

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



News

Abbott Receives European Approval for Once-Daily Dosing of Kaletra® (lopinavir/ritonavir) Tablet

New Approval Expands Dosing Options for Adult HIV-Infected Patients New to Antiretroviral Therapy

Abbott Park, Illinois, September 25, 2009 – Abbott announced that it has received marketing authorisation from the European Commission for once-daily dosing of the Kaletra® (lopinavir/ritonavir) tablet, the company's leading HIV protease inhibitor (PI), in adult patients new to HIV therapy. The Kaletra tablet is now approved for once-daily as well as twice-daily use in this patient population in combination with other antiretroviral agents, giving physicians another option when deciding on the most appropriate HIV dosing regimen.

"The approval of this new dosing option for Kaletra in Europe is valuable for adult patients who may benefit from being able to take their prescribed Kaletra regimen one time each day," said Scott Brun, M.D., divisional vice president, Infectious Disease Development, Global Pharmaceutical Research and Development, Abbott. "Once-daily dosing of a co-formulated tablet, such as Kaletra, is especially important for patients whose life circumstances present challenges to treatment compliance."

The new dosing indication is available in cases where once-daily Kaletra administration is considered necessary for the management of the patient. Kaletra dosed once-daily might be associated with a lesser sustainability of virologic suppression and a higher risk of diarrhea compared to the recommended standard twice-daily dosage. Kaletra once-daily dosing is not validated in antiretroviral experienced patients and has not been evaluated in pediatric patients. Kaletra must not be administered once daily in combination with efavirenz, nevirapine, nelfinavir, amprenavir, carbamazepine, phenobarbital or phenytoin.

The Kaletra tablet can be taken with or without food and does not require refrigeration – two important advances in delivering HIV medicine.

- more -

Contact:

Abbott Press Office
01628 644582

"It is important to consider the specific needs of each patient with HIV," said Professor Margaret Johnson, Professor of HIV Medicine at the Royal Free Hospital NHS Trust, London. "New treatment options, such as once-daily dosing of Kaletra, provide us with more choices so that we can tailor treatments to a patient's lifestyle rather than a patient adapting his or her lifestyle to the treatment."

About Kaletra

Kaletra is an inhibitor of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) protease enzyme used for the treatment of HIV-1 infected adults and children above the age of two years. Kaletra is used in combination with other antiretroviral medicines.

Kaletra does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others.

Abbott and HIV/AIDS

Abbott has been a leader in HIV/AIDS research since the early years of the epidemic. In 1985, the company developed the first licensed test to detect HIV antibodies in the blood and remains a leader in HIV diagnostics. Abbott retroviral and hepatitis tests are used to screen more than half of the world's donated blood supply. Abbott has developed two protease inhibitors for the treatment of HIV.

About Abbott

Abbott is a global, broad-based health care company devoted to the discovery, development, manufacture and marketing of pharmaceuticals and medical products, including nutritionals, devices and diagnostics. The company employs more than 72,000 people and markets its products in more than 130 countries.

Abbott has been operating in the UK for more than 70 years and currently has operations in Maidenhead, Berkshire (UK Headquarters), Kent, Lancashire, the Midlands and Oxfordshire. An Investor in People and one of the UK's Best Workplaces for 2009, Abbott employs more than 2,000 people nationwide.

Abbott's news releases and other information are available on the company's websites at www.abbott.co.uk and www.abbott.com.

###

Date of preparation: September 2009
AXKAL092476