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Reaksi

DRUG SAFETY NEWS

Mission: This publication provides information and recommendations to healthcare professionals to enhance communication of drug safety updates, raise awareness of adverse drug reactions reported, and stimulate additional adverse drug reaction reporting.

TO REPORT AN ADVERSE DRUG REACTION

Online

1. Visit http://npra.moh.gov.my.
2. Click on ADR Reporting.
3. Click to report as a healthcare professional and print out the ADR form.
4. Scan and submit the completed form via email to fv@npra.gov.my.

Mail

1. Print out and complete the ADR form available from our website.
2. Mail or fax to:
   The National ADR Monitoring Centre, Centre for Post Registration of Products, National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency, Ministry of Health, PO Box 319, Jalan Sultan, 46730 Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

Telephone
03-7883 5400
(ext. 8460/ 8461/ 8463)

Fax
03-7956 7151

In This Issue:

A bimonthly publication by the
National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA), Malaysia.

Apomorphine with Domperidone: Minimising the Risk of Cardiac Side Effects

Background
Apomorphine is a dopamine agonist that is used parenterally to treat refractory motor fluctuations in patients with Parkinson's disease. Due to its tendency to cause nausea and vomiting, patients are usually prescribed domperidone a few days before starting apomorphine therapy to control the side effects.

In addition to the known risk of cardiac side effects with domperidone, the co-administration of apomorphine and domperidone may increase the risk of QT prolongation in those with risk factors, including existing QT prolongation, serious cardiac or hepatic disorders, significant electrolyte disturbances, or interacting concomitant drugs.

In April 2016, the NPRA initiated a review into the safety of apomorphine following a drug safety update issued by the Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), United Kingdom, on the association of apomorphine with a risk of cardiac side effects when used with domperidone.

Local Scenario
At present, apomorphine injection is **not registered** under the Drug Control Authority (DCA) Malaysia. It is used under special approval from the Director General of Health for the treatment of advanced Parkinson's disease.

Adverse Drug Reaction Reports
To date, no local adverse drug reaction (ADR) reports related to apomorphine injection have been received by NPRA.

A search of the WHO International ADR database* revealed a total of **1,772 reports** with apomorphine as a suspected drug. Of these, there were **188 reports (10.6%)** in which domperidone was co-reported with apomorphine. One report from France described a 70-year old woman with Parkinson's disease who experienced atrial fibrillation and palpitations when she was given apomorphine and domperidone concurrently. The adverse event was classed as serious, as it caused or prolonged hospitalisation. The adverse reactions resolved after both suspected drugs were withdrawn, and the patient recovered.

Advice for Healthcare Professionals

- Before starting treatment, weigh the benefits of concomitant apomorphine/domperidone treatment with the small increased risk of cardiac side effects.
- Discuss with the patient and caretakers on the benefits and risks of apomorphine and advise to immediately contact their doctor if palpitations or syncopal symptoms develop during treatment.
- Perform an assessment of cardiac risk factors and ECG monitoring before starting domperidone, during the apomorphine initiation phase, and if clinically indicated thereafter (e.g. if a QT-prolonging or interacting drug is started, or if symptoms of cardiac side effects are reported).
- Review domperidone treatment regularly to ensure patients take the lowest effective dose for the shortest duration required.
- Advise patients to inform their doctor of any changes that could increase their risk of arrhythmia, such as:
  - ◊ symptoms of cardiac or hepatic disorders
  - ◊ conditions that could cause electrolyte disturbances (e.g. gastroenteritis or starting a diuretic)
  - ◊ starting any other medicines.
- Please report any suspected adverse events associated with apomorphine to NPRA.

Reference:
MHRA Drug Safety Update (18 April 2016). Apomorphine with domperidone: minimising the risk of cardiac side effects.

Locabiotal® Solution (fusafungine oromucosal/ nasal spray): Withdrawal of Registration and Product Recall

Overview
The registration of Locabiotal Solution® (fusafungine oromucosal/ nasal spray) has been withdrawn in Malaysia and worldwide following concerns over rare but serious cases of hypersensitivity, including allergic reactions and life-threatening anaphylactic reactions, and limited evidence of benefit.

Background of Safety Issue
A review into the benefit-risk balance of fusafungine-containing medicines was initiated by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) following an increased number of reports on serious hypersensitivity reactions associated with fusafungine-use. These included anaphylactic reactions, with a few cases of fatal outcome.

Local Scenario
Locabiotal Solution® was the only fusafungine-containing product registered in Malaysia. This product was first registered in 1987, for the local antibacterial adjuvant treatment of diseases of the upper respiratory tract.

The package insert of Locabiotal® was updated in August 2015 with new contraindications in children under 12 years, and patients with allergic tendencies and bronchospasms.

With the recall notice announced on 18 May 2016, all supplies of Locabiotal® must be returned to the product registration holder through the distribution channel. The recall was set up at all points of sale (including hospitals, pharmacies, clinics and specialist centres).

Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) reports
Since year 2000, the NPRA has received three (3) **ADR reports** with seven (7) adverse events suspected to be related to fusafungine. The adverse events reported were chest tightness, shortness of breath and oesopharyngeal irritation.

A search of the WHO International ADR database* revealed 535 reports involving fusafungine, mostly involving respiratory disorders such as dyspnoea, and skin disorders including rash, pruritus and erythema. There were also 31 reports of allergic conditions, including five (5) anaphylactic reactions.

Advice for Healthcare Professionals

- Fusafungine oromucosal/ nasal spray has been withdrawn in Malaysia and worldwide due to rare but serious cases of allergic reactions, and limited evidence of efficacy.
- Please ensure all supplies of Locabiotal Solution® are returned to the product registration holder.
- **Counselling points:**
  - ◊ Upper respiratory tract infections are usually mild and self-limiting.
  - ◊ Advise patients about managing symptoms, and suitable alternative treatments, if needed.

**The information comes from a variety of sources, and the likelihood that the suspected adverse reaction is drug-related is not the same in all cases and it does not represent the opinion of the WHO.*