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RVS Nagar, Tirupati Road, **CHITTOOR – 517 127**, Andhra Pradesh

# FARMACIA PRACTIA LETTRE JULY – DECEMBER 2022, VOLUME VI, ISSUE II NEWSLETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY PRACTICE

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### Principal's Message

It gives me immense pleasure that our department of pharmacy practice, Sri Venkateswara College of Pharmacy is releasing its newsletter. The clinical pharmacy activity of our pharmacy practice department has gained strength in the last 10 years with the start of the Pharm.D program and our faculty and students are involved in patient services activities in clinical departments of RVS hospitals, a tertiary care super specialty hospital and Government hospital, District headquarters, Chittoor. It is indeed a matter of great pride and pleasure to share some of our experiences in patient care with every one of you. Practice directions and other documents will be drafted and approved with the assistance of the standards of practice committee. The mandate of the college is to train high-caliber healthcare professionals, offer specialized pharma services to the community, conduct research, offer consultancy services, and participate in health policy formulation. The college has adequate and modern facilities to execute its mandate. The faculty and student editorial team deserve special appreciation and offer this newsletter to our beloved chairman and vice chairman.

**Dr. D. Jothieswari**, Principal,  
Sri Venkateswara College of Pharmacy

## IN THE CURRENT ISSUE

- **Drug profile**
- **Disease based information**

### DRUG PROFILE VEOZAH

Veozah is a nonhormonal prescription medicine used to reduce moderate to severe vasomotor symptoms (hot flashes and night sweats) due to menopause. Veozah contains a drug called fezolinetant. Fezolinetant is a neurokinin 3 (NK3) receptor antagonist that works to reduce the frequency and intensity of hot flashes by restoring the balance between estrogen and NKB by blocking NKB in the temperature control center of the brain. Veozah is used for the treatment of moderate to severe vasomotor symptoms due to menopause.

#### **Uses**

Veozah is used for the treatment of moderate to severe vasomotor symptoms due to menopause. Vasomotor symptoms are intense feelings of heat ("hot flashes" or "hot flushes"), night sweats, and feelings of warmth in the face, neck, and chest that can occur frequently in women transitioning through menopause.

#### **Mechanism of action**

VEOZAH's active substance fezolinetant is a neurokinin 3 (NK3) receptor antagonist that acts by blocking neurokinin B (NKB) from binding to the kisspeptin/neurokinin B/dynorphin (KNDy) neuron. Fezolinetant has a high affinity to the NK3 receptor, which is more than 450 times higher than the affinity to the NK1 or NK2 receptors. It modulates neuronal activity in the hypothalamus, reducing the frequency and severity of moderate to severe VMS caused by menopause.

#### **Contraindications**

- Have cirrhosis.
- Have severe kidney problems or kidney failure.
- Taking certain medicines called CYP1A2 inhibitors.

#### **Adverse drug reaction**

The most common side effects include stomach (abdominal) pain, diarrhea, difficulty sleeping, back pain, and hot flashes, elevated liver transaminase.

#### **Drug Dosing**

45mg tablet orally once daily with or without food.

Do not cut or crush and do not chew the tablet.

## **DISEASE-BASED INFORMATION NEUROBLASTOMA**

Neuroblastoma is a type of pediatric cancer that develops in the nervous system of babies and young children. Neuroblastoma grows in immature nerve tissue (neuroblasts). It usually affects neuroblasts in the adrenal glands (small organs that sit on top of the kidneys). The adrenal glands make hormones that control automatic body functions, such as digestion, blood pressure, breathing, and heart rate. Neuroblastoma can also develop in nerve tissue in the spinal cord, abdomen, chest, or neck.

### **CAUSES**

Neuroblastoma happens when immature nerve tissues (neuroblasts) grow out of control. The cells become abnormal and continue growing and dividing, forming a tumor. A genetic mutation (a change in the neuroblast's genes) causes the cells to grow and divide uncontrollably. Healthcare providers aren't sure what causes the genetic mutation. Children with a family history of neuroblastoma are more likely to develop this type of cancer. But about 98% to 99% of the time, neuroblastoma is not inherited (or, passed down in families). Children born with other congenital anomalies (birth defects) may have a higher risk of developing neuroblastoma.

### **Signs and symptoms**

- Abdominal pain
- A mass under the skin that isn't tender when touched
- Changes in bowel habits, such as diarrhea or constipation.
- Wheezing
- Chest pain
- Changes to the eyes, including drooping eyelids and unequal pupil size.
- Lumps of tissue under the skin
- Eyeballs that seem to protrude from the sockets (proptosis)
- Dark circles, similar to bruises, around the eyes
- Back pain

### **Diagnosis**

Diagnostic Tests and Imaging Tests for Neuroblastoma

#### **1. Clinical Evaluation**

- Medical history and Physical examination

#### **2. Laboratory Tests**

- Urine catecholamines
- Blood tests

### **3. Imaging Tests**

- X-ray
- Ultrasound
- Computed Tomography (CT) Scan
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Metaiodobenzylguanidine (MIBG) Scintigraphy
- Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scan
- Bone Scan

### **4. Bone Marrow Aspiration and Biopsy**

- Bone marrow aspiration
- Bone marrow biopsy

### **Treatment**

- There are different types of treatment for patients with neuroblastoma.
- Seven types of standard treatment are used.

### **Radiation therapy**

Iodine 131-MIBG therapy

### **Chemotherapy**

Isotretinoin

Dinutuximab

Granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF)

Interleukin-2 (IL-2)

Targeted therapy

Monoclonal antibody therapy

Tyrosinekinase inhibitor therapy

Histone deacetylase inhibitor therapy

Ornithine decarboxylase inhibitor therapy

### **Immunotherapy**

CAR T-cell therapy: The patient's T cells (a type of immune system cell) are changed so that they will attack certain proteins on the surface of cancer cells.



Suggestions and comments may kindly be sent to the Editorial Board, Department of Pharmacy Practice, SVCOP, Chittoor. Phone: 7729999181 Email: [editorsvcopnewsletter@svcop.in](mailto:editorsvcopnewsletter@svcop.in)