade in **section 4.8**. are considered of minor impact for patient safety. All ADRs for which frequency has been updated are already listed in the SmPC.

Healthcare professionals are advised to review the content of this notification, as it provides information that is missing from the current SmPC & PIL on the existing clinical concepts and take this into account when prescribing.

If the medicine listed in this notification is supplied or dispensed, ensure that patients are aware of the information missing from the PIL on warnings prior to taking Linezolid and possible side-effects (see Annex 1 – Table 2). It is important to advise patients that if they experience any of the symptoms listed in Table 2, they should seek immediate medical advice.

Sandoz Ltd has confirmed that all future batches of the product will contain the updated PIL

Advice for patients
Patients do not need to take any action. The information in Annex 1, Table 2 is missing from the Patient Information Leaflet. The missing information does not change or affect the quality of the product. Therefore, you can safely continue your treatment. However, should you experience any reactions or symptoms matched with the information in Table 2, or you have a history of hyponatraemia, or you take medicines that lower blood sodium levels, please urgently contact your healthcare professional.

Patients who experience adverse reactions or have any questions about their medication should seek medical attention. Any suspected adverse reactions should also be reported via the MHRA Yellow Card scheme.

Further Information
For medical information queries, please contact: sandozgb@EU.propharmagroup.com, Telephone: +44 1276 698 101.

For stock control queries, please contact: sales.sandoz-gb@sandoz.com , Telephone: +44 1276 698607.

Recipients of this Medicines Notification should bring it to the attention of relevant contacts by copy of this notice. NHS regional teams are asked to forward this to community pharmacists and dispensing general practitioners for information.

Yours faithfully

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Annex 1

Table 1 – Summary of updated missing safety information from SmPC

Summary of updated missing safety information from SmPC		
Affected section of SmPC	**Superseded Sandoz text**	**New, updated text in reference SmPC**
4.4: Warning on thrombocytopenia extended to patients with hepatic impairment	Thrombocytopenia may occur more commonly in patients with severe renal insufficiency, whether or not on dialysis.	Addition of "patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment" to the scope of impacted patients
4.4: Warning on Hyponatremia and/or Syndrome of Inappropriate Antidiuretic Hormone Secretion (SIADH) missing	*(Hyponatraemia and SIADH) are missing* Note: Sec 4.8 Hyponatremia and SIADH are listed	Hyponatraemia and SIADH are included with recommendation to regularly monitor serum sodium levels in patients at risk of hyponatraemia
4.4: Impairment of fertility	*Impairment of fertility with brief information regarding adult male rats is missing in sec 4.4* Note: Sec 4.6 include the missed information regarding impairment of fertility	Impairment of fertility is included with brief information regarding adult male rats
4.8: Hypersensitivity vasculitis missing under SOC skin & subcutaneous tissued disorders	Hypersensitivity vasculitis is missing under SOC skin &subcutaneous tissued disorders. Note: Sec 4.3 include the hypersensitivity as a contraindication	Hypersensitivity vasculitis is added as rare under SOC skin &subcutaneous tissued disorders with rare frequency
4.8: Frequency categories not updated	Frequency categories for few ADRs are not updated detailed as per the below examples, • ADRs (such as Thrombocytopenia, hypertension, fever & localized pain) are currently listed with frequency uncommon • ADRs (such as Anaphylaxis, lactic acidosis, changes in visual field defect & TEN) are currently listed with frequency not known • ADRs (such as Transient ischemic attacks, arrythmia & renal failure) are currently listed with frequency rare	ADRs are upgraded with same terms but of different frequency categories • ADRs such as (Thrombocytopenia, hypertension, fever & localized pain) are listed with frequency common • ADRs such as (Anaphylaxis, lactic acidosis, changes in visual field defect & TEN) are listed with frequency rare ADRs such as (Transient ischemic attacks, arrythmia & renal failure) are listed with frequency uncommon

Table 2 – Summary of updated missing safety information from the PIL

Affected section of PIL	New, updated text in Reference PIL
2. What you need to know before you take Linezolid **Warnings and precautions**	Linezolid may not be suitable for you if you answer yes to any of the following questions. In this case tell your doctor as he/she will need to check your general health and your blood pressure before and during your treatment or may decide that another treatment is better for you. Ask your doctor if you are not sure whether these categories apply to you. • Do you have a history of hyponatraemia (low blood sodium levels) or do you take medicines that lower blood sodium levels e.g. certain diuretics (also called “water tablets”) such as hydrochlorothiazide?
4. Possible side effects	Skin reactions such as a raised purple rash due to inflammation of the blood vessels (rare) Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people): Changes in some blood test results including those measuring proteins, salts or enzymes which measure your kidney or liver function or blood sugar levels