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CRESEMBA

1. Name of the Medicinal Product

CRESEMBA 100 mg hard capsules.

2. Quality and Quantitative Composition

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

Each capsule contains 100 mg isavuconazole (as 186.3 mg isavuconazonium sulfate).

3. Pharmaceutical Form

Hard capsule

Swedish Orange (reddish-brown) capsule body marked with "100" in black ink and a white cap marked with "C" in black ink. Capsules length: 24.2 mm.

4. Clinical Particulars

4.1 Therapeutic indication

CRESEMBA is indicated in adults for the treatment of

- invasive aspergillosis
- mucormycosis in patients for whom amphotericin B is inappropriate (see sections 4.4 and
 5.1)

Consideration should be given to official guidance on the appropriate use of antifungal agents.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

Loading dose

The recommended loading dose is two capsules (equivalent to 200 mg of isavuconazole) every 8 hours for the first 48 hours (6 administrations in total).

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Maintenance dose

The recommended maintenance dose is two capsules (equivalent to 200 mg of isavuconazole)

once daily, starting 12 to 24 hours after the last loading dose.

Duration of therapy should be determined by the clinical response (see section 5.1).

For long-term treatment beyond 6 months, the benefit-risk balance should be carefully considered

(see sections 5.1 and 5.3).

Switch to intravenous infusion

CRESEMBA is also available as powder for concentrate for solution for infusion containing 200

mg isavuconazole, equivalent to 372 mg isavuconazonium sulfate.

On the basis of the high oral bioavailability (98%, see section 5.2), switching between intravenous

and oral administration is appropriate when clinically indicated.

Elderly

No dose adjustment is necessary for elderly patients; however the clinical experience in elderly

patients is limited.

Renal impairment

No dose adjustment is necessary in patients with renal impairment, including patients with end-

stage renal disease (see section 5.2).

Hepatic impairment

No dose adjustment is necessary in patients with mild or moderate hepatic impairment (Child-

Pugh Classes A and B) (see sections 4.4 and 5.2).

CRESEMBA has not been studied in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class

C). Use in these patients is not recommended unless the potential benefit considered to outweigh

the risks. See sections 4.4, 4.8 and 5.2.

Pediatric population

The safety and efficacy of CRESEMBA in children aged below 18 years has not yet been

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established. No data are available.

Method of administration

CRESEMBA capsules can be taken with or without food.

CRESEMBA capsules should be swallowed whole. Do not chew, crush, dissolve or open the

capsules.

4.3 **Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

Co-administration with ketoconazole (see section 4.5).

Co-administration with high-dose ritonavir (>200 mg every 12 hours) (see section 4.5).

Co-administration with strong CYP3A4/5 inducers such as rifampicin, rifabutin, carbamazepine,

long-acting barbiturates (e.g., phenobarbital), phenytoin and St. John's wort or with moderate

CYP3A4/5 inducers such as efavirenz, nafcillin and etravirine (see section 4.5).

Patients with familial short QT syndrome (see section 4.4).

Special warning and precautions for use

Hypersensitivity

Caution should be used in prescribing isavuconazole to patients with hypersensitivity to other

azole antifungal agents. Hypersensitivity to isavuconazole may result in adverse reactions that

include: hypotension, respiratory failure, dyspnea, drug eruption, pruritus, and rash.

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions, such as Stevens-Johnson syndrome, have been reported

during treatment with azole antifungal agents. If a patient develops a severe cutaneous adverse

reaction, CRESEMBA should be discontinued.

Cardiovascular

QT shortening

CRESEMBA is contraindicated in patients with familial short QT syndrome (see section 4.3). In a

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QT study in healthy human subjects, isavuconazole shortened the QTc interval in a concentrationrelated manner. For the 200 mg dosing regimen, the least squares mean (LSM) difference from placebo was 13.1 ms at 2 hours post dose [90% CI: 17.1, 9.1 ms]. Increasing the dose to 600 mg resulted in an LSM difference from placebo of 24.6 ms at 2 hours post dose [90% CI: 28.7, 20.4 ms].

Caution is warranted when prescribing CRESEMBA to patients taking other medicinal products known to decrease the QT interval, such as rufinamide.

Elevated liver transaminases or hepatitis

Elevated liver transaminases have been reported in clinical studies (see section 4.8). The elevations in liver transaminases rarely required discontinuation on of CRESEMBA. Monitoring of hepatic enzymes should be considered, as clinically indicated. Hepatitis has been reported with azole antifungal agents including CRESEMBA.

Severe hepatic impairment

CRESEMBA has not been studied in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class C). Use in these patients is not recommended unless the potential benefit is considered to outweigh the risks. These patients should be carefully monitored for potential drug toxicity. See sections 4.2, 4.8 and 5.2.

Concomitant use with other medicinal products

CYP3A4/5 inhibitors

Ketoconazole is contraindicated (see section 4.3). For the strong CYP3A4 inhibitor lopinavir/ritonavir, a two-fold increase in isavuconazole exposure was observed. For other strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitors, a less pronounced effect can be expected. No dose adjustment of CRESEMBA is necessary when co-administered with strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitors, however caution is advised as adverse drug reactions may increase (see section 4.5).

CYP3A4/5 inducers

Co-administration with mild CYP3A4/5 inducers such as aprepitant, prednisolone, and pioglitazone, may result in mild to moderate decreases of isavuconazole plasma levels; co-administration with mild CYP3A4/5 inducers should be avoided unless the potential benefit is considered to outweigh the risk (see section 4.5).

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CYP3A4/5 substrates including immunosuppressants

Isavuconazole can be considered a moderate inhibitor of CYP3A4/5, and systemic exposure to medicinal products metabolized by CYP3A4 may be increased when co-administered with CRESEMBA. Concomitant use of CRESEMBA with CYP3A4 substrates such as the immunosuppressants tacrolimus, sirolimus or ciclosporin may increase the systemic exposure to these medicinal products. Appropriate therapeutic drug monitoring and dose adjustment may be necessary during co-administration (see section 4.5).

CYP2B6 substrates

Isavuconazole is an inducer of CYP2B6. Systemic exposure to medicinal products metabolized by CYP2B6 may be decreased when co-administered with CRESEMBA. Therefore, caution is advised when CYP2B6 substrates, especially medicinal products with a narrow therapeutic index such as cyclophosphamide, are co-administered with CRESEMBA. The use of the CYP2B6 substrate efavirenz with CRESEMBA is contraindicated because efavirenz is a moderate inducer of CYP3A4/5 (see section 4.3).

P-gp substrates

Isavuconazole may increase the exposure of medicinal products that are P-gp substrates. Dose adjustment of medicinal products that are P-gp substrates, especially medicinal products with a narrow therapeutic index such as digoxin, colchicine and dabigatran etexilate, may be needed when concomitantly administered with CRESEMBA (see section 4.5).

Limitations of the clinical data

The clinical data for isavuconazole in the treatment of mucormycosis are limited to one prospective non-controlled clinical study in 37 patients with proven or probable mucormycosis who received isavuconazole for primary treatment, or because other antifungal treatments (predominantly amphotericin B) were inappropriate.

For individual *Mucorales* species, the clinical efficacy data are very limited, often to one or two patients (see section 5.1). Susceptibility data were available in only a small subset of cases. These data indicate that concentrations of isavuconazole required for inhibition *in vitro* are very variable between genera/species within the order of *Mucorales*, and generally higher than concentrations required to inhibit *Aspergillus* species. It should be noted that there was no dose-finding study in mucormycosis, and patients were administered the same dose of isavuconazole as was used for the treatment of invasive aspergillosis.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interactions

Potential of medicinal products to affect the pharmacokinetics of isavuconazole

Isavuconazole is a substrate of CYP3A4 and CYP3A5 (see section 5.2). Co-administration of

medicinal products which are inhibitors of CYP3A4 and/or CYP3A5 may increase the plasma

concentrations of isavuconazole. Co-administration of medicinal products which are inducers of

CYP3A4 and/or CYP3A5 may decrease the plasma concentrations of isavuconazole.

Medicinal products that inhibit CYP3A4/5

Co-administration of CRESEMBA with the strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitor ketoconazole is

contraindicated, since this medicinal product can significantly increase plasma concentrations of

isavuconazole (see sections 4.3 and 4.5).

For the strong CYP3A4 inhibitor lopinavir/ritonavir, a two-fold increase in isavuconazole exposure

was observed. For other strong CYP3A4 inhibitors, such as clarithromycin, indinavir and

saquinavir, a less pronounced effect can be expected, based on their relative potency. No dose

adjustment of CRESEMBA is necessary when co-administered with strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitors,

however caution is advised as adverse drug reactions may increase (see section 4.4).

No dose adjustment is warranted for moderate to mild CYP3A4/5 inhibitors.

Medicinal products that induce CYP3A4/5

Co-administration of CRESEMBA with potent CYP3A4/5 inducers such as rifampicin, rifabutin,

carbamazepine, long-acting barbiturates (e.g., phenobarbital), phenytoin and St. John's wort, or

with moderate CYP3A4/5 inducers such as efavirenz, nafcillin and etravirine, is contraindicated,

since these medicinal products can significantly decrease plasma concentrations of isavuconazole

(see section 4.3).

Co-administration with mild CYP3A4/5 inducers such as aprepitant, prednisone and pioglitazone,

may result in mild to moderate decreases of isavuconazole plasma levels; co-administration with

mild CYP3A4/5 inducers should be avoided unless the potential benefit is considered to outweigh

the risk (see section 4.4).

Co-administration with high-dose ritonavir (>200 mg twice daily) is contraindicated, as at high

doses ritonavir may induce CYP3A4/5 and decrease isavuconazole plasma concentrations (see

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section 4.3).

Potential for CRESEMBA to affect exposures of other medicines

Medicinal products metabolized by CYP3A4/5

Isavuconazole is a moderate inhibitor of CYP3A4/5; co-administration of CRESEMBA with medicinal products which are substrates of CYP3A4/5 may result in increased plasma

concentrations of these medicinal products.

Medicinal products metabolized by CYP2B6

Isavuconazole is a mild CYP2B6 inducer; co-administration of CRESEMBA may result in

decreased plasma concentrations of CYP2B6 substrates.

Medicinal products transported by P-gp in the intestine

Isavuconazole is a mild inhibitor of P-glycoprotein (P-gp); co-administration with CRESEMBA may

result in increased plasma concentrations of P-gp substrates.

Medicinal products transported by BCRP

Isavuconazole is an inhibitor in vitro of BCRP, and plasma concentrations of substrates of BCRP

may therefore be increased. Caution is advised when CRESEMBA is given concomitantly with

substrates of BCRP.

Medicinal products renally excreted via transport proteins

Isavuconazole is a mild inhibitor of the organic cation transporter 2 (OCT2). Co-administration of

CRESEMBA with medicinal products which are substrates of OCT2 may result in increased

plasma concentrations of these medicinal products.

Uridine diphosphate-glucuronosyltransferases (UGT) substrates

Isavuconazole is a mild inhibitor of UGT. Co-administration of CRESEMBA with medicinal

products which are substrates of UGT may result in mildly increased plasma concentrations of

these medicinal products.

Interaction table

Interactions between isavuconazole and co-administered medicinal products are listed in Table 1

(increase is indicated as "↑", decrease as "↓"), ordered by therapeutic class. Unless otherwise

stated, studies detailed in Table 1 have been performed with the recommended dose of

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Table 1 Interactions

Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
Anticonvulsants		
Carbamazepine,	Isavuconazole concentrations may	The concomitant
phenobarbital and	decrease (CYP3A induction by	administration of CRESEMBA
phenytoin	carbamazepine, phenytoin and	and carbamazepine,
(strong CYP3A4/5	long-acting barbiturates such as	phenytoin and long-acting
inducers)	phenobarbital).	barbiturates such as
		phenobarbital is
		contraindicated.
Antibacterials		
Rifampicin	Isavuconazole:	The concomitant
(strong CYP3A4/5 inducer)	AUC _{tau} : ↓ 90%	administration of CRESEMBA
	C _{max} : ↓ 75%	and rifampicin is
		contraindicated.
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Rifabutin	Not studied.	The concomitant
(strong CYP3A4/5 inducer)	Isavuconazole concentrations may	administration of CRESEMBA
	significantly decrease.	and rifabutin is
		contraindicated.
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Nafcillin	Not studied.	The concomitant
(moderate CY3A4/5	Isavuconazole concentrations may	administration of CRESEMBA
inducer)	significantly decrease.	and nafcillin is
		contraindicated.
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Clarithromycin	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
(strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitor)	Isavuconazole concentrations may	adjustment necessary;
	increase.	caution is advised as adverse

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
		drug reactions may increase.
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition)	
Antifungals		
Ketoconazole	Isavuconazole:	The concomitant
(strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitor)	AUC _{tau} : ↑ 422%	administration of CRESEMBA
	C _{max} : ↑ 9%	and ketoconazole is
		contraindicated.
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition)	
Herbal medicines		
St. John's wort	Not studied.	The concomitant
(strong CYP3A4/5 inducer)	Isavuconazole concentrations may	administration of CRESEMBA
	significantly decrease.	and St. John's wort is
		contraindicated.
	(CYP3A4 induction).	
Immunosuppressants		
Ciclosporin, sirolimus,	Ciclosporin:	No CRESEMBA dose
tacrolimus	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 29%	adjustment necessary.
(CYP3A4/5 substrates)	C _{max} : ↑ 6%	
		Ciclosporin, sirolimus,
	Sirolimus:	tacrolimus: monitoring of
	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 84%	plasma levels and
	C _{max} : ↑ 65%	appropriate dose adjustment
		if required.
	Tacrolimus:	
	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 125%	
	C _{max} : ↑ 42%	
	(CYP3A4 inhibition)	
Mycophenolate mofetil	Mycophenolic acid (MPA, active	No CRESEMBA dose
(MMF)	metabolite):	adjustment necessary.

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
(UGT substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 35%	
	C _{max} : ↓ 11%	MMF: monitoring for MPA-
		related toxicities is advised.
	(UGT inhibition)	
Prednisone	Prednisolone (active metabolite):	Co-administration should be
(CYP3A4 substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 8%	avoided unless the potential
	C _{max} : ↓ 4%	benefit is considered to
		outweigh the risk.
	(CYP3A4 inhibition)	
	Isavuconazole concentrations may	
	decrease.	
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Opioids		
Short-acting opiates	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
(alfentanyl, fentanyl)	Short-acting opiate concentrations	adjustment necessary.
(CYP3A4/5 substrate)	may increase.	
		Short-acting opiates
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition).	(alfentanyl, fentanyl): careful
		monitoring for any occurrence
		of drug toxicity, and dose
		reduction if required.
Methadone	S-methadone (inactive opiate	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP3A4/5, 2B6 and 2C9	isomer)	adjustment necessary.
substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↓ 35%	
	C _{max} : ↑ 1%	Methadone: no dose
	40% reduction in terminal half-life	adjustment required.
	R-methadone (active opiate	
	isomer).	

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
	AUC _{inf} : ↓ 10%	
	C _{max} : ↑ 4%	
	(CYP2B6 induction)	
Anti-cancer	,	
Vinca alkaloids (vincristine,	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
vinblastine)	Vinca alkaloid concentrations may	adjustment necessary.
(P-gp substrates)	increase.	
		Vinca alkaloids: careful
	(P-gp inhibition)	monitoring for any occurrence
		of drug toxicity, and dose
		reduction if required.
Cyclophosphamide	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP2B6 substrate)	Cyclophosphamide concentrations	adjustment necessary.
	may decrease.	
		Cyclophosphamide: careful
	(CYP2B6 induction)	monitoring for any occurrence
		of lack of efficacy, and dose
		increase if required.
Methotrexate	Methotrexate:	No CRESEMBA dose
(BCRP, OAT1, OAT3	AUC _{inf} : ↓ 3%	adjustment necessary.
substrate)	C _{max} : ↓ 11%	
		Methotrexate: no dose
	7-hydroxymetabolite:	adjustment required.
	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 29%	
	C _{max} : ↑ 15%	
	(Mechanism unknown)	
Other anticancer agents	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
(daunorubicin, doxorubicin,	Daunorubicin, doxorubicin,	adjustment necessary.

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
imatinib, irinotecan,	imatinib, irinotecan, lapatinib,	
lapatinib, mitoxantrone,	mitoxantrone, topotecan	Daunorubicin, doxorubicin,
topotecan)	concentrations may increase.	imatinib, irinotecan, lapatinib,
(BCRP substrates)		mitoxantrone or topotecan:
	(BCRP inhibition)	careful monitoring for any
		occurrence of drug toxicity,
		and dose reduction if
		required.
Antiemetics		
Aprepitant	Not studied.	Co-administration should be
(mild CYP3A4/5 inducer)	Isavuconazole concentrations may	avoided unless the potential
	decrease.	benefit is considered to
		outweigh the risk.
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Antidiabetics		
Metformin	Metformin:	No CRESEMBA dose
(OCT1, OCT2 and MATE1	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 52%	adjustment necessary.
substrate)	C _{max} : ↑ 23%	
		Metformin: dose reduction
	(OCT2 inhibition)	may be required.
Repaglinide	Repaglinide:	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP2C8 and OATP1B1	AUC _{inf} : ↓ 8%	adjustment necessary.
substrate)	C _{max} : ↓ 14%	
		Repaglinide: no dose
		adjustment required.
Anticoagulants		
Dabigatran etexilate	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
(P-gp substrate)	Dabigatran etexilate	adjustment necessary.
	concentrations may increase.	
		Dabigatran etexilate has a

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
	(P-gp inhibition).	narrow therapeutic index and
		should be monitored, and
		dose reduction if required.
Warfarin	S-warfarin	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP2C9 substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 11%	adjustment necessary.
	C _{max} : ↓ 12%	
		Warfarin: no dose adjustment
	R-warfarin	required.
	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 20%	
	C _{max} : ↓ 7%	
Antiretroviral agents		
Lopinavir 400 mg/Ritonavir	Lopinavir:	No CRESEMBA dose
100 mg	AUC _{tau} : ↓ 27%	adjustment necessary;
(CYP3A4/5 strong	C _{max} : ↓ 23%	caution is advised as adverse
inhibitors and substrates)	C _{min,ss} : ↓ 16% ^{a)}	drug reactions may increase.
	Ritonavir:	Lopinavir/ritonavir: no dose
	AUC _{tau} : ↓ 31%	adjustment for lopinavir
	C _{max} : ↓ 33%	400 mg/ritonavir 100 mg
		every 12 hours required, but
	(Mechanism unknown)	careful monitoring for any
		occurrence of lack of anti-
	Isavuconazole:	viral efficacy.
	AUC _{tau} : ↑ 96%	
	C _{max} : ↑ 74%	
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition)	
Ritonavir (at doses >200	Not studied.	The concomitant
mg every 12 hours)	Ritonavir at high doses may	administration of CRESEMBA
(strong CYP3A4/5 inducer)	significantly decrease	and high doses of ritonavir

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
	isavuconazole concentrations.	(>200 mg every 12 hours) is
		contraindicated.
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Efavirenz	Not studied.	The concomitant
(CYP3A4/5 moderate	Efavirenz concentrations may	administration of CRESEMBA
inducer and CYP2B6	decrease.	and efavirenz is
substrate)		contraindicated.
	(CYP2B6 induction)	
	Isavuconazole drug concentrations	
	may significantly decrease.	
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Etravirine	Not studied.	The concomitant
(moderate CYP3A4/5	Isavuconazole concentrations may	administration of CRESEMBA
inducer)	significantly decrease.	and etravirine is
		contraindicated.
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Indinavir	Indinavir: b)	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP3A4/5 strong inhibitor	AUC _{inf} : ↓ 36%	adjustment necessary;
and substrate)	C _{max} : ↓ 52%	caution is advised as adverse
		drug reactions may increase.
	(Mechanism unknown)	
		Indinavir: careful monitoring
	Isavuconazole concentrations may	for any occurrence of lack of
	increase.	anti-viral efficacy, and dose
		İ
		increase if required.
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition)	increase if required.
Saquinavir	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition) Not studied.	increase if required. No CRESEMBA dose

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
	decrease (as observed with	caution is advised as adverse
	lopinavir/ritonavir) or increase	drug reactions may increase.
	(CYP3A4 inhibition).	
		Saquinavir: careful monitoring
	Isavuconazole concentrations may	for any occurrence of drug
	increase.	toxicity and /or lack of anti-
		viral efficacy, and dose
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition).	adjustment if required
Other protease inhibitors	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
(e.g., amprenavir,	Protease inhibitor concentrations	adjustment necessary.
nelfinavir)	may decrease (as observed with	
(CYP3A4/5 strong or	lopinavir/ritonavir) or increase.	Protease inhibitors: careful
moderate inhibitors and		monitoring for any occurrence
substrates)	(CYP3A4 inhibition)	of drug toxicity and /or lack of
		anti-viral efficacy, and dose
	Isavuconazole concentrations may	adjustment if required.
	increase.	
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition)	
Other NNRTI (e.g.,	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
delavirdine, and	NNRTI concentrations may	adjustment necessary.
nevirapine)	decrease (CYP2B6 induction by	
(CYP3A4/5 and 2B6	isavuconazole) or increase.	NNRTIs: careful monitoring
inducers and substrates)		for any occurrence of drug
	(CYP3A4/5 inhibition)	toxicity and/or lack of anti-
		viral efficacy, and dose
		adjustment if required.
Antiacids		
Esomeprazole	Isavuconazole:	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP2C19 substrate and	AUC _{tau} : ↑ 8%	adjustment necessary.

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
gastric pH ↑)	C _{max} : ↑ 5%	
		Esomeprazole: no dose
		adjustment required.
Omeprazole	Omeprazole:	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP2C19 substrate and	AUC _{inf} : ↓ 11%	adjustment necessary.
gastric pH ↑)	C _{max} : ↓ 23%	
		Omeprazole: no dose
		adjustment required.
Lipid-lowering agents		
Atorvastatin and other	Atorvastatin:	No CRESEMBA dose
statins (CYP3A4 substrates	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 37%	adjustment necessary.
e.g., simvastatin,	C _{max} : ↑ 3%	
lovastatin, rosuvastatin)	Other statins were not studied.	Based on results with
(CYP3A4/5 and/or BCRP	Statins concentrations may	atorvastatin, no statin dose
substrates))	increase.	adjustment required.
		Monitoring of adverse
	(CYP3A4/5 or BCRP inhibition)	reactions typical of statins is
		advised.
Pioglitazone	Not studied.	Co-administration should be
(mild CYP3A4/5 inducer)	Isavuconazole concentrations may	avoided unless the potential
	decrease.	benefit is considered to
		outweigh the risk.
	(CYP3A4/5 induction)	
Antiarrhythmics		
Digoxin	Digoxin:	No CRESEMBA dose
(P-gp substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 25%	adjustment necessary.
	C _{max} : ↑ 33%	
		Digoxin: serum digoxin
	(P-gp inhibition)	concentrations should be
		monitored and used for

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
		titration of the digoxin dose.
Oral contraceptives		
Ethinyl estradiol and	Ethinyl estradiol	No CRESEMBA dose
norethindrone	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 8%	adjustment necessary.
(CYP3A4/5 substrates)	C _{max} : ↑ 14%	
		Ethinyl estradiol and
	Norethindrone	norethindrone: no dose
	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 16%	adjustment required.
	C _{max} : ↑ 6%	
Antitussives		T
Dextromethorphan	Dextromethorphan:	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP2D6 substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 18%	adjustment necessary.
	C _{max} : ↑ 17%	
		Dextromethorphan: no dose
	Dextrorphan (active metabolite):	adjustment required.
	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 4%	
	C _{max} : ↓ 2%	
Benzodiazepines		1
Midazolam	Oral midazolam:	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP3A4/5 substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 103%	adjustment necessary.
	C _{max} : ↑ 72%	
		Midazolam: careful
	(CYP3A4 inhibition)	monitoring of clinical signs
		and symptoms
		recommended, and dose
		reduction if required.
Antigout agent		T
Colchicine	Not studied.	No CRESEMBA dose
(P-gp substrate)	Colchicine concentrations may	adjustment necessary.
	increase.	

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Co-administered	Effects on drug	Recommendation
medicinal product by	concentrations/Geometric mean	concerning co-
therapeutic area	change (%) in AUC, C _{max}	administration
	(Mode of action)	
		Colchicine has a narrow
	(P-gp inhibition)	therapeutic index and should
		be monitored, dose reduction
		if required.
Natural products		
Caffeine	Caffeine:	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP1A2 substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↑ 4%	adjustment necessary.
	C _{max} : ↓ 1%	
		Caffeine: no dose adjustment
		required.
Smoking cessation aids		
Bupropion	Bupropion:	No CRESEMBA dose
(CYP2B6 substrate)	AUC _{inf} : ↓ 42%	adjustment necessary.
	C _{max} : ↓ 31%	
		Bupropion: dose increase if
	(CYP2B6 induction)	required.

NNRTI, non-nucleoside reverse-transcriptase inhibitor; P-gp, P-glycoprotein.

- a) % decrease of the mean trough level values
- b) Indinavir was only studied after a single dose of 400 mg isavuconazole.

 AUC_{inf} =area under the plasma concentration-time profiles extrapolated to infinity; AUC_{tau} =area under the plasma concentration-time profiles during the 24 h interval at steady state; C_{max} =peak plasma concentration;

C_{min},ss=trough levels at steady state.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

There are no data from the use of CRESEMBA in pregnant women.

Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). The potential risk for humans is unknown.

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CRESEMBA must not be used during pregnancy except in patients with severe or potentially lifethreatening fungal infections, in whom isavuconazole may be used if the anticipated benefits outweigh the possible risks to the fetus.

Women of child-bearing potential

CRESEMBA is not recommended for women of childbearing potential who are not using contraception.

Breast-feeding

Available pharmacodynamic/toxicological data in animals have shown excretion of isavuconazole/metabolites in milk (see section 5.3).

A risk to newborns and infants cannot be excluded.

Breast-feeding should be discontinued during treatment with CRESEMBA.

Fertility

There are no data on the effect of isavuconazole on human fertility. Studies in animals did not show impairment of fertility in male or female rats (see section 5.3).

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machine

Isavuconazole has a moderate potential to influence the ability to drive and use machines. Patients should avoid driving or operating machinery if symptoms of confusional state, somnolence, syncope, and/or dizziness are experienced.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Summary of the safety profile

The frequency of adverse reactions shown in Table 2 is based on data from 403 patients with invasive fungal infections treated with CRESEMBA in Phase 3 studies.

The most common treatment-related adverse reactions were elevated liver chemistry tests (7.9%), nausea (7.4%), vomiting (5.5%), dyspnea (3.2%), abdominal pain (2.7%), diarrhea (2.7%), injection site reaction (2.2%), headache (2.0%), hypokalemia (1.7%) and rash (1.7%).

The adverse reactions which most often led to permanent discontinuation of CRESEMBA

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treatment were confusional state (0.7%), acute renal failure (0.7%), increased blood bilirubin (0.5%), convulsion (0.5%), dyspnea (0.5%), epilepsy (0.5%), respiratory failure (0.5%) and vomiting (0.5%).

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

Table 2 presents adverse reactions with isavuconazole in the treatment of invasive fungal infections, by System Organ Class and frequency.

The frequency of adverse reactions is defined as follow: very common (\geq 1/10); common (\geq 1/100) to <1/10); and uncommon (\geq 1/1,000 to <1/100).

Within each frequency grouping, adverse reactions are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

Table 2 Summary of adverse reactions by MedDRA System Organ Class and frequency

System Organ Class	Adverse Drug Reactions
Blood and lymphatic s	ystem disorders
Uncommon	Neutropenia; Thrombocytopenia^; Pancytopenia; Leukopenia^;
	Anemia^
Immune system disord	ders
Uncommon	Hypersensitivity [^]
Metabolism and nutriti	ion disorders
Common	Hypokalemia; Decreased appetite
Uncommon	Hypomagnesemia; Hypoglycemia; Hypoalbuminemia; Malnutrition^
Psychiatric disorders	
Common	Delirium^#
Uncommon	Depression; Insomnia^
Nervous system disor	ders
Common	Headache; Somnolence
Uncommon	Convulsion^; Syncope; Dizziness; Paresthesia^; Encephalopathy;
	Presyncope; Neuropathy peripheral; Dysgeusia
Ear and labyrinth diso	rders
Uncommon	Vertigo
Cardiac disorders	

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System Organ Class	Adverse Drug Reactions			
Uncommon	Atrial fibrillation; Tachycardia; Bradycardia^; Palpitations; Atrial flutter;			
	Electrocardiogram QT shortened; Supraventricular tachycardia;			
	Ventricular extrasystoles; Supraventricular extrasystoles			
Vascular disorders				
Common	Thrombophlebitis^			
Uncommon	Circulatory collapse; Hypotension			
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders				
Common	Dyspnea;^ Acute respiratory failure^			
Uncommon	Bronchospasm; Tachypnea; Hemoptysis; Epistaxis			
Gastrointestinal disorders				
Common	Vomiting; Diarrhea; Nausea; Abdominal pain^			
Uncommon	Dyspepsia; Constipation; Abdominal distension			
Hepatobiliary disorder	s			
Common	Elevated liver chemistry tests [#]			
Uncommon	Hepatomegaly; Hepatitis			
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders				
Common	Rash^; Pruritus			
Uncommon	Petechiae; Alopecia; Drug eruption; Dermatitis^			
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders				
Uncommon	Back pain			
Renal and urinary disc	orders			
Common	Renal failure			
General disorders and administration site conditions				
Common	Chest pain^; Fatigue; Injection site reaction^			
Uncommon	Edema peripheral^; Malaise; Asthenia			

[^] Indicates that grouping of appropriate preferred terms into a single medical concept occurred.

Description of selected adverse reactions

Delirium includes reactions of confusional state.

Elevated liver chemistry tests includes events of alanine aminotransferase increased, aspartate aminotransferase increased, blood alkaline phosphatase increased, blood bilirubin increased,

^{*} See section Description of selected adverse reactions below

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blood lactate dehydrogenase increased, gamma-glutamyltransferase increased, hepatic enzyme increased, hepatic function abnormal, hyperbilirubinemia, liver function test abnormal, and

transaminases increased.

Laboratory effects

In a double-blind, randomized, active-controlled clinical study of 516 patients with invasive fungal

disease caused by Aspergillus species or other filamentous fungi, elevated liver transaminases

(alanine aminotransferase or aspartate aminotransferase) >3 x Upper Limit of Normal (ULN) were

reported at the end of study treatment in 4.4% of patients who received CRESEMBA. Marked

elevations of liver transaminases >10 x ULN developed in 1.2% of patients on isavuconazole.

4.9 Overdose

Symptoms

Symptoms reported more frequently at supratherapeutic doses of CRESEMBA (equivalent to

isavuconazole 600 mg/day) evaluated in a QT study than in the therapeutic dose group

(equivalent to isavuconazole 200 mg/day dose) included: headache, dizziness, paresthesia,

somnolence, disturbance in attention, dysgeusia, dry mouth, diarrhea, oral hypoesthesia, vomiting,

hot flush, anxiety, restlessness, palpitations, tachycardia, photophobia and arthralgia.

Management of overdose

Isavuconazole is not removed by hemodialysis. There is no specific antidote for isavuconazole. In

the event of an overdose, supportive treatment should be instituted.

5. Pharmacological Properties

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antimycotics for systemic use, triazole derivatives, ATC code:

J02AC05

Mechanism of action

Isavuconazole is the active moiety formed after oral or intravenous administration of

isavuconazonium sulfate (see section 5.2).

Isavuconazole demonstrates a fungicidal effect by blocking the synthesis of ergosterol, a key

component of the fungal cell membrane, through the inhibition of cytochrome P-450-dependent

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enzyme lanosterol 14-alpha-demethylase, responsible for the conversion of lanosterol to

ergosterol. This results in an accumulation of methylated sterol precursors and a depletion of

ergosterol within the cell membrane, thus weakening the structure and function of the fungal cell

membrane.

Microbiology

In animal models of disseminated and pulmonary aspergillosis, the pharmacodynamic (PD) index

important in efficacy is exposure divided by minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) (AUC/MIC).

No clear correlation between in vitro MIC and clinical response for the different species

(Aspergillus and Mucorales) could be established.

Concentrations of isavuconazole required to inhibit Aspergillus species and genera/species of the

order Mucorales in vitro have been very variable. Generally, concentrations of isavuconazole

required to inhibit Mucorales are higher than those required to inhibit the majority of Aspergillus

species.

Clinical efficacy has been demonstrated for the following Aspergillus species: Aspergillus

fumigatus, A. flavus, A. niger, and A. terreus (see further below).

Mechanism(s) of resistance

Reduced susceptibility to triazole antifungal agents has been associated with mutations in the

fungal cyp51A and cyp51B genes coding for the target protein lanosterol 14-alpha-demethylase

involved in ergosterol biosynthesis. Fungal strains with reduced in vitro susceptibility to

isavuconazole have been reported, and cross-resistance with voriconazole and other triazole

antifungal agents cannot be excluded.

Breakpoints

EUCAST MIC breakpoints are defined for the following species (susceptible S; resistant R):

Aspergillus fumigatus: S ≤1 mg/L, R >1 mg/L

Aspergillus nidulans: S ≤0.25 mg/L, R >0.25 mg/L

Aspergillus terreus: S ≤1 mg/L, R >1 mg/L

There are currently insufficient data to set clinical breakpoints for other Aspergillus species.

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Clinical efficacy and safety

Treatment of invasive aspergillosis

The safety and efficacy of isavuconazole for the treatment of patients with invasive aspergillosis was evaluated in a double-blind, active-controlled clinical study in 516 patients with invasive fungal disease caused by *Aspergillus* species or other filamentous fungi. In the intent-to-treat (ITT) population, 258 patients received isavuconazole and 258 patients received voriconazole. CRESEMBA was administered intravenously (equivalent to 200 mg isavuconazole) every 8 hours for the first 48 hours, followed by once-daily intravenous or oral treatment (equivalent to 200 mg isavuconazole). The protocol-defined maximum treatment duration was 84 days. Median treatment duration was 45 days.

The overall response at end-of-treatment (EOT) in the myITT population (patients with proven and probable invasive aspergillosis based on cytology, histology, culture or galactomannan testing) was assessed by an independent blinded Data Review Committee. The myITT population comprised 123 patients receiving isavuconazole and 108 patients receiving voriconazole. The overall response in this population was n=43 (35%) for isavuconazole and n=42 (38.9%) for voriconazole. The adjusted treatment difference (voriconazole-isavuconazole) was 4.0 (95% confidence interval: -7.9; 15.9).

The all-cause mortality at Day 42 in this population was 18.7% for isavuconazole and 22.2% for voriconazole. The adjusted treatment difference (isavuconazole-voriconazole) was -2.7% (95% confidence interval: -12.9; 7.5).

Treatment of mucormycosis

In an open-label non-controlled study, 37 patients with proven or probable mucormycosis received isavuconazole at the same dose regimen as that used to treat invasive aspergillosis. Median treatment duration was 84 days for the overall mucormycosis patient population, and 102 days for the 21 patients not previously treated for mucormycosis. For patients with probable or proven mucormycosis as defined by the independent Data Review Committee (DRC), all-cause mortality at Day 84 was 43.2% (16/37) for the overall patient population, 42.9% (9/21) for mucormycosis patients receiving isavuconazole as primary treatment, and 43.8% (7/16) for mucormycosis patients receiving isavuconazole who were refractory to, or intolerant of, prior antifungal therapy (mainly amphotericin B-based treatments). The DRC-assessed overall success rate at EOT was 11/35 (31.4%), with 5 patients considered completely cured and 6 patients partially cured. A stable response was observed in an additional 10/35 patients (28.6%). In 9 patients with

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mucormycosis due to *Rhizopus* spp., 4 patients showed a favourable response to isavuconazole. In 5 patients with mucormycosis due to *Rhizomucor* spp., no favourable responses were observed. The clinical experience in other species is very limited (*Lichtheimia* spp. n=2, *Cunninghamella* spp. n=1, *Actinomucor elegans* n=1).

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Isavuconazonium sulfate is a water-soluble prodrug that can be administered as an intravenous infusion or orally as hard capsules. Following administration, isavuconazonium sulfate is rapidly hydrolysed by plasma esterases to the active moiety isavuconazole; plasma concentrations of the prodrug are very low, and detectable only for a short time after intravenous dosing.

Absorption

Following oral administration of CRESEMBA in healthy subjects, the active moiety is avuconazole is absorbed and reaches maximum plasma concentrations (C_{max}) approximately 2–3 hours after single and multiple dosing (see Table 3).

Table 3 Steady state pharmacokinetic parameters of isavuconazole following oral administration of CRESEMBA

Parameter	Isavuconazole 200 mg	Isavuconazole 600 mg		
Statistic	(n=37)	(n=32)		
C _{max} (ng/mL)				
Mean	7499	20028		
SD	1893.3	3584.3		
CV %	25.2	17.9		
t _{max} (h)				
Median	3.0	4.0		
Range	2.0 – 4.0	2.0 – 4.0		
AUC (h•ng/mL)				
Mean	121402	352805		
SD	35768.8	72018.5		
CV %	29.5	20.4		

As shown in table 4 below, the absolute bioavailability of isavuconazole following oral

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administration of a single dose of CRESEMBA is 98%. Based on these findings, intravenous and oral dosing can be used interchangeably.

Table 4 Pharmacokinetic comparison for oral and intravenous dose (Mean)

	ISA 400 mg oral	ISA 400 mg i.v.
AUC (h•ng/mL)	189462.8	193906.8
CV%	36.5	37.2
Half-life (h)	110	115

Effect of food on absorption

Oral administration of CRESEMBA equivalent to 400 mg isavuconazole with a high-fat meal reduced isavuconazole C_{max} by 9% and increased AUC by 9%. CRESEMBA can be taken with or without food.

Distribution

Isavuconazole is extensively distributed, with a mean steady state volume of distribution (V_{ss}) of approximately 450 L. Isavuconazole is highly bound (>99%) to human plasma proteins, predominantly to albumin.

Biotransformation

In vitro/in vivo studies indicate that CYP3A4, CYP3A5, and subsequently uridine diphosphate-glucuronosyltransferases (UGT), are involved in the metabolism of isavuconazole.

Following single doses of [cyano-¹⁴C] isavuconazonium and [pyridinylmethyl-¹⁴C] isavuconazonium sulfate in humans, in addition to the active moiety (isavuconazole) and the inactive cleavage product, a number of minor metabolites were identified. Except for the active moiety isavuconazole, no individual metabolite was observed with an AUC >10% of total radio-labelled material.

Elimination

Following oral administration of radio-labelled isavuconazonium sulfate to healthy subjects, a mean of 46.1% of the radioactive dose was recovered in feces, and 45.5% was recovered in urine.

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Renal excretion of intact isavuconazole was less than 1% of the dose administered.

The inactive cleavage product is primarily eliminated by metabolism and subsequent renal excretion of the metabolites.

Linearity/non-linearity

Studies in healthy subjects have demonstrated that the pharmacokinetics of isavuconazole are proportional up to 600 mg/day.

Pharmacokinetics in special populations

Pediatric patients

The pharmacokinetics in pediatric patients (<18 years) have not yet been evaluated. No data are available.

Renal impairment

No clinically relevant changes were observed in the total C_{max} and AUC of isavuconazole in subjects with mild, moderate or severe renal impairment compared to subjects with normal renal function. Of the 403 patients who received CRESEMBA in the Phase 3 studies, 79 (20%) of patients had an estimated glomerular filtration rate (GFR) less than 60 mL/min/1.73 m². No dose adjustment is required in patients with renal impairment, including those patients with end-stage renal disease. Isavuconazole is not readily dialysable (see section 4.2).

Hepatic impairment

After a single 100 mg dose of isavuconazole was administered to 32 patients with mild (Child-Pugh Class A) hepatic insufficiency and 32 patients with moderate (Child-Pugh Class B) hepatic insufficiency (16 intravenous and 16 oral patients per Child-Pugh class), the least square mean systemic exposure (AUC) increased 64% in the Child-Pugh Class A group, and 84% in the Child-Pugh Class B group, relative to 32 age- and weight-matched healthy subjects with normal hepatic function. Mean plasma concentrations (C_{max}) were 2% lower in the Child-Pugh Class A group and 30% lower in the Child-Pugh Class B group. The population pharmacokinetic evaluation of isavuconazole in healthy subjects and patients with mild or moderate hepatic dysfunction demonstrated that the mild and moderate hepatic impairment populations had 40% and 48% lower isavuconazole clearance (CL) values, respectively, than the healthy population.

No dose adjustment is required in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment.

CRESEMBA has not been studied in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class

C). Use in these patients is not recommended unless the potential benefit is considered to

outweigh the risks. See sections 4.2 and 4.4.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

In rats and rabbits, isavuconazole at systemic exposures below the therapeutic level were

associated with dose-related increases in the incidence of skeletal anomalies (rudimentary

supernumerary ribs) in offspring. In rats, a dose-related increase in the incidence of zygomatic

arch fusion was also noted in offspring (see section 4.6).

Administration of isavuconazonium sulfate to rats at a dose of 90 mg/kg/day (2.3-fold the human

maintenance dose [200 mg] based on mg/m²/day) during pregnancy through the weaning period

showed an increased perinatal mortality of the pups. In utero exposure to the active moiety

isavuconazole had no effect on the fertility of the surviving pups.

Intravenous administration of ¹⁴C-labelled isavuconazonium sulfate to lactating rats resulted in the

recovery of radiolabel in the milk.

Isavuconazole did not affect the fertility of male or female rats treated with oral doses up to

90 mg/kg/day (2.3-fold the clinical maintenance dose based on mg/m²/day comparisons).

Isavuconazole has no discernible mutagenic or genotoxic potential. Isavuconazole was negative in

a bacterial reverse mutation assay, was weakly clastogenic at cytotoxic concentrations in the

L5178Y tk+/- mouse lymphoma chromosome aberration assay, and showed no biologically

relevant or statistically significant increase in the frequency of micronuclei in an in vivo rat

micronucleus test.

No carcinogenicity studies have been performed.

Isavuconazole inhibited the hERG potassium channel and the L-type calcium channel with an IC₅₀

of 5.82 μ M and 6.57 μ M respectively (34- and 38-fold the human non-protein bound C_{max} at

maximum recommended human dose [MRHD], respectively). The in vivo 39-week repeated-dose

toxicology studies in monkeys did not show QTcF prolongation at doses up to 40 mg/kg/day

(2.1-fold the recommended clinical maintenance dose, based on mg/m²/day comparisons).

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Environmental risk assessment has shown that CRESEMBA may pose a risk for the aquatic environment.

6. Pharmaceutical Particulars

6.1 List of excipient

Capsule contents

magnesium citrate (anhydrous)

microcrystalline cellulose

talc

silica, colloidal anhydrous

stearic acid

Capsule shell

hypromellose

water

red iron oxide (E172) (capsule body only)

titanium dioxide (E171)

gellan gum

potassium acetate

disodium edetate

sodium laurilsulfate

Printing ink

shellac

propylene glycol

potassium hydroxide

black iron oxide (E172)

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

30 months

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6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store below 30°C. Store in the original packaging in order to protect from moisture.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

14 hard capsules (in two aluminium blisters), with each capsule pocket connected to a pocket with desiccant.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

This medicinal product may pose a risk to the environment (see section 5.3).

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7. Marketing Authorization Holder

Pfizer (Thailand) Limited

8. Marketing Authorization Numbers

9. Date of Authorization

10. Date of Revision of the Text

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