LÄKEMEDELSVERKET
MEDICAL PRODUCTS AGENCY

Public Assessment Report
Scientific discussion

Loratadin Apofri
(loratadine)

Asp no: 2011-0628

This module reflects the scientific discussion for the approval of Loratadin Apofri . The procedure was finalised at 2012-02-23. For information on changes after this date please refer to the module 'Update'.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Evolan Pharna AB has applied for a marketing authorisation for Loratadin Apofri, tablet, 10 mg claiming essential similarity to Clarityn® tablets 10 mg marketed in Ireland by Schering-Plough Limited. The product contains loratadine as active substance. For approved indications see the Summary of Product Characteristics. The reference product used in the bio-equivalence study is Clarityn, tablet, 10 mg marketed by Schering-Plough in United Kingdom and France.

II. QUALITY ASPECTS

II.1 Introduction

Loratadin Apofri is presented in the form of tablets containing 10 mg of loratadine. The excipients are cellulose microcrystalline, lactose monohydrate, maize starch, magnesium stearate. The tablets are packed in PVC/aluminium blisters.

II.2 Drug Substance

Loratadine has a monograph in the Ph Eur.

Loratadine is a white to almost white, crystalline powder which is practically insoluble in water, freely soluble in acetone and in methanol.
The structure of loratadine has been adequately proven and its physico-chemical properties sufficiently described. The route of synthesis has been adequately described.

The active substance specification includes relevant tests and the limits for impurities/degradation products have been justified. The analytical methods applied are suitably described and validated.

Stability studies under ICH conditions have been conducted and the data provided are sufficient to confirm the retest period.

II.3 Medicinal Product

Loratadine tablets 10 mg is formulated using excipients described in the current Ph Eur. All raw materials used in the product are of vegetable origin except for lactose monohydrate which has demonstrated compliance with Commission Directive 2003/63/EC and the NfG on Minimising the risk of transmitting Animal Spongiform Encephalopathy Agents via human and veterinary medicinal products (EMEA/410/01).

The product development has taken into consideration the physico-chemical characteristics of the active substance.

The manufacturing process has been sufficiently described and critical steps identified. Results from the process validation studies confirm that the process is under control and ensure both batch to batch reproducibility and compliance with the product specification.

The tests and limits in the specification are considered appropriate to control the quality of the finished product in relation to its intended purpose.

Stability studies under ICH conditions have been performed and data presented support the shelf life claimed in the SPC, with no special storage precautions.

III. NON-CLINICAL ASPECTS

III.1 Discussion on the non-clinical aspects

Since this product has been shown to be essentially similar and refer to a product approved based on a full application with regard to preclinical data, no further such data have been submitted or are considered necessary.

IV. CLINICAL ASPECTS

IV.1 Pharmacokinetics

Bioequivalence was evaluated in a two-treatment, four-period, two-sequence single-dose crossover, fully replicated bioequivalence study conducted in 44 healthy volunteers under fasting conditions, comparing Loratadin Apofri, 10 mg, tablet with Clarityn, 10 mg , tablet. The study was conducted at Lotus Labs Pvt , India between 31 August and 27 September 2010. Blood samples were collected pre-dose and up to 36 hours post-dose. The study design is considered acceptable. Plasma concentrations of loratadine were determined with an adequately validated LC/MS/MS method. For AUC_{0-t} and C_{max} the 90% confidence interval for the ratio of the test and reference products fell within the conventional acceptance range of 80.00-125.00%.

Based on the submitted bioequivalence study (2101/10), Loratadin Apofri, 10 mg, tablet is considered bioequivalent with Clarityn, 10 mg, tablet.

IV.2 Discussion on the clinical aspects

Since this product has been shown to be essentially similar and refer to a product approved based on a full application with regard to clinical efficacy/safety data, no further such data have been submitted or are considered necessary.

V. OVERALL CONCLUSION, BENEFIT/RISK ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

User consultation
A user consultation with target patient groups on the package information leaflet (PIL) has been performed on the basis of a bridging report making reference to the product Loratadin Sandoz (NL/H/0693/001/DC) regarding the content of the text. For the design and lay-out user testing, the applicant has proposed a bridging against Paracetamol Apofri (national abridged procedure in Sweden). The bridging report submitted by the applicant has been found acceptable.

The risk/benefit ratio is considered positive and Loratadin Apofri, tablet, 10 mg is recommended for approval.

VI. APPROVAL

Loratadin Apofri, tablet, 10 mg was approved in the national procedure on 2012-02-23.

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Public Assessment Report – Update

Scope	Procedure number	Product Information affected	Date of start of the procedure	Date of end of procedure	Approval/ non approval	Assessment report attached
						Y/N (version)

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