SPORANOX[®] (itraconazole) Capsules

BOXED WARNING

Congestive Heart Failure, Cardiac Effects and Drug Interactions:

SPORANOX[®] (itraconazole) Capsules should not be administered for the treatment of onychomycosis in patients with evidence of ventricular dysfunction such as congestive heart failure (CHF) or a history of CHF. If signs or symptoms of congestive heart failure occur during administration of SPORANOX[®] Capsules, discontinue administration. When itraconazole was administered intravenously to dogs and healthy human volunteers, negative inotropic effects were seen. (See CONTRAINDICATIONS, WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions, ADVERSE REACTIONS: Post-marketing Experience, and CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Special Populations for more information.)

Drug Interactions: Coadministration of the following drugs are contraindicated with SPORANOX[®] Capsules: methadone, disopyramide, dofetilide, dronedarone, quinidine, ergot alkaloids (such as dihydroergotamine, ergometrine (ergonovine), ergotamine, methylergometrine (methylergonovine)), irinotecan, lurasidone, oral midazolam, pimozide, triazolam, felodipine, nisoldipine, ivabradine, ranolazine, eplerenone, cisapride, lovastatin, simvastatin, ticagrelor and, in subjects with varying degrees of renal or hepatic impairment, colchicine, fesoterodine, telithromycin and solifenacin. See PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions Section for specific examples. Coadministration with itraconazole can cause elevated plasma concentrations of these drugs and may increase or prolong both the pharmacologic effects and/or adverse reactions to these drugs. For example, increased plasma concentrations of some of these drugs can lead to QT prolongation and ventricular tachyarrhythmias including occurrences of torsades de pointes, a potentially fatal arrhythmia. See CONTRAINDICATIONS and WARNINGS Sections, and **PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions Section for specific examples.**

DESCRIPTION

SPORANOX[®] is the brand name for itraconazole, an azole antifungal agent. Itraconazole is a 1:1:1:1 racemic mixture of four diastereomers (two enantiomeric pairs), each possessing three chiral centers. It may be represented by the following structural formula and nomenclature:

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 $(\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*)-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[[(2\underline{R}^*,4\underline{S}^*)-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one mixture with (\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*)-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[4-[\underline{p}-[[(2\underline{S}^*,4\underline{R}^*)-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one mixture with (\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*)-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[4-[\underline{p}-[(\underline{R}^*,4\underline{R}^*)-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one mixture with (\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*)-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[(\underline{R}^*,4\underline{R}^*)-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one mixture with (\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*,4\underline{R}^*)-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one mixture with (\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*,4\underline{R}^*)-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one mixture with (\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*,4\underline{R}^*)-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one mixture with (\pm)-1-[(\underline{R}^*,4\underline{R}^*)-2-($

or

 $(\pm)-1-[(\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[4-[\underline{p}-[((2\underline{R},4\underline{S})-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one \\ (\pm)-1-[(\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[4-[\underline{p}-[(2\underline{R},4\underline{S})-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one \\ (\pm)-1-[(\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[4-[\underline{p}-[(2\underline{R},4\underline{S})-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(1\underline{H}-1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy]phenyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one \\ (\pm)-1-[(\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[(\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]-\Delta^2-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one \\ (\pm)-1-[(\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{p}-[\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{P}-[\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{P}-[\underline{RS})-\underline{sec}-butyl]-4-[\underline{RS})-4-[\underline$

Itraconazole has a molecular formula of $C_{35}H_{38}Cl_2N_8O_4$ and a molecular weight of 705.64. It is a white to slightly yellowish powder. It is insoluble in water, very slightly soluble in alcohols, and freely soluble in dichloromethane. It has a pKa of 3.70 (based on extrapolation of values obtained from methanolic solutions) and a log (n-octanol/water) partition coefficient of 5.66 at pH 8.1.

SPORANOX[®] Capsules contain 100 mg of itraconazole coated on sugar spheres (composed of sucrose, maize starch, and purified water). Inactive ingredients are hard gelatin capsule, hypromellose, polyethylene glycol (PEG) 20,000, titanium dioxide, FD&C Blue No. 1, FD&C Blue No. 2, D&C Red No. 22 and D&C Red No. 28.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Pharmacokinetics and Metabolism: General Pharmacokinetic Characteristics

Peak plasma concentrations of itraconazole are reached within 2 to 5 hours following oral administration. As a consequence of non-linear pharmacokinetics, itraconazole accumulates in plasma during multiple dosing. Steady-state concentrations are generally reached within about 15 days, with C_{max} values of 0.5 µg/ml, 1.1 µg/ml and 2.0 µg/ml after oral administration of 100 mg once daily, 200 mg once daily and 200 mg b.i.d., respectively. The terminal half-life of itraconazole generally ranges from 16 to 28 hours after single dose and increases to 34 to 42 hours with repeated dosing. Once treatment is stopped, itraconazole plasma concentrations decrease to an almost undetectable concentration within 7 to 14 days, depending on the dose and duration of treatment. Itraconazole mean total plasma clearance following

intravenous administration is 278 ml/min. Itraconazole clearance decreases at higher doses due to saturable hepatic metabolism.

Absorption

Itraconazole is rapidly absorbed after oral administration. Peak plasma concentrations of itraconazole are reached within 2 to 5 hours following an oral capsule dose. The observed absolute oral bioavailability of itraconazole is about 55%.

The oral bioavailability of itraconazole is maximal when SPORANOX[®] (itraconazole) Capsules are taken immediately after a full meal. Absorption of itraconazole capsules is reduced in subjects with reduced gastric acidity, such as subjects taking medications known as gastric acid secretion suppressors (e.g., H₂-receptor antagonists, proton pump inhibitors) or subjects with achlorhydria caused by certain diseases. (See PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions.) Absorption of itraconazole under fasted conditions in these subjects is increased when SPORANOX[®] Capsules are administered with an acidic beverage (such as a non-diet cola). When SPORANOX[®] Capsules were administered as a single 200-mg dose under fasted conditions with non-diet cola after ranitidine pretreatment, a H₂-receptor antagonist, itraconazole absorption was comparable to that observed when SPORANOX[®] Capsules were administered alone. (See PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions.)

Itraconazole exposure is lower with the Capsule formulation than with the Oral Solution when the same dose of drug is given. (See WARNINGS)

Distribution

Most of the itraconazole in plasma is bound to protein (99.8%), with albumin being the main binding component (99.6% for the hydroxy-metabolite). It has also a marked affinity for lipids. Only 0.2% of the itraconazole in plasma is present as free drug. Itraconazole is distributed in a large apparent volume in the body (>700 L), suggesting extensive distribution into tissues. Concentrations in lung, kidney, liver, bone, stomach, spleen and muscle were found to be two to three times higher than corresponding concentrations in plasma, and the uptake into keratinous tissues, skin in particular, up to four times higher. Concentrations in the cerebrospinal fluid are much lower than in plasma.

Metabolism

Itraconazole is extensively metabolized by the liver into a large number of metabolites. *In vitro* studies have shown that CYP3A4 is the major enzyme involved in the metabolism of itraconazole. The main metabolite is hydroxy-itraconazole, which has *in vitro* antifungal activity comparable to itraconazole; trough plasma concentrations of this metabolite are about twice those of itraconazole.

Excretion

Itraconazole is excreted mainly as inactive metabolites in urine (35%) and in feces (54%) within one week of an oral solution dose. Renal excretion of itraconazole and the active metabolite hydroxy-itraconazole account for less than 1% of an intravenous dose. Based on an oral radiolabeled dose, fecal excretion of unchanged drug ranges from 3% to 18% of the dose.

As re-distribution of itraconazole from keratinous tissues appears to be negligible, elimination of itraconazole from these tissues is related to epidermal regeneration. Contrary to plasma, the concentration in skin persists for 2 to 4 weeks after discontinuation of a 4-week treatment and in nail keratin – where itraconazole can be detected as early as 1 week after start of treatment – for at least six months after the end of a 3-month treatment period.

Special Populations:

Renal Impairment:

Limited data are available on the use of oral itraconazole in patients with renal impairment. A pharmacokinetic study using a single 200-mg oral dose of itraconazole was conducted in three groups of patients with renal impairment (uremia: n=7; hemodialysis: n=7; and continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis: n=5). In uremic subjects with a mean creatinine clearance of 13 mL/min. \times 1.73 m², the exposure, based on AUC, was slightly reduced compared with normal population parameters. This study did not demonstrate any significant effect of hemodialysis or continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis on the pharmacokinetics of itraconazole (T_{max}, C_{max}, and AUC_{0-8h}). Plasma concentration-versus-time profiles showed wide intersubject variation in all three groups. After a single intravenous dose, the mean terminal half-lives of itraconazole in patients with mild (defined in this study as CrCl 50-79 ml/min), moderate (defined in this study as CrCl 20-49 ml/min), and severe renal impairment (defined in this study as CrCl <20 ml/min) were similar to that in healthy subjects (range of means 42-49 hours vs 48 hours in renally impaired patients and healthy subjects, respectively). Overall exposure to itraconazole, based on AUC, was decreased in patients with moderate and severe renal impairment by approximately 30% and 40%, respectively, as compared with subjects with normal renal function. Data are not available in renally impaired patients during long-term use of itraconazole. Dialysis has no effect on the half-life or clearance of itraconazole or hydroxyitraconazole. (See PRECAUTIONS and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

Hepatic Impairment:

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Itraconazole is predominantly metabolized in the liver. A pharmacokinetic study was conducted in 6 healthy and 12 cirrhotic subjects who were administered a single 100-mg dose of itraconazole as capsule. A statistically significant reduction in mean C_{max} (47%) and a twofold increase in the elimination half-life (37 ± 17 hours vs. 16 ± 5 hours) of itraconazole were noted in cirrhotic subjects compared with healthy subjects. However, overall exposure to

itraconazole, based on AUC, was similar in cirrhotic patients and in healthy subjects. Data are not available in cirrhotic patients during long-term use of itraconazole. (See CONTRAINDICATIONS, PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

Decreased Cardiac Contractility:

When itraconazole was administered intravenously to anesthetized dogs, a dose-related negative inotropic effect was documented. In a healthy volunteer study of itraconazole intravenous infusion, transient, asymptomatic decreases in left ventricular ejection fraction were observed using gated SPECT imaging; these resolved before the next infusion, 12 hours later. If signs or symptoms of congestive heart failure appear during administration of SPORANOX[®] Capsules, SPORANOX[®] should be discontinued. (See BOXED WARNING, CONTRAINDICATIONS, WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions and ADVERSE REACTIONS: Post-marketing Experience for more information.)

MICROBIOLOGY

Mechanism of Action:

In vitro studies have demonstrated that itraconazole inhibits the cytochrome P450-dependent synthesis of ergosterol, which is a vital component of fungal cell membranes.

Activity In Vitro and in Clinical Infections:

Itraconazole exhibits *in vitro* activity against *Blastomyces dermatitidis, Histoplasma capsulatum, Histoplasma duboisii, Aspergillus flavus, Aspergillus fumigatus, and Trichophyton* species (See INDICATIONS AND USAGE, Description of Clinical Studies).

Correlation between minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) results *in vitro* and clinical outcome has yet to be established for azole antifungal agents.

Drug Resistance:

Isolates from several fungal species with decreased susceptibility to itraconazole have been isolated *in vitro* and from patients receiving prolonged therapy.

Itraconazole is not active against Zygomycetes (e.g., Rhizopus spp., Rhizomucor spp., Mucor spp. and Absidia spp.), Fusarium spp., Scedosporium spp. and Scopulariopsis spp.

Cross-resistance:

Several *in vitro* studies have reported that some fungal clinical isolates with reduced susceptibility to one azole antifungal agent may also be less susceptible to other azole derivatives. The finding of cross-resistance is dependent on a number of factors, including the

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