Direct Healthcare Professional Communication

February 2022

Important Safety Information Regarding Use of Molnupiravir in Pregnancy and Individuals of Childbearing Potential

Dear Healthcare Professional,

The Egyptian Pharmaceutical Vigilance Center of the Central Administration for Pharmaceutical Care at The Egyptian Drug Authority would like to inform you of the following:

Summary

- The purpose of this letter is to inform you of important safety information regarding the use of molnupiravir in pregnancy and in individuals of childbearing potential. Molnupiravir is an investigational nucleoside analogue that inhibits severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) replication.
- Molnupiravir is a product for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults with a positive result of direct SARS-CoV-2 viral testing who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death.
- This letter will provide information regarding the potential risks of molnupiravir use during pregnancy, requirements for healthcare providers prior to initiating treatment with molnupiravir during pregnancy, and how to report pregnancy exposures and outcomes.

Use of Molnupiravir in Pregnancy and in Individuals of Childbearing Potential

Molnupiravir is not recommended for use during pregnancy.
Based on findings from animal reproduction studies, molnupiravir may cause fetal harm when administered to pregnant individuals. There are no available human data on the use of molnupiravir in pregnant individuals to evaluate the risk of major birth defects, miscarriage, or adverse maternal or fetal outcomes. Please refer to the Animal Data section below for more details.

Healthcare Provider Action

Prior to initiating treatment with molnupiravir:
• Assess whether an individual of childbearing potential is pregnant or not.
• If molnupiravir is used during pregnancy, the prescribing healthcare provider must communicate to the patient the known and potential benefits and the potential risks of using molnupiravir during pregnancy, as outlined in the "Patient information leaflet"

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• Advise individuals of childbearing potential of the potential risk to a fetus and to use an effective method of contraception, correctly and consistently, during treatment with molnupiravir and for 4 days after the last dose of molnupiravir.
• Advise individuals of childbearing potential to inform their healthcare provider of a known or suspected pregnancy.

Animal Data

Molnupiravir is the prodrug of the nucleoside analogue N-hydroxycytidine (NHC).In an embryofetal development (EFD) study in rats administered molnupiravir during the organogenesis period (gestation days 6 through 17), developmental toxicities including post-implantation losses ,malformation of the eye ,kidney and axial skeleton ,and rib variations were observed at 8-times the human NHC exposure at the recommended human dose (RHD).At this exposure, rat maternal toxicities included decreased food consumption and body weight losses , resulting in the early sacrifice of two of sixteen animals. Decreased fetal weight and delayed fetal ossification as well as maternal decreased body weight gain were observed at 3-times the human NHC exposure at the RHD.
In an EFD study in rabbits administered molnupiravir during the organogenesis period (gestation days 7 through19), developmental toxicity was limited to reduced fetal body weightat18-times the human NHCexposureattheRHD.Therewasnodevelopmentaltoxicityat7timesthe human NHC exposure at the RHD.
In a pre-and post-natal developmental study, molnupiravir was administered orally to female rats at exposures (similar to the human NHC exposure at the RHD) from GD6 through lactation day 20. No effects were observed in offspring.

Important Prescribing Information
Molnupiravir is authorized for treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults:
• with positive results of direct SARS-CoV-2 viral testing, and
• who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death.
• whom alternative COVID-19 treatment options authorized by FDA are not accessible or clinically appropriate.

Molnupiravir is not authorized for use in patients who are less than18 years of age.
Molnupiravir is not authorized for initiation of treatment in patients hospitalized due to COVID-19.
Molnupiravir is not authorized for use for longer than 5 consecutive days.
Molnupiravir is not authorized for pre-exposure or post-exposure prophylaxis for prevention of COVID19.

Molnupiravir may only be prescribed for an individual patient by physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, and physician assistants that are licensed or authorized under state law to prescribe drugs in the therapeutic class to which molnupiravir belongs (i.e., anti-infectives).

The molnupiravir dosage regimens 800 mg (four 200 mg capsules) taken orally every 12 hours for 5 days, with or without food.

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References

FDA

https://www.fda.gov/media/155101/download

Call for reporting

Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the Egyptian reporting system:

Name: Egyptian Pharmaceutical Vigilance Center

Address: 21 Abd El Aziz Al Soud Street, El-Manial, Cairo, Egypt, And PO Box: 11451 Telephone: +202- 25354100, Extension: 1470 Fax: +202 – 23610497

Email: pv.followup@edaegypt.gov.eg

Online reporting: https://primaryreporting.who-umc.org/EG
QR Code:

Hotline: 15301

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