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CROSS DISCIPLINE TEAM LEADER REVIEW

Cross-Discipline Team Leader Review

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Subject	Cross-Discipline Team Leader Review
NDA/BLA #	201023
Supplement#	
Applicant	Sanofi-Aventis
Date of Submission	3/31/10
PDUFA Goal Date	9/30/10
Proprietary Name / Established (USAN) names	Jevtana [®] Cabazitaxel Injection Concentrate
Dosage forms / Strength	Jevtana (cabazitaxel) Injection concentrate 60 mg/1.5 mL is supplied as a kit consisting of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Jevtana 60mg/1.5 mL concentrate: contains 60 mg cabazitaxel in 1.5 mL polysorbate 80, Diluent for JEVTANA 60 mg/1.5 mL: contains (b) (4) of 13% (w/w) ethanol in water for injection.
Proposed Indication(s)	Jevtana in combination with prednisone is indicated for the treatment of patients with hormone refractory metastatic prostate cancer previously treated with a docetaxel-containing regimen.
Recommended:	Approval

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1. Introduction

Jevtana[®] (cabazitaxel injection) is a new molecular entity and is a novel taxane, similar to the taxanes docetaxel and paclitaxel. Like the taxanes docetaxel and paclitaxel, cabazitaxel acts by targeting tubulin, the protein component of microtubules, to stabilize microtubules and prevent progression of mitosis in the cell cycle.

Cabazitaxel is not marketed anywhere in the world. The proposed indication is “Jevtana in combination with prednisone is indicated for the treatment of patients with hormone refractory metastatic prostate cancer previously treated with a docetaxel-containing regimen.” There is currently no effective therapy for patients with this condition.

The application is supported primarily by one randomized controlled trial (RCT) conducted under an SPA agreement. The primary endpoint of the RCT showed a statistically significant improvement in median survival of 2.4 months for cabazitaxel in combination with prednisone compared to mitoxantrone in combination with prednisone. The mitoxantrone/prednisone combination has not been shown to improve survival. The cabazitaxel 25 mg/m² dose every 3 weeks causes considerable toxicity and may be unnecessarily high. However, we have no information from RCTs on any other cabazitaxel dose and do not know if a lower dose would be effective. Despite the increased toxicity and increase in deaths due to toxicity in the cabazitaxel arm relative to the control arm, there is still a survival advantage for the cabazitaxel treatment group. The cabazitaxel dose will be addressed with a PMR. The cabazitaxel toxicity will be addressed in the label and with several post marketing required trials and studies (PMRs).

Chemistry has identified a concern with the supersaturated pre-mix and infusion solutions with the risk of introducing particulate matter intravenously. Clinical Pharmacology has concerns about use in patients with hepatic impairment, use with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors, use with strong CYP3A4 inducers and lack of adequate assessment of risk of QTc interval prolongation. These concerns will be addressed by PMRs

2. Background

Cabazitaxel is a new molecular entity and is a novel taxane, similar to the taxanes docetaxel and paclitaxel. Like the taxanes docetaxel and paclitaxel, cabazitaxel acts by targeting tubulin, the protein component of microtubules, to stabilize microtubules and prevent progression of mitosis in the cell cycle.

Cabazitaxel is a semi-synthetic product derived from 10-deacetyl Baccatin III, which is extracted from European yew needles.

First-line therapy for patients with metastatic prostate cancer is medical or surgical castration. Approximately 85% of patients will respond to this therapy, which includes gonadotropin-releasing hormone antagonists or surgery. However, approximately 15% of patients will not

respond to hormonal intervention and responders will eventually become refractory to hormonal intervention. For this metastatic hormone refractory (mHRPC) population, recommended first-line therapy is the combination of docetaxel and prednisone, which showed a survival advantage compared to the combination of mitoxantrone and prednisone in the randomized Phase 3 TAX327 trial.¹

There is no available therapy for patients with mHRPC who have already progressed on or after a docetaxel regimen. This is the population studied in the submitted cabazitaxel RCT.

This NDA is supported mainly by a single RCT conducted under an SPA. At end of Phase 2 meeting and at the SPA FDA emphasized that a Phase 3 trial in mHRPC must win on its primary endpoint of overall survival before any analysis of secondary endpoints could be undertaken and that as the trial was unblinded, (b) (4)

Furthermore, the FDA stressed that the composite secondary endpoint of PFS as defined by PSA progression, tumor progression by RECIST criteria or death would be considered an exploratory analysis (b) (4)

The primary endpoint of the RCT showed a statistically significant improvement in median survival of 2.4 months for cabazitaxel in combination with prednisone compared to mitoxantrone in combination with prednisone. The mitoxantrone/prednisone combination has not been shown to improve survival. The cabazitaxel 25 mg/m² dose every 3 weeks causes considerable toxicity and may be unnecessarily high. However, we have no information from RCTs on any other cabazitaxel dose and do not know if a lower dose would be effective. Despite the increased toxicity and increase in deaths due to toxicity in the cabazitaxel arm relative to the control arm, there is still a survival advantage for the cabazitaxel treatment group. The cabazitaxel dose will be addressed with a PMR. The cabazitaxel toxicity will be addressed in the label and with several PMRs.

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