

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use QTERN safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for QTERN.

QTERN® (dapagliflozin and saxagliptin) tablets, for oral use
Initial U.S. Approval: 2017

----- RECENT MAJOR CHANGES -----
Warnings and Precautions (5.8) 10/2018

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

QTERN is a sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT-2) inhibitor and a dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitor combination product indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) who have inadequate control with dapagliflozin or who are already treated with dapagliflozin and saxagliptin. (1, 14)
Limitations of Use:

- Is not indicated for the treatment of type 1 diabetes mellitus or diabetic ketoacidosis. (1)
- Should only be used in patients who tolerate 10 mg dapagliflozin. (1)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended dose of QTERN is a 10 mg dapagliflozin/5 mg saxagliptin tablet taken orally once daily in the morning with or without food. (2.1)

- Assess renal function before initiation of therapy and periodically thereafter. Do not initiate QTERN if eGFR is below 60 mL/min/1.73 m². (2.2)
- Discontinue QTERN if eGFR falls persistently below 60 mL/min/1.73 m². (2.2)
- Do not coadminister QTERN with strong cytochrome P450 3A4/5 inhibitors. (2.3, 7.1)
- Tablet should be swallowed whole and not be split or cut.

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Tablet: 10 mg dapagliflozin/5 mg saxagliptin (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

QTERN is contraindicated in patients with:

- History of a serious hypersensitivity reaction to dapagliflozin or to saxagliptin, such as anaphylaxis, angioedema, or exfoliative skin conditions. (4, 5.8, 6.2)
- Moderate to severe renal impairment (eGFR <45 mL/min/1.73 m²), end-stage renal disease (ESRD), or patients on dialysis. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Pancreatitis: If pancreatitis is suspected, promptly discontinue QTERN. (5.1, 6.2)

Heart Failure: Consider the risks and benefits of QTERN in patients who have known risk factors for heart failure. Monitor patients for signs and symptoms. (5.2)

Hypotension: Before initiating QTERN, assess volume status and correct hypovolemia in the elderly, in patients with renal impairment or low systolic blood pressure, and in patients on loop diuretics. Monitor for signs and symptoms during therapy. (5.3, 6.1)

Ketoacidosis: Assess patients who present with signs and symptoms of metabolic acidosis for ketoacidosis regardless of blood glucose level. If suspected, discontinue QTERN, evaluate and treat promptly. Before initiating QTERN, consider risk factors for ketoacidosis. Patients on

QTERN may require monitoring and temporary discontinuation of therapy in clinical situations known to predispose to ketoacidosis. (5.4, 6.2)

Acute Kidney Injury and Impairment in Renal Function: Consider temporarily discontinuing in settings of reduced oral intake or fluid losses. If acute kidney injury occurs, discontinue and promptly treat. Monitor renal function during therapy. (5.5, 6.2)

Urosepsis and Pyelonephritis: Evaluate for signs and symptoms of urinary tract infections and treat promptly, if indicated. (5.6, 6.2)

Hypoglycemia: Consider lowering the dose of insulin secretagogue or insulin to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia when initiating QTERN. (5.7, 6.1)

Necrotizing Fasciitis of the Perineum (Fournier's Gangrene): Serious, life-threatening cases have occurred in both females and males. Assess patients presenting with pain or tenderness, erythema, or swelling in the genital or perineal area, along with fever or malaise. If suspected, institute prompt treatment. (5.8)

Hypersensitivity Reactions (e.g., urticaria, facial edema): There have been postmarketing reports of serious hypersensitivity reactions treated with saxagliptin, such as anaphylaxis, angioedema, and exfoliative skin conditions. Promptly discontinue QTERN, assess for other potential causes, institute appropriate monitoring and treatment, and initiate alternative treatment for diabetes. (5.9, 6.2)

Genital Mycotic Infections: Monitor and treat if indicated. (5.10, 6.1)

Increased LDL-C: Monitor and treat per standard of care. (5.11, 6.1)

Bladder Cancer: An imbalance in bladder cancers was observed in clinical studies with dapagliflozin. QTERN should not be used in patients with active bladder cancer and should be used with caution in patients with a prior history of bladder cancer. (5.12)

Arthralgia: Severe and disabling arthralgia has been reported in patients taking DPP-4 inhibitors. Consider as a possible cause for severe joint pain and discontinue drug if appropriate. (5.13, 6.1, 6.2)

Bullous Pemphigoid: There have been postmarketing reports of bullous pemphigoid requiring hospitalization in patients taking DPP-4 inhibitors. Tell patients to report development of blisters or erosions. If bullous pemphigoid is suspected, discontinue QTERN. (5.14)

Macrovascular Outcomes: There have been no clinical studies establishing conclusive evidence of macrovascular risk reduction with QTERN. (5.15)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adverse reactions reported in ≥5% of subjects treated with 10 mg dapagliflozin and 5 mg saxagliptin were: upper respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection, and dyslipidemia. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact AstraZeneca at 1-800-236-9933 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Strong CYP3A4/5 Inhibitors (e.g., *Ketoconazole*): Do not coadminister QTERN with strong cytochrome P450 3A4/5 inhibitors. (2.3, 7.1)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Pregnancy: Advise females of the potential risk to a fetus especially during the second and third trimesters. (8.1)

Lactation: QTERN is not recommended when breastfeeding. (8.2)

Geriatrics: Higher incidence of adverse reactions related to volume depletion and reduced renal function. (5.3, 5.5, 8.5)

Renal Impairment: Higher incidence of adverse reactions related to reduced intravascular volume and renal function. (5.5, 6.1, 8.6)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and Medication Guide

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

QTERN (dapagliflozin and saxagliptin) is indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) who have inadequate control with dapagliflozin or who are already treated with dapagliflozin and saxagliptin [*see Clinical Studies (14)*].

Limitations of Use

QTERN is not indicated for the treatment of type 1 diabetes mellitus or diabetic ketoacidosis.

QTERN should only be used in patients who tolerate 10 mg dapagliflozin.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Dosage

In patients with volume depletion, correct this condition prior to initiation of QTERN [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3), and Use in Specific Populations (8.5, 8.6)*].

The recommended dose of QTERN is a 10 mg dapagliflozin/5 mg saxagliptin tablet taken orally once daily in the morning with or without food.

Do not split or cut QTERN tablets.

2.2 Patients with Renal Impairment

Assessment of renal function is recommended prior to initiation of QTERN therapy and periodically thereafter.

Do not initiate QTERN in patients with an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) below 60 mL/min/1.73 m².

Discontinue QTERN if eGFR falls persistently below 60 mL/min/1.73 m² [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.5) and Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

QTERN is contraindicated in patients with an eGFR less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m² [*see Contraindications (4)*].

2.3 Use with Strong CYP3A4/5 Inhibitors

Do not coadminister QTERN with strong cytochrome P450 3A4/5 inhibitors (e.g., ketoconazole, atazanavir, clarithromycin, indinavir, itraconazole, nefazodone, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir, and telithromycin) [*see Drug Interactions (7.1)*].

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

QTERN tablets containing 10 mg dapagliflozin and 5 mg saxagliptin are light brown to brown, biconvex, round, film-coated, with “1122” printed on both sides of the tablet, in blue ink.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

QTERN is contraindicated in patients with:

- History of a serious hypersensitivity reaction to dapagliflozin or to saxagliptin, including anaphylaxis, angioedema or exfoliative skin conditions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.8)* and *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].
- Moderate to severe renal impairment (eGFR less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m²), end-stage renal disease (ESRD), or patients on dialysis [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Pancreatitis

There have been postmarketing reports of acute pancreatitis in patients taking saxagliptin. In a cardiovascular outcomes trial enrolling participants with established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) or multiple risk factors for ASCVD (SAVOR trial), cases of definite acute pancreatitis were confirmed in 17 of 8240 (0.2%) patients receiving saxagliptin compared to 9 of 8173 (0.1%) receiving placebo. Pre-existing risk factors for pancreatitis were identified in 88% (15/17) of those patients receiving saxagliptin and in 100% (9/9) of those patients receiving placebo.

After initiation of QTERN, observe patients for signs and symptoms of pancreatitis. If pancreatitis is suspected, promptly discontinue QTERN and initiate appropriate management. It is unknown whether patients with a history of pancreatitis are at increased risk for the development of pancreatitis while using QTERN.

5.2 Heart Failure

In a cardiovascular outcomes trial enrolling participants with established ASCVD or multiple risk factors for ASCVD (SAVOR trial), more patients randomized to saxagliptin (289/8280, 3.5%) were hospitalized for heart failure compared to patients randomized to placebo (228/8212, 2.8%). In a time-to-first-event analysis the risk of hospitalization for heart failure was higher in the saxagliptin group (estimated Hazard Ratio: 1.27; 95% CI: 1.07, 1.51). Subjects with a prior history of heart failure and subjects with renal impairment had a higher risk for hospitalization for heart failure, irrespective of treatment assignment.

Consider the risks and benefits of QTERN prior to initiating treatment in patients at a higher risk of heart failure. Observe patients for signs and symptoms of heart failure during therapy. Advise patients of the characteristic symptoms of heart failure and to immediately report such symptoms. If heart failure develops, evaluate and manage according to current standards of care and consider discontinuation of QTERN.

5.3 Hypotension

Dapagliflozin causes intravascular volume contraction. Symptomatic hypotension can occur after initiating QTERN [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*] particularly in patients with impaired renal function (eGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m²), elderly patients, or patients on loop diuretics. Before initiating QTERN volume status should be assessed and corrected. Do not initiate QTERN in patients with an eGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m². Monitor for signs and symptoms of hypotension after initiating therapy.

5.4 Ketoacidosis

Reports of ketoacidosis, a serious life-threatening condition requiring urgent hospitalization, have been identified in postmarketing surveillance in patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus receiving sodium glucose cotransporter-2 (SGLT-2) inhibitors, including dapagliflozin. Fatal cases of ketoacidosis have been reported in patients taking dapagliflozin. QTERN is not indicated for the treatment of patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus [see *Indications and Usage (1)*].

Patients treated with QTERN who present with signs and symptoms consistent with severe metabolic acidosis should be assessed for ketoacidosis regardless of presenting blood glucose levels as ketoacidosis associated with QTERN may be present even if blood glucose levels are less than 250 mg/dL. If ketoacidosis is suspected, QTERN should be discontinued, the patient should be evaluated and prompt treatment should be instituted. Treatment of ketoacidosis may require insulin, fluid and carbohydrate replacement.

In many of the postmarketing reports for dapagliflozin, and particularly in patients with type 1 diabetes, the presence of ketoacidosis was not immediately recognized and the institution of treatment was delayed because the presenting blood glucose levels were below those typically expected for diabetic ketoacidosis (often less than 250 mg/dL). Signs and symptoms at presentation were consistent with dehydration and severe metabolic acidosis and included nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, generalized malaise, and shortness of breath. In some but not all cases, factors predisposing to ketoacidosis such as insulin dose reduction, acute febrile illness, reduced caloric intake due to illness or surgery, pancreatic disorders suggesting insulin deficiency (e.g., type 1 diabetes, history of pancreatitis or pancreatic surgery), and alcohol abuse were identified.

Before initiating QTERN, consider factors in the patient history that may predispose to ketoacidosis including pancreatic insulin deficiency from any cause, caloric restriction and

alcohol abuse. In patients treated with QTERN consider monitoring for ketoacidosis and temporarily discontinuing QTERN in clinical situations known to predispose to ketoacidosis (e.g., prolonged fasting due to acute illness or surgery) [see *Adverse Reactions (6.2)*].

5.5 Acute Kidney Injury and Impairment in Renal Function

Dapagliflozin causes intravascular volume contraction [see *Warning and Precautions (5.3)*], and can cause renal impairment [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. There have been postmarketing reports of acute kidney injury, some requiring hospitalization and dialysis, in patients receiving dapagliflozin; some reports involved patients younger than 65 years of age.

Before initiating QTERN, consider factors that may predispose patients to acute kidney injury including hypovolemia, chronic renal insufficiency, congestive heart failure, and concomitant medications (diuretics, ACE inhibitors, ARBs, NSAIDs). Consider temporarily discontinuing QTERN in any setting of reduced oral intake (such as acute illness or fasting) or fluid losses (gastrointestinal illness or excessive heat exposure); monitor patients for signs and symptoms of acute kidney injury. If acute kidney injury occurs, discontinue QTERN promptly and institute treatment.

Dapagliflozin increases serum creatinine and decreases eGFR. Elderly patients and patients with impaired renal function may be more susceptible to these changes. Adverse reactions related to renal function can occur after initiating QTERN [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. Discontinue QTERN in patients if eGFR falls persistently below 60 mL/min/1.73 m². QTERN is contraindicated in patients with an eGFR less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m² [see *Dosage and Administration (2.2)*, *Contraindications (4)*, and *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

5.6 Urosepsis and Pyelonephritis

There have been postmarketing reports of serious urinary tract infections including urosepsis and pyelonephritis requiring hospitalization in patients receiving SGLT-2 inhibitors, including dapagliflozin. Treatment with SGLT-2 inhibitors increases the risk for urinary tract infections. Evaluate patients for signs and symptoms of urinary tract infections and treat promptly, if indicated [see *Adverse Reactions (6.2)*].

5.7 Hypoglycemia with Concomitant Use of Insulin or Insulin Secretagogues

Insulin and insulin secretagogues, such as sulfonylureas, are known to cause hypoglycemia. Both saxagliptin and dapagliflozin can individually increase the risk of hypoglycemia when combined with insulin or an insulin secretagogue. Therefore, a lower dose of insulin or insulin secretagogue may be required to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia when these agents are used in combination with QTERN [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].

5.8 Necrotizing Fasciitis of the Perineum (Fournier’s Gangrene)

Reports of necrotizing fasciitis of the perineum (Fournier’s gangrene), a rare but serious and life-threatening necrotizing infection requiring urgent surgical intervention, have been identified in postmarketing surveillance in patients with diabetes mellitus receiving SGLT2 inhibitors, including dapagliflozin. Cases have been reported in females and males. Serious outcomes have included hospitalization, multiple surgeries, and death.

Patients treated with QTERN presenting with pain or tenderness, erythema, or swelling in the genital or perineal area, along with fever or malaise, should be assessed for necrotizing fasciitis. If suspected, start treatment immediately with broad-spectrum antibiotics and, if necessary, surgical debridement. Discontinue QTERN, closely monitor blood glucose levels, and provide appropriate alternative therapy for glycemic control.

5.9 Hypersensitivity Reactions

There have been postmarketing reports of serious hypersensitivity reactions in patients treated with saxagliptin. These reactions include anaphylaxis, angioedema, and exfoliative skin conditions. Onset of these reactions occurred within the first 3 months after initiation of treatment with saxagliptin, with some reports occurring after the first dose. If a serious hypersensitivity reaction is suspected, discontinue QTERN, treat per standard of care, and monitor until signs and symptoms are resolved. Assess for other potential causes for the event. Institute alternative treatment for diabetes.

Use caution in a patient with a history of angioedema to another dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitor because it is unknown whether such patients will be predisposed to angioedema with saxagliptin.

5.10 Genital Mycotic Infections

Dapagliflozin increases the risks of genital mycotic infections. Patients with a history of genital mycotic infections were more likely to develop genital mycotic infections [*see Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. Monitor and treat appropriately.

5.11 Increases in Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL–C)

Increases in LDL–C can occur with dapagliflozin [*see Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. Monitor LDL–C and treat per standard of care after initiating QTERN.

5.12 Bladder Cancer

Across 22 clinical studies for dapagliflozin, newly diagnosed cases of bladder cancer were reported in 10/6045 patients (0.17%) treated with dapagliflozin and 1/3512 patient (0.03%) treated with placebo/comparator. After excluding patients in whom exposure to study drug was less than one year at the time of diagnosis of bladder cancer, there were 4 cases with dapagliflozin and no cases with placebo/comparator. Bladder cancer risk factors and hematuria

(a potential indicator of pre-existing tumors) were balanced between treatment arms at baseline. There were too few cases to determine whether the emergence of these events is related to dapagliflozin.

There are insufficient data to determine whether dapagliflozin has an effect on pre-existing bladder tumors. Consequently, QTERN should not be used in patients with active bladder cancer. In patients with prior history of bladder cancer, the benefits of glycemic control versus unknown risks for cancer recurrence with QTERN should be considered.

5.13 Severe and Disabling Arthralgia

There have been postmarketing reports of severe and disabling arthralgia in patients taking DPP-4 inhibitors. The time to onset of symptoms following initiation of drug therapy varied from one day to years. Patients experienced relief of symptoms upon discontinuation of the medication. A subset of patients experienced a recurrence of symptoms restarting the same drug or a different DPP-4 inhibitor. Consider DPP-4 inhibitors as a possible cause for severe joint pain and discontinue drug if appropriate [see *Adverse Reactions (6)*].

5.14 Bullous Pemphigoid

Postmarketing cases of bullous pemphigoid requiring hospitalization have been reported with DPP-4 inhibitor use. In reported cases, patients typically recovered with topical or systemic immunosuppressive treatment and discontinuation of the DPP-4 inhibitor. Tell patients to report development of blisters or erosions while receiving QTERN. If bullous pemphigoid is suspected, QTERN should be discontinued and referral to a dermatologist should be considered for diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

5.15 Macrovascular Outcomes

There have been no clinical studies establishing conclusive evidence of macrovascular risk reduction with QTERN.

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following important adverse reactions are described below or elsewhere in the labeling:

- Pancreatitis [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]
- Heart Failure [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]
- Hypotension [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]
- Ketoacidosis [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]
- Acute Kidney Injury and Impairment in Renal Function [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]

- Urosepsis and Pyelonephritis [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.6\)](#)]
- Hypoglycemia with Concomitant Use of Insulin or Insulin Secretagogues [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.7\)](#)]
- Necrotizing Fasciitis of the Perineum (Fournier’s Gangrene) [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.8\)](#)]
- Hypersensitivity Reactions [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.9\)](#)]
- Genital Mycotic Infections [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.10\)](#)]
- Increases in Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL-C) [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.11\)](#)]
- Bladder Cancer [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.12\)](#)]
- Severe and Disabling Arthralgia [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.13\)](#)]
- Bullous Pemphigoid [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.14\)](#)]

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

The safety of combined use of 10 mg dapagliflozin and 5 mg saxagliptin has been evaluated in 492 adult subjects with type 2 diabetes in a pooled safety analysis of three phase 3 active/placebo-controlled clinical trials with a median exposure of 51 weeks. The mean age of these subjects was 54 years, 0.8% were 75 years or older and 53.7% were female. The population was 80.9% White, 8.3% Black or African American, 3.7% Asian, and 6.6% Other race. At baseline the population had diabetes for an average of 7.5 years and a mean HbA1c of 8.4%. The mean eGFR at baseline was 94.4 mL/min/1.73 m².

The common adverse reactions were based on the pooled analyses of these studies as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Adverse Reactions Reported in ≥2% Subjects Treated with 10 mg Dapagliflozin and 5 mg Saxagliptin

Adverse Reaction Preferred Term*	QTERN Frequency %
Upper respiratory tract infection*	13.6
Urinary tract infection*	5.7
Dyslipidemia*	5.1

Headache	4.3
Diarrhea	3.7
Back pain	3.3
Genital infection*	3.0
Arthralgia	2.4

* Adverse reactions that are medically related were grouped to a single preferred term.

Additionally, adverse reactions reported in <5% and $\geq 2\%$ from the dapagliflozin development program and $\geq 1\%$ more frequently compared to placebo included increased urination, and discomfort with urination.

Hypoglycemia

Hypoglycemia was reported in 8 subjects (1.6%) treated with QTERN. No episodes of major hypoglycemia (defined as a symptomatic episode requiring external assistance) were reported.

Genital Mycotic Infections

Genital mycotic infections were reported in 15 subjects (3%) treated with QTERN. Reported adverse reactions by frequency included vulvovaginal mycotic infection, balanoposthitis, genital fungal infection, vaginal infection, and vulvovaginitis. The majority of subjects (84.2%) who experienced genital infection adverse reactions were females.

Urinary Tract Infections

Urinary tract infections were reported in 28 subjects (5.7%) treated with QTERN. Reported adverse reactions by frequency included urinary tract infection, Escherichia urinary tract infection, prostatitis, and pyelonephritis. The majority of subjects (80.6%) who experienced urinary tract infection adverse reactions were females.

Volume Depletion

Events related to volume depletion (hypotension, dehydration, and hypovolemia) were reported in 2 subjects (0.4%) treated with QTERN.

Renal Impairment

Adverse reactions related to decreased renal function were reported in 10 subjects (2.0%) treated with QTERN. The reported adverse reactions included decreased glomerular filtration rate, renal impairment, increased blood creatinine, acute renal failure, and decreased urine output. None of the adverse reactions was reported as serious and all but one were mild to moderate in intensity. Three subjects discontinued due to decreased eGFR. Subjects with AEs of renal impairment had lower mean eGFR values at baseline of 64.4 ml/min/1.73 m² compared to 94.4 ml/min/1.73 m² in overall population treated with QTERN.

Dapagliflozin

Use of dapagliflozin was associated with increases in serum creatinine and decreases in eGFR (see Table 2). In patients with normal or mildly impaired renal function at baseline, serum creatinine and eGFR returned to baseline values at Week 24. Sustained decreases in eGFR were seen in patients with moderate renal impairment (eGFR 30 to less than 60 mL/min/1.73 m²). Elderly patients and patients with impaired renal function were more susceptible to these adverse reactions.

Table 2. Changes in Serum Creatinine and eGFR Associated with Dapagliflozin

		Pool of 12 Placebo-Controlled Studies		
		Placebo N=1393	Dapagliflozin 5 mg N=1145	Dapagliflozin 10 mg N=1193
Baseline Mean	Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.853	0.860	0.847
	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	86.0	85.3	86.7
Week 1 Change	Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	-0.003	0.029	0.041
	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	0.4	-2.9	-4.1
Week 24 Change	Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	-0.005	-0.001	0.001
	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	0.8	0.8	0.3
		Moderate Renal Impairment Study		
		Placebo N=84	Dapagliflozin 5 mg N=83	Dapagliflozin 10 mg N=85
Baseline Mean	Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	1.46	1.53	1.52
	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	45.6	44.2	43.9
Week 1 Change	Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.01	0.13	0.18
	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	0.5	-3.8	-5.5
Week 24 Change	Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.02	0.08	0.16
	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	0.03	-4.0	-7.4
Week 52 Change	Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.10	0.06	0.15
	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	-2.6	-4.2	-7.3

Laboratory Findings

Decrease in Lymphocyte Counts

Saxagliptin

A dose-related mean decrease in absolute lymphocyte count has been observed with saxagliptin. In a pool of 5 placebo-controlled studies, a mean decrease in absolute lymphocyte count of approximately 100 cells/microL relative to placebo. There was a dose-related mean decrease in absolute lymphocyte count observed with saxagliptin. The proportion of patients who were reported to have a lymphocyte count \leq 750 cells/microL was 0.5%, 1.5%, and 0.4% in the

saxagliptin 2.5 mg, 5 mg, and placebo groups, respectively. The decreases in lymphocyte count were not associated with clinically relevant adverse reactions.

The clinical significance of this decrease in lymphocyte count relative to placebo is not known. When clinically indicated, such as in settings of unusual or prolonged infection, lymphocyte count should be measured. The effect of saxagliptin on lymphocyte counts in patients with lymphocyte abnormalities (e.g., human immunodeficiency virus) is unknown.

Increase in Hematocrit

Dapagliflozin

In a pool of 13 placebo-controlled studies with dapagliflozin, increases from baseline in mean hematocrit values were observed in dapagliflozin treated patients starting at Week 1 and continuing up to Week 16, when the maximum mean difference from baseline was observed. At Week 24, the mean changes from baseline in hematocrit were -0.33% in the placebo group and 2.30% in the dapagliflozin 10 mg group. By Week 24, hematocrit values $>55\%$ were reported in 0.4% of placebo-treated patients and 1.3% of dapagliflozin 10 mg-treated patients.

Increase in Serum Inorganic Phosphorus

Dapagliflozin

In a pool of 13 placebo-controlled studies with dapagliflozin, increases from baseline in mean serum phosphorus levels were reported at Week 24 in dapagliflozin treated patients compared with placebo-treated patients (mean increase of 0.13 versus -0.04 mg/dL, respectively). Higher proportions of patients with marked laboratory abnormalities of hyperphosphatemia (≥ 5.6 mg/dL for age 17-65 years or ≥ 5.1 mg/dL for age ≥ 66 years) were reported on dapagliflozin at Week 24 (0.9% versus 1.7% for placebo and dapagliflozin 10 mg, respectively).

Increase in Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol

Patients treated with QTERN demonstrated a mean percent increase from baseline LDL-cholesterol (ranging from 2.1 to 6.9%).

Elevations in Creatine Kinase

In the pooled safety analysis, an imbalance in the number of subjects who experienced serum creatine kinase (CK) elevations $>10x$ the upper limit of normal (a marker of muscle injury/necrosis) was observed in 5 subjects (1%) treated with QTERN. The elevations were transient. Rhabdomyolysis was reported for one of those subjects for which no obvious cause was identified.

6.2 Postmarketing Experience

Additional adverse reactions have been identified during postapproval use of saxagliptin and dapagliflozin. Because the following reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is generally not possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Saxagliptin

- Hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis, angioedema, and exfoliative skin conditions [see [Contraindications \(4\)](#)]
- Pancreatitis [see [Indications and Usage \(1\)](#)]
- Severe and disabling arthralgia
- Bullous pemphigoid

Dapagliflozin

- Ketoacidosis
- Acute Kidney Injury and Impairment in Renal Function
- Urosepsis and pyelonephritis
- Necrotizing Fasciitis of the Perineum (Fournier's Gangrene)
- Rash

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

7.1 Strong Inhibitors of CYP3A4/5 Enzymes

Ketoconazole significantly increased saxagliptin exposure. Similar significant increases in plasma concentrations of saxagliptin are anticipated with other strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitors (e.g., atazanavir, clarithromycin, indinavir, itraconazole, nefazodone, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir, and telithromycin). Do not coadminister QTERN with strong cytochrome P450 3A4/5 inhibitors [see [Dosage and Administration \(2.3\)](#) and [Clinical Pharmacology \(12.3\)](#)].

7.2 Positive Urine Glucose Test

Monitoring glycemic control with urine glucose tests is not recommended in patients taking SGLT-2 inhibitors as SGLT-2 inhibitors increase urinary glucose excretion and will lead to positive urine glucose tests. Use alternative methods to monitor glycemic control.

7.3 Interference with 1,5-anhydroglucitol (1,5-AG) Assay

Monitoring glycemic control with 1,5-AG assay is not recommended as measurements of 1,5-AG are unreliable in assessing glycemic control in patients taking SGLT-2 inhibitors. Use alternative methods to monitor glycemic control.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

Based on animal data showing adverse renal effects, from dapagliflozin, QTERN is not recommended during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy.

The limited available data with QTERN or its components (dapagliflozin and saxagliptin) in pregnant women are not sufficient to determine a drug-associated risk for major birth defects or miscarriage. There are risks to the mother and fetus associated with poorly controlled diabetes in pregnancy [see [Clinical Considerations](#)].

In animal studies, adverse renal pelvic and tubular dilatations, that were not fully reversible, were observed in juvenile rats when dapagliflozin (a component of QTERN) was administered at an exposure 15-times the exposure at the 10 mg clinical dose during a period of renal development corresponding to the late second and third trimesters of human pregnancy.

No adverse developmental effects were observed when saxagliptin was administered to pregnant rats and rabbits [see [Data](#)].

The estimated background risk of major birth defects is 6 to 10% in women with pre-gestational diabetes with an HbA1c greater than 7% and has been reported to be as high as 20 to 25% in women with an HbA1c greater than 10%. The estimated background risk of miscarriage for the indicated population is unknown. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2 to 4% and 15 to 20%, respectively.

Clinical Considerations

Disease-associated maternal and/or embryo/fetal risk

Poorly controlled diabetes in pregnancy increases the maternal risk for diabetic ketoacidosis, preeclampsia, spontaneous abortions, preterm delivery, still birth and delivery complications. Poorly controlled diabetes increases the fetal risk for major birth defects, stillbirth, and macrosomia related morbidity.

Data

Animal Data

Dapagliflozin

Dapagliflozin dosed directly to juvenile rats from postnatal day (PND) 21 until PND 90 at doses of 1, 15, or 75 mg/kg/day, increased kidney weights and increased the incidence of renal pelvic and tubular dilatations at all doses. Exposure at the lowest dose was 15-times the 10 mg clinical dose, based on AUC. These outcomes occurred with drug exposure during periods of renal development in rats that correspond to the late second and third trimester of human renal development. The renal pelvic and tubular dilatations observed in juvenile animals did not fully reverse within a 1-month recovery period.

In a prenatal and postnatal development study, maternal rats were dosed from gestation day 6 through lactation day 21 at doses of 1, 15, or 75 mg/kg/day, and pups were indirectly exposed in utero and throughout lactation. Increased incidence or severity of renal pelvic dilatation was observed in adult offspring of treated dams at 75 mg/kg/day (maternal and pup dapagliflozin exposures were 1415-times and 137-times, respectively, the 10 mg clinical dose, based on AUC). Dose-related reductions in pup body weights were observed at exposures greater than or equal to 19-times the 10 mg clinical dose, based on AUC. No adverse effects on developmental endpoints were noted at 1 mg/kg/day, or approximately 19-times the 10 mg clinical dose, based on AUC.

In embryo-fetal development studies, dapagliflozin was administered to pregnant rats and rabbits during the period of organogenesis, corresponding to the first trimester of human pregnancy. No adverse developmental effects were observed in either species at exposures 1441-times the clinical dose of 10 mg, based on AUC.

Saxagliptin

In embryo-fetal development studies, saxagliptin was administered to pregnant rats and rabbits during the period of organogenesis, corresponding to the first trimester of human pregnancy. No adverse developmental effects were observed in either species at exposures 1503- and 152-times the 5 mg clinical dose in rats and rabbits, respectively, based on AUC. Saxagliptin crosses the placenta into the fetus following dosing in pregnant rats.

In a prenatal and postnatal development study, no adverse developmental effects were observed in maternal rats administered saxagliptin from gestation day 6 through lactation day 21 at exposures up to 470-times the 5 mg clinical dose, based on AUC.

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

There is no information regarding the presence of QTERN or its components (dapagliflozin and saxagliptin) in human milk, the effects on the breastfed infant, or the effects on milk production.

Saxagliptin and dapagliflozin are present in the milk of lactating rats [see [Data](#)]. Since human kidney maturation occurs in utero and during the first 2 years of life when lactational exposure may occur, there may be risk to the developing human kidney. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in a breastfed infant, advise women that use of QTERN is not recommended while breastfeeding.

Data

Dapagliflozin

Dapagliflozin was present at a milk/plasma ratio of 0.49, indicating that dapagliflozin and its metabolites are transferred into milk at a concentration that is approximately 50% of that in maternal plasma. Juvenile rats directly exposed to dapagliflozin showed a risk to the developing kidney (renal pelvic and tubular dilatations) during maturation.

Saxagliptin

Saxagliptin is secreted in the milk of lactating rats at approximately a 1:1 ratio with plasma drug concentrations.

8.4 Pediatric Use

Safety and effectiveness of QTERN in patients under 18 years of age have not been established.

8.5 Geriatric Use

Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken when using QTERN in the elderly based on renal function [see [Dosage and Administration \(2.2\)](#)].

Dapagliflozin

A total of 1424 (24%) of the 5936 dapagliflozin-treated patients were 65 years and older and 207 (3.5%) patients were 75 years and older in a pool of 21 double-blind, controlled, clinical safety and efficacy studies of dapagliflozin. After controlling for level of renal function (eGFR), in clinical studies with dapagliflozin, efficacy was similar for patients under age 65 years and those 65 years and older. In patients 65 years and older, a higher proportion of patients treated with dapagliflozin had adverse reactions related to volume depletion and renal impairment or failure compared to patients treated with placebo [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.3\)](#)].

Saxagliptin

In the seven double-blind, controlled clinical safety and efficacy trials of saxagliptin, a total of 4751 (42.0%) of the 11,301 patients randomized to saxagliptin were 65 years and over, and 1210 (10.7%) were 75 years and over. No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between subjects ≥ 65 years old and younger subjects. While this clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients, greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out.

8.6 Patients with Renal Impairment

Discontinue QTERN in patients if eGFR falls persistently below 60 mL/min/1.73 m². QTERN is contraindicated in patients with moderate to severe renal impairment (eGFR less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m²), ESRD, or on dialysis [see *Dosage and Administration (2.2)*, *Contraindications (4)*, and *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*].

8.7 Patients with Hepatic Impairment

QTERN may be used in patients with hepatic impairment. However, the benefit-risk for the use of QTERN in patients with severe hepatic impairment should be individually assessed since safety and efficacy have not been studied in this population [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

10 OVERDOSAGE

There is no information available on overdose with QTERN. In the event of an overdose, contact the Poison Control Center. Appropriate supportive treatment should be initiated as dictated by the patient's clinical status. Saxagliptin and its major metabolite can be removed by hemodialysis (23% of dose over 4 hours). The removal of dapagliflozin by hemodialysis has not been studied.

11 DESCRIPTION

QTERN

QTERN tablets for oral use contain dapagliflozin and saxagliptin.

Each film-coated tablet of QTERN for oral administration contains 10 mg dapagliflozin (equivalent to 12.3 mg dapagliflozin propanediol) and 5 mg saxagliptin (equivalent to 5.95 mg saxagliptin hydrochloride) [see *Dosage Forms and Strengths (3)*].

Inactive ingredients: The product contains anhydrous lactose, croscarmellose sodium, iron oxides, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol, silicon dioxide, talc, and titanium dioxide.

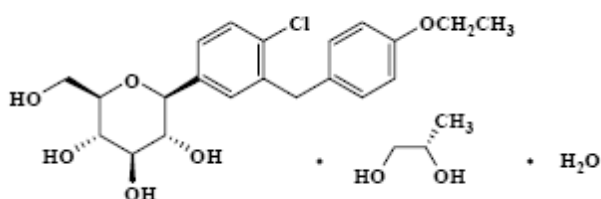
Dapagliflozin

Dapagliflozin is an active inhibitor of sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT-2).

Dapagliflozin propanediol is described chemically as D-glucitol, 1,5-anhydro-1-C-[4-chloro-3-[(4-ethoxyphenyl)methyl]phenyl]-, (1*S*)-, compounded with (2*S*)-1,2-propanediol, hydrate (1:1:1).

Empirical formula: $C_{21}H_{25}ClO_6 \cdot C_3H_8O_2 \cdot H_2O$. Molecular weight: 502.98.

Structural formula:



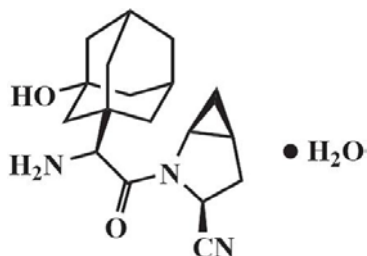
Saxagliptin

Saxagliptin is an active inhibitor of the dipeptidyl-peptidase-4 (DPP-4) enzyme.

Saxagliptin is described chemically as (1*S*,3*S*,5*S*)-2-[(2*S*)-2-amino-2-(3-hydroxytricyclo [3.3.1.1] dec-1-yl)acetyl]-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-3-carbonitrile, monohydrate or (1*S*,3*S*,5*S*)-2-[(2*S*)-2-amino-2-(3-hydroxy-1-adamantan-1-yl)acetyl]-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-3-carbonitrile hydrate.

Empirical formula: $C_{18}H_{25}N_3O_2 \cdot H_2O$. Molecular weight: 333.43.

Structural formula:



Saxagliptin monohydrate is a white to light yellow or light brown, non-hygroscopic, crystalline powder. It is sparingly soluble in water at $24^\circ C \pm 3^\circ C$, slightly soluble in ethyl acetate, and soluble in methanol, ethanol, isopropyl alcohol, acetonitrile, acetone, and polyethylene glycol 400 (PEG 400).

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

QTERN combines two antihyperglycemic agents to improve glycemic control in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: dapagliflozin, a sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT-2) inhibitor, and saxagliptin, a dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitor.

Dapagliflozin

Sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT-2), expressed in the proximal renal tubules, is responsible for the majority of the reabsorption of filtered glucose from the tubular lumen. Dapagliflozin is an inhibitor of SGLT-2. By inhibiting SGLT-2, dapagliflozin reduces reabsorption of filtered glucose and lowers the renal threshold for glucose, and thereby increases urinary glucose excretion.

Saxagliptin

Increased concentrations of the incretin hormones such as glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) and glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) are released into the bloodstream from the small intestine in response to meals. These hormones cause insulin release from the pancreatic beta cells in a glucose-dependent manner but are inactivated by the DPP-4 enzyme within minutes. GLP-1 also lowers glucagon secretion from pancreatic alpha cells, reducing hepatic glucose production. In patients with type 2 diabetes, concentrations of GLP-1 are reduced but the insulin response to GLP-1 is preserved. Saxagliptin is a competitive DPP-4 inhibitor that slows the inactivation of the incretin hormones, thereby increasing their bloodstream concentrations and reducing fasting and postprandial glucose concentrations in a glucose-dependent manner in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus.

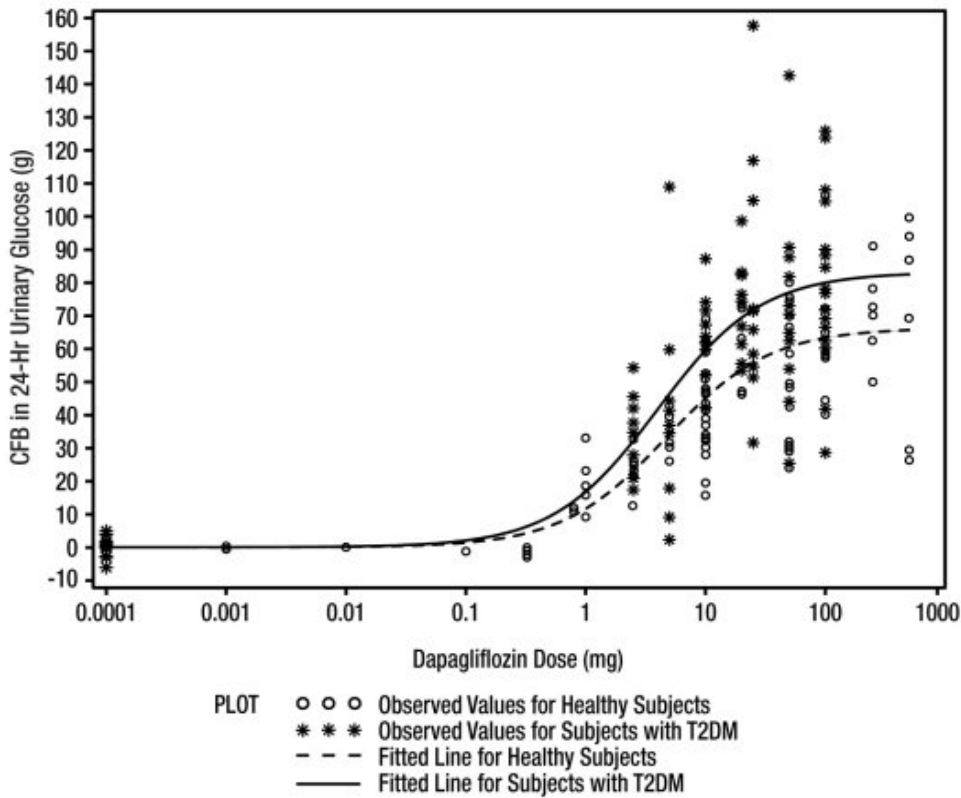
12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Dapagliflozin

Increases in the amount of glucose excreted in the urine were observed in healthy subjects and in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus following the administration of dapagliflozin.

Dapagliflozin dose of 5 or 10 mg per day in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus for 12 weeks resulted in excretion of approximately 70 grams of glucose in the urine per day at Week 12. A near maximum glucose excretion was observed at the dapagliflozin daily dose of 20 mg. This urinary glucose excretion with dapagliflozin also results in increases in urinary volume [*see Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].

Figure 1. Scatter Plot and Fitted Line of Change from Baseline in 24-Hour Urinary Glucose Amount versus Dapagliflozin Dose in Healthy Subjects and Subjects with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) (Semi-Log Plot)



Saxagliptin

In patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus, administration of saxagliptin inhibits DPP-4 enzyme activity for a 24-hour period. After an oral glucose load or a meal, this DPP-4 inhibition resulted in a 2- to 3-fold increase in circulating levels of active GLP-1 and GIP, decreased glucagon concentrations, and increased glucose-dependent insulin secretion from pancreatic beta cells. The rise in insulin and decrease in glucagon were associated with lower fasting glucose concentrations and reduced glucose excursion following an oral glucose load or a meal.

Cardiac Electrophysiology

Dapagliflozin

Dapagliflozin was not associated with clinically meaningful prolongation of QTc interval at daily doses up to 150 mg (15 times the recommended maximum dose) in a study of healthy subjects. In addition, no clinically meaningful effect on QTc interval was observed following single doses

of up to 500 mg (50 times the recommended maximum daily dose) of dapagliflozin in healthy subjects.

Saxagliptin

In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, 4-way crossover, active comparator study using moxifloxacin in 40 healthy subjects, saxagliptin was not associated with clinically meaningful prolongation of the QTc interval or heart rate at daily doses up to 40 mg (8 times the recommended maximum daily dose).

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Overall, the pharmacokinetics of dapagliflozin and saxagliptin were not affected in a clinically relevant manner when administered as QTERN.

Saxagliptin

The pharmacokinetics of saxagliptin and its active metabolite, 5-hydroxy saxagliptin, were similar in healthy subjects and in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. The C_{\max} and AUC values of saxagliptin and its active metabolite increased proportionally in the 2.5 to 400 mg dose range. Following a 5 mg single oral dose of saxagliptin to healthy subjects, the mean plasma AUC values for saxagliptin and its active metabolite were 78 ng•h/mL and 214 ng•h/mL, respectively. The corresponding plasma C_{\max} values were 24 ng/mL and 47 ng/mL, respectively. The average variability (%CV) for AUC and C_{\max} for both saxagliptin and its active metabolite was less than 25%.

No appreciable accumulation of either saxagliptin or its active metabolite was observed with repeated once-daily dosing at any dose level. No dose- and time-dependence were observed in the clearance of saxagliptin and its active metabolite over 14 days of once-daily dosing with saxagliptin at doses ranging from 2.5 to 400 mg.

Absorption

Dapagliflozin

Following oral administration of dapagliflozin, the maximum plasma concentration (C_{\max}) is usually attained within 2 hours under fasting state. The C_{\max} and AUC values increase dose proportionally with increase in dapagliflozin dose in the therapeutic dose range. The absolute oral bioavailability of dapagliflozin following the administration of a 10 mg dose is 78%. Administration of dapagliflozin with a high-fat meal decreases its C_{\max} by up to 50% and prolongs T_{\max} by approximately 1 hour, but does not alter AUC as compared with the fasted state.

Saxagliptin

The median time to maximum concentration (T_{\max}) following the 5 mg once daily dose was 2 hours for saxagliptin and 4 hours for its active metabolite. Administration with a high-fat meal resulted in an increase in T_{\max} of saxagliptin by approximately 20 minutes as compared to fasted conditions. There was a 27% increase in the AUC of saxagliptin when given with a meal as compared to fasted conditions.

Distribution

Dapagliflozin

Dapagliflozin is approximately 91% protein bound. Protein binding is not altered in patients with renal or hepatic impairment.

Saxagliptin

The in vitro protein binding of saxagliptin and its active metabolite in human serum is negligible. Therefore, changes in blood protein levels in various disease states (e.g., renal or hepatic impairment) are not expected to alter the disposition of saxagliptin.

Metabolism

Dapagliflozin

The metabolism of dapagliflozin is primarily mediated by UGT1A9; CYP-mediated metabolism is a minor clearance pathway in humans. Dapagliflozin is extensively metabolized, primarily to yield dapagliflozin 3-O-glucuronide, which is an inactive metabolite. Dapagliflozin 3-O-glucuronide accounted for 61% of a 50 mg [^{14}C]-dapagliflozin dose and is the predominant drug-related component in human plasma.

Saxagliptin

The metabolism of saxagliptin is primarily mediated by cytochrome P450 3A4/5 (CYP3A4/5). The major metabolite of saxagliptin is also a DPP-4 inhibitor, which is one-half as potent as saxagliptin. Therefore, strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitors and inducers will alter the pharmacokinetics of saxagliptin and its active metabolite [*see Drug Interactions (7.1)*].

Elimination

Dapagliflozin

Dapagliflozin and related metabolites are primarily eliminated via the renal pathway. Following a single 50 mg dose of [^{14}C]-dapagliflozin, 75% and 21% total radioactivity is excreted in urine and feces, respectively. In urine, less than 2% of the dose is excreted as parent drug. In feces, approximately 15% of the dose is excreted as parent drug. The mean plasma terminal

half-life ($t_{1/2}$) for dapagliflozin is approximately 12.9 hours following a single oral dose of dapagliflozin 10 mg.

Saxagliptin

Saxagliptin is eliminated by both renal and hepatic pathways. Following a single 50 mg dose of [^{14}C]-saxagliptin, 24%, 36%, and 75% of the dose was excreted in the urine as saxagliptin, its active metabolite, and total radioactivity, respectively. The average renal clearance of saxagliptin (~230 mL/min) was greater than the average estimated glomerular filtration rate (~120 mL/min), suggesting some active renal excretion. A total of 22% of the administered radioactivity was recovered in feces representing the fraction of the saxagliptin dose excreted in bile and/or unabsorbed drug from the gastrointestinal tract. Following a single oral dose of saxagliptin 5 mg to healthy subjects, the mean plasma terminal half-life ($t_{1/2}$) for saxagliptin and its active metabolite was 2.5 and 3.1 hours, respectively.

Specific Populations

Effects of Age, Gender, Race and Body Weight on Pharmacokinetics

Based on a population pharmacokinetic analysis, age, gender, race, and body weight do not have a clinically meaningful effect on the pharmacokinetics of saxagliptin and dapagliflozin.

Renal Impairment

Dapagliflozin

At steady state (20 mg once-daily dapagliflozin for 7 days), patients with type 2 diabetes with mild, moderate, or severe renal impairment (as determined by eGFR) had geometric mean systemic exposures of dapagliflozin that were 45%, 2.04-fold, and 3.03-fold higher, respectively, as compared to patients with type 2 diabetes with normal renal function. Higher systemic exposure of dapagliflozin in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus with renal impairment did not result in a correspondingly higher 24-hour urinary glucose excretion. The steady-state 24-hour urinary glucose excretion in patients with type 2 diabetes and mild, moderate, and severe renal impairment was 42%, 80%, and 90% lower, respectively, than patients with type 2 diabetes with normal renal function. The impact of hemodialysis on dapagliflozin exposure is not known [*see Dosage and Administration (2.2), Warnings and Precautions (5.5), and Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

Saxagliptin

A single-dose, open-label study was conducted to evaluate the pharmacokinetics of saxagliptin (10 mg dose) in subjects with varying degrees of chronic renal impairment compared to subjects with normal renal function. The 10 mg dosage is not an approved dosage. The degree of renal impairment did not affect C_{max} of saxagliptin or its metabolite. In subjects with moderate renal

impairment (eGFR 30 to less than 45 mL/min/1.73 m²), severe renal impairment (eGFR 15 to less than 30 mL/min/1.73 m²) and ESRD patient on hemodialysis, the AUC values of saxagliptin or its active metabolite were >2 fold higher than AUC values in subjects with normal renal function.

Hepatic Impairment

Dapagliflozin

In subjects with mild and moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh classes A and B), mean C_{max} and AUC of dapagliflozin were up to 12% and 36% higher, respectively, as compared to healthy matched control subjects following single-dose administration of 10 mg dapagliflozin. These differences were not considered to be clinically meaningful. In patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh class C), mean C_{max} and AUC of dapagliflozin were up to 40% and 67% higher, respectively, as compared to healthy matched controls [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.7)*].

Saxagliptin

In subjects with hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh classes A, B, and C), mean C_{max} and AUC of saxagliptin were up to 8% and 77% higher, respectively, compared to healthy matched controls following administration of a single 10 mg dose of saxagliptin. The 10 mg dosage is not an approved dosage. The corresponding C_{max} and AUC of the active metabolite were up to 59% and 33% lower, respectively, compared to healthy matched controls. These differences are not considered to be clinically meaningful.

Pediatric

Pharmacokinetics of QTERN in the pediatric population has not been studied. Studies characterizing the pharmacokinetics of dapagliflozin or saxagliptin after administration of QTERN in pediatric patients have not been performed.

Drug Interactions

Saxagliptin and Dapagliflozin

The lack of pharmacokinetic interaction between saxagliptin and dapagliflozin was demonstrated in a drug-drug interaction study between saxagliptin and dapagliflozin.

In Vitro Assessment of Drug Interactions

Dapagliflozin

The metabolism of dapagliflozin is primarily via glucuronide conjugation mediated by UDP glucuronosyltransferase 1A9 (UGT1A9).

In in vitro studies, dapagliflozin and dapagliflozin 3-O-glucuronide neither inhibited CYP 1A2, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, or 3A4, nor induced CYP 1A2, 2B6, or 3A4. Dapagliflozin is a weak substrate of the P-glycoprotein (P-gp) active transporter, and dapagliflozin 3-O-glucuronide is a substrate for the OAT3 active transporter. Dapagliflozin or dapagliflozin 3-O-glucuronide did not meaningfully inhibit P-gp, OCT2, OAT1, or OAT3 active transporters. Overall, dapagliflozin is unlikely to affect the pharmacokinetics of concurrently administered medications that are P-gp, OCT2, OAT1, or OAT3 substrates.

Effects of Other Drugs on Dapagliflozin

Table 3 shows the effect of coadministered drugs on the pharmacokinetics of dapagliflozin.

Table 3. Effects of Coadministered Drugs on Dapagliflozin Systemic Exposure

Coadministered Drug (Dose Regimen)*	Dapagliflozin (Dose Regimen)*	Dapagliflozin	
		Change [†] in AUC [‡]	Change [†] in C _{max}
No dosing adjustments required for the following:			
Oral Antidiabetic Agents			
Metformin (1000 mg)	20 mg	0%	↓7%
Pioglitazone (45 mg)	50 mg	↑3%	↑9%
Sitagliptin (100 mg)	20 mg	↑8%	↓4%
Glimepiride (4 mg)	20 mg	↓1%	↑1%
Voglibose (0.2 mg three times daily)	10 mg	↑1%	↑4%
Saxagliptin (5 mg single dose)	10 mg (single dose)	↓2%	↓6%
Cardiovascular Agents			
Hydrochlorothiazide (25 mg)	50 mg	↑7%	↓1%
Bumetanide (1 mg)	10 mg once daily for 7 days	↑5%	↑8%
Valsartan (320 mg)	20 mg	↑2%	↓12%
Simvastatin (40 mg)	20 mg	↓1%	↓2%
Anti-infective Agent			
Rifampin (600 mg once daily for 6 days)	10 mg	↓22%	↓7%

Coadministered Drug (Dose Regimen)*	Dapagliflozin (Dose Regimen)*	Dapagliflozin	
		Change [†] in AUC [‡]	Change [†] in C _{max}
No dosing adjustments required for the following:			
Non-Steroidal Anti-inflammatory Agent			
Mefenamic Acid (loading dose of 500 mg followed by 14 doses of 250 mg every 6 hours)	10 mg	↑51%	↑13%

* Single dose unless otherwise noted.

† Percent change (with/without coadministered drug and no change=0%); ↑ and ↓ indicate the exposure increase and decrease, respectively.

‡ AUC=AUC(INF) for drugs given as single dose and AUC=AUC(TAU) for drugs given in multiple doses.

Effects of Dapagliflozin on Other Drugs

Table 4 shows the effect of dapagliflozin on other coadministered drugs. Dapagliflozin did not meaningfully affect the pharmacokinetics of the coadministered drugs.

Table 4. Effects of Dapagliflozin on the Systemic Exposures of Coadministered Drugs

Coadministered Drug (Dose Regimen)*	Dapagliflozin (Dose Regimen)*	Coadministered Drug	
		Change [†] in AUC [‡]	Change [†] in C _{max}
No dosing adjustments required for the following:			
Oral Antidiabetic Agents			
Metformin (1000 mg)	20 mg	0%	↓5%
Pioglitazone (45 mg)	50 mg	0%	↓7%
Sitagliptin (100 mg)	20 mg	↑1%	↓12%
Glimepiride (4 mg)	20 mg	↑13%	↑4%
Cardiovascular Agents			
Hydrochlorothiazide (25 mg)	50 mg	↓1%	↓5%
Bumetanide (1 mg)	10 mg once daily for 7 days	↑13%	↑13%
Valsartan (320 mg)	20 mg	↑4%	↓7%
Simvastatin (40 mg)	20 mg	↑19%	↓7%
Digoxin (0.25 mg)	20 mg loading dose then 10 mg	0%	↓1%

Coadministered Drug (Dose Regimen)*	Dapagliflozin (Dose Regimen)*	Coadministered Drug	
		Change [†] in AUC [‡]	Change [†] in C _{max}
	once daily for 7 days		
Warfarin (25 mg) S-warfarin R-warfarin	20 mg loading dose then 10 mg once daily for 7 days	↑6% ↑7%	↑3% ↑5%

* Single dose unless otherwise noted.

† Percent change (with/without coadministered drug and no change=0%); ↑ and ↓ indicate the exposure increase and decrease, respectively.

‡ AUC=AUC(INF) for drugs given as single dose and AUC=AUC(TAU) for drugs given in multiple doses.

In Vitro Assessment of Drug Interactions

Saxagliptin

The metabolism of saxagliptin is primarily mediated by CYP3A4/5.

In in vitro studies, saxagliptin and its active metabolite did not inhibit CYP1A2, 2A6, 2B6, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, 2E1, or 3A4, or induce CYP1A2, 2B6, 2C9, or 3A4. Therefore, saxagliptin is not expected to alter the metabolic clearance of coadministered drugs that are metabolized by these enzymes. Saxagliptin is a P-glycoprotein (P-gp) substrate, but is not a significant inhibitor or inducer of P-gp.

In Vivo Assessment of Drug Interactions

Effects of Other Drugs on Saxagliptin and its Active Metabolite, 5-hydroxy Saxagliptin

Table 5. Effect of Coadministered Drugs on Systemic Exposures of Saxagliptin and its Active Metabolite, 5-hydroxy Saxagliptin

Co-administered Drug	Dosage of Coadministered Drug*	Dosage of Saxagliptin*	Saxagliptin		
				Change [†] in AUC [‡]	Change [†] in C _{max}
No dosing adjustments required for the following:					
Metformin	1000 mg	100 mg	saxagliptin	↓2%	↓21%
			5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↓1%	↓12%
Glyburide	5 mg	10 mg	saxagliptin	↓2%	↑8%
			5-hydroxy saxagliptin	ND	ND

Co-administered Drug	Dosage of Coadministered Drug*	Dosage of Saxagliptin*	Saxagliptin		
				Change [†] in AUC [‡]	Change [†] in C _{max}
Pioglitazone [§]	45 mg QD for 10 days	10 mg QD for 5 days	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑11% ND	↑11% ND
Dapagliflozin	10 mg single dose	5 mg single dose	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↓1% ↑9%	↓7% ↑6%
Digoxin	0.25 mg q6h first day followed by q12h second day followed by QD for 5 days	10 mg QD for 7 days	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑5% ↑6%	↓1% ↑2%
Simvastatin	40 mg QD for 8 days	10 mg QD for 4 days	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑12% ↑2%	↑21% ↑8%
Diltiazem	360 mg LA QD for 9 days	10 mg	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑109% ↓34%	↑63% ↓43%
Rifampin [¶]	600 mg QD for 6 days	5 mg	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↓76% ↑3%	↓53% ↑39%
Omeprazole	40 mg QD for 5 days	10 mg	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑13% ND	↓2% ND
Aluminum hydroxide + magnesium hydroxide + simethicone	aluminum hydroxide: 2400 mg magnesium hydroxide: 2400 mg simethicone: 240 mg	10 mg	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↓3% ND	↓26% ND
Famotidine	40 mg	10 mg	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑3% ND	↑14% ND
Saxagliptin coadministered with strong CYP3A4/5 inhibitors [see <i>Drug Interactions (7.1)</i> and <i>Dosage and Administration (2.3)</i>]:					
Ketoconazole	200 mg BID for 9 days	100 mg	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑145% ↓88%	↑62% ↓95%
Ketoconazole	200 mg BID for 7 days	20 mg	saxagliptin 5-hydroxy saxagliptin	↑267% ND	↑144% ND

ND=not determined; QD=once daily; q6h=every 6 hours; q12h=every 12 hours; BID=twice daily; LA=long acting.

* Single dose unless otherwise noted.

† Percent change (with/without coadministered drug and no change=0%); ↑ and ↓ indicate the exposure increase and decrease, respectively.

‡ AUC=AUC(INF) for drugs given as single dose and AUC=AUC(TAU) for drugs given in multiple doses.

§ Results exclude one subject.

¶ The plasma dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) activity inhibition over a 24-hour dose interval was not affected by rifampin.

Effects of Saxagliptin on Other Drugs

Table 6. Effect of Saxagliptin on Systemic Exposures of Coadministered Drugs

Co-administered Drug	Dosage of Coadministered Drug*	Dosage of Saxagliptin*	Coadministered Drug		
				Change [†] in AUC [‡]	Change [†] in C _{max}
No dosing adjustments required for the following:					
Metformin	1000 mg	100 mg	metformin	↑20%	↑9%
Glyburide	5 mg	10 mg	glyburide	↑6%	↑16%
Pioglitazone [§]	45 mg QD for 10 days	10 mg QD for 5 days	pioglitazone hydroxy-pioglitazone	↑8% ND	↑14% ND
Digoxin	0.25 mg q6h first day followed by q12h second day followed by QD for 5 days	10 mg QD for 7 days	digoxin	↑6%	↑9%
Simvastatin	40 mg QD for 8 days	10 mg QD for 4 days	simvastatin simvastatin acid	↑4% ↑16%	↓12% 0%
Diltiazem	360 mg LA QD for 9 days	10 mg	diltiazem	↑10%	↑16%
Ketoconazole	200 mg BID for 9 days	100 mg	ketoconazole	↓13%	↓16%
Ethinyl estradiol and Norgestimate	ethinyl estradiol 0.035 mg and norgestimate 0.250 mg for 21 days	5 mg QD for 21 days	ethinyl estradiol norelgestromin norgestrel	↑7% ↑10% ↑13%	↓2% ↑9% ↑17%

ND=not determined; QD=once daily; q6h=every 6 hours; q12h=every 12 hours; BID=twice daily; LA=long acting.

* Single dose unless otherwise noted.

† Percent change (with/without coadministered drug and no change=0%); ↑ and ↓ indicate the exposure increase and decrease, respectively.

‡ AUC=AUC(INF) for drugs given as single dose and AUC=AUC(TAU) for drugs given in multiple doses.

§ Results include all subjects.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

QTERN

No animal studies have been conducted with the combined products in QTERN to evaluate carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, or impairment of fertility. The following data are based on the findings in the studies with dapagliflozin and saxagliptin individually.

Dapagliflozin

Carcinogenesis

Carcinogenicity was evaluated in 2-year studies conducted in CD-1 mice and Sprague-Dawley rats. Dapagliflozin did not increase the incidence of tumors in mice dosed orally at 5, 15, and 40 mg/kg/day in males and 2, 10, and 20 mg/kg/day in females (exposure less than or equal to 72-times (males) and 105-times (females) the 10 mg/day clinical dose, based on AUC). Dapagliflozin did not increase the incidence of tumors in rats (both males and females) dosed orally at 0.5, 2, and 10 mg/kg/day (exposure less than or equal to 131-times (males) and 186-times (females) the clinical dose of 10 mg/day, based on AUC).

Mutagenesis

Dapagliflozin was not mutagenic with or without metabolic activation in the Ames assay. Dapagliflozin was mutagenic in a series of in vitro clastogenicity assays at concentrations greater than or equal to 100 micrograms per mL, but not without metabolic activation. Dapagliflozin was not mutagenic or clastogenic in a series of in vivo studies evaluating micronuclei or DNA repair in rats at exposure multiples greater than 2100-times the clinical dose.

Impairment of Fertility

Dapagliflozin had no effects on the ability of rats to mate and sire, maintain a litter, or early embryonic development at exposure multiples less than or equal to 1708- and 998-times the maximum recommended human doses of 10 mg/day (based on AUC) in males and females, respectively.

Saxagliptin

Carcinogenesis

Carcinogenicity was evaluated in 2-year studies conducted in CD-1 mice and Sprague-Dawley rats. Saxagliptin did not increase the incidence of tumors in mice dosed orally at 50, 250, and 600 mg/kg up to 870-times (males) and 1165-times (females) the 5 mg/day clinical dose, based on AUC. Saxagliptin did not increase the incidence of tumors in rats dosed orally at 25, 75, 150,

and 300 mg/kg up to 355-times (males) and 2217-times (females) the 5 mg/day clinical dose, based on AUC.

Mutagenesis

Saxagliptin was not mutagenic or clastogenic in a battery of genotoxicity tests (Ames bacterial mutagenesis, human and rat lymphocyte cytogenetics, rat bone marrow micronucleus and DNA repair assays). The active metabolite of saxagliptin was not mutagenic in an Ames bacterial assay.

Impairment of Fertility

Saxagliptin administered to rats had no effect on fertility or the ability to maintain a litter at exposures up to 603-times and 776-times the 5 mg clinical dose in males and females, based on AUC.

13.2 Animal Toxicology and/or Pharmacology

Saxagliptin

Saxagliptin produced adverse skin changes in the extremities of cynomolgus monkeys (scabs and/or ulceration of tail, digits, scrotum, and/or nose). Skin lesions were reversible within exposure approximately 20-times the 5 mg clinical dose, but in some cases were irreversible and necrotizing at higher exposures. Adverse skin changes were not observed at exposures similar to (1- to 3-times) the 5 mg clinical dose. Clinical correlates to skin lesions in monkeys have not been observed in human clinical trials of saxagliptin.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Add-on Therapy with Saxagliptin in Patients on Dapagliflozin plus Metformin

A total of 315 patients with type 2 diabetes participated in this 24-week randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of saxagliptin added to dapagliflozin and metformin in patients with a baseline of HbA1c $\geq 7\%$ to $\leq 10.5\%$. The mean age of these subjects was 54.6 years, 1.6% were 75 years or older and 52.7% were female. The population was 87.9% White, 6.3% Black or African American, 4.1% Asian, and 1.6% Other race. At baseline the population had diabetes for an average of 7.7 years and a mean HbA1c of 7.9%. The mean eGFR at baseline was 93.4 mL/min/1.73 m². Patients were required to be on a stable dose of metformin (≥ 1500 mg per day) for at least 8 weeks prior to enrollment. Eligible subjects who completed the screening period entered the lead-in treatment period, which included 16 weeks of open-label metformin and 10 mg dapagliflozin treatment. Following the lead-in period, eligible patients were randomized to 5 mg saxagliptin (N=153) or placebo (N=162).

The group treated with add-on saxagliptin had statistically significant greater reductions in HbA1c from baseline versus the group treated with placebo (see Table 7).

Table 7. HbA1c Change from Baseline at Week 24 in a Placebo-Controlled Trial of Saxagliptin as Add-on to Dapagliflozin and Metformin*

Efficacy parameter	Saxagliptin 5 mg (N=153) [†]	Placebo (N=162) [‡]
	In combination with Dapagliflozin and Metformin	
HbA1c (%) at week 24[‡]		
Baseline (mean)	8.0	7.9
Change from baseline (adjusted mean [§])	-0.5	-0.2
95% Confidence Interval	(-0.6, -0.4)	(-0.3, -0.1)
Difference from placebo (adjusted mean)	-0.4 [¶]	
95% Confidence Interval	(-0.5, -0.2)	

* There were 6.5% (n=10) of randomized subjects in the saxagliptin arm and 3.1% (n=5) in the placebo arm for whom change from baseline HbA1c data was missing at week 24. Of the subjects who discontinued study medication early, 9.1% (1 of 11) in the saxagliptin arm and 16.7% (1 of 6) in the placebo arm had HbA1c measured at week 24.

[†] N is the number of randomized and treated patients.

[‡] Analysis of Covariance including all post-baseline data regardless of rescue or treatment discontinuation. Model estimates calculated using multiple imputation to model washout of the treatment effect using placebo data for all subjects having missing week 24 data.

[§] Least squares mean adjusted for baseline value.

[¶] p-value <0.0001.

The known proportion of patients achieving HbA1c <7% at Week 24 was 35.3% in the saxagliptin treated group compared to 23.1% in the placebo treated group.

14.2 Cardiovascular Safety Trial

The cardiovascular risk of saxagliptin was evaluated in SAVOR (Saxagliptin Assessment of Vascular Outcomes Recorded in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus - Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction), a multicenter, multinational, randomized, double-blind trial comparing saxagliptin (N=8280) to placebo (N=8212), in adult patients with type 2 diabetes at high risk for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. Of the randomized study subjects, 97.5% completed the trial, and the median duration of follow-up was approximately 2 years.

Subjects were at least 40 years of age, had HbA1c ≥6.5%, and multiple risk factors (21% of randomized subjects) for cardiovascular disease (age ≥55 years for men and ≥60 years for women plus at least one additional risk factor of dyslipidemia, hypertension, or current cigarette smoking) or established (79% of the randomized subjects) cardiovascular disease defined as a

history of ischemic heart disease, peripheral vascular disease, or ischemic stroke. Overall, the use of diabetes medications was balanced across treatment groups (metformin 69%, insulin 41%, sulfonylureas 40%, and TZDs 6%). The use of cardiovascular disease medications was also balanced (angiotensin-converting enzyme [ACE] inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers [ARBs] 79%, statins 78%, aspirin 75%, beta-blockers 62%, and non-aspirin antiplatelet medications 24%).

The majority of subjects were male (67%) and Caucasian (75%) with a mean age of 65 years. Approximately 16% of the population had moderate (eGFR ≥ 30 to ≤ 50 mL/min/1.73 m²) to severe (eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73 m²) renal impairment, and 13% had a prior history of heart failure. Subjects had a median duration of type 2 diabetes mellitus of approximately 10 years and a mean baseline HbA1c level of 8.0%.

The primary analysis in SAVOR was time to first occurrence of a Major Adverse Cardiac Event (MACE). A major adverse cardiac event in SAVOR was defined as a cardiovascular death or a nonfatal myocardial infarction (MI) or a nonfatal ischemic stroke. The incidence rate of MACE was similar in both treatment arms: 3.8 MACE per 100 patient-years on placebo vs. 3.8 MACE per 100 patient-years on saxagliptin with an estimated HR: 1.0; 95.1% CI: (0.89, 1.12). The upper bound of this confidence interval, 1.12, excluded a risk margin larger than 1.3.

Vital status was obtained for 99% of subjects in the trial. There were 798 deaths in the SAVOR trial. Numerically more patients (5.1%) died in the saxagliptin group than in the placebo group (4.6%). The risk of deaths from all-cause mortality was not statistically different between the treatment groups (HR: 1.11; 95.1% CI: 0.96, 1.27).

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

How Supplied

QTERN[®] (dapagliflozin and saxagliptin) tablets for oral use are available in packages as listed:

Tablet Strength	Film-Coated Tablet Color / Shape	Tablet Markings	Pack Size	NDC Code
10 mg dapagliflozin / 5 mg saxagliptin	Light brown to brown, biconvex, round	“1122” printed on both sides of the tablet, in blue ink	Bottles of 30	0310-6780-30
			Bottles of 90	0310-6780-90
			Bottles of 500	0310-6780-50

Storage and Handling

Store at 20°C to 25°C (68°F to 77°F); excursions permitted to 15°C to 30°C (59°F to 86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature].

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling.

Pancreatitis [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]

- Inform patients that acute pancreatitis has been reported during postmarketing use of saxagliptin. Inform patients that persistent severe abdominal pain, sometimes radiating to the back, which may or may not be accompanied by vomiting, is the hallmark symptom of acute pancreatitis.
- Instruct patients to promptly discontinue QTERN and contact their healthcare provider if persistent severe abdominal pain occurs.

Heart Failure [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]

- Inform patients of the signs and symptoms of heart failure. Instruct patients to contact their healthcare provider as soon as possible if they experience symptoms of heart failure, including increasing shortness of breath, rapid increase in weight or swelling of the feet.

Hypotension [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]

- Inform patients that symptomatic hypotension may occur with QTERN and advise them to contact their healthcare provider if they experience such symptoms. Inform patients that dehydration may increase the risk for hypotension, and to have adequate fluid intake.

Ketoacidosis [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]

- Inform patients that ketoacidosis is a serious life-threatening condition. Cases of ketoacidosis have been reported during use of dapagliflozin. Instruct patients to check ketones (when possible) if symptoms consistent with ketoacidosis occur even if blood glucose is not elevated. If symptoms of ketoacidosis (including nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, tiredness and labored breathing) occur, instruct patients to discontinue QTERN and seek medical advice immediately.

Acute Kidney Injury [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]

- Inform patients that acute kidney injury has been reported during use of dapagliflozin. Advise patients to seek medical advice immediately if they have reduced oral intake (due to acute illness or fasting) or increased fluid losses (due to vomiting, diarrhea, or excessive heat exposure), as it may be appropriate to temporarily discontinue QTERN use in those settings.

Serious Urinary Tract Infections [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.6\)](#)]

- Inform patients of the potential for urinary tract infections, which may be serious. Inform them of the symptoms of urinary tract infections and advise them to seek medical advice if symptoms occur.

Necrotizing Fasciitis of the Perineum (Fournier's Gangrene) [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.8\)](#)]

- Inform patients that necrotizing infections of the perineum (Fournier's gangrene) have occurred with dapagliflozin, a component of QTERN. Counsel patients to promptly seek medical attention if they develop pain or tenderness, redness, or swelling of the genitals or the area from the genitals back to the rectum, along with a fever above 100.4°F or malaise.

Hypersensitivity Reactions [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.9\)](#)]

- Inform patients that serious hypersensitivity reactions (e.g., anaphylaxis, angioedema, urticaria, and exfoliative skin conditions) have been reported with dapagliflozin and saxagliptin, components of QTERN. Symptoms of these allergic reactions include: rash, skin flaking or peeling, urticaria, swelling of the skin, or swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and throat that may cause difficulty in breathing or swallowing.
- Advise patients to immediately report any signs or symptoms suggesting allergic reaction, angioedema or exfoliative skin conditions, and stop taking QTERN and seek medical advice promptly.

Genital Mycotic Infections in Females (e.g., Vulvovaginitis) [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.10\)](#)]

- Inform female patients that vaginal yeast infections may occur and provide them with information on the signs and symptoms of vaginal yeast infections. Advise them of treatment options and when to seek medical advice.

Genital Mycotic Infections in Males (e.g., Balanitis) [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.10\)](#)]

- Inform male patients that yeast infections of the penis (e.g., balanitis or balanoposthitis) may occur, especially in patients with prior history. Provide them with information on the signs and symptoms of balanitis and balanoposthitis (rash or redness of the glans or foreskin of the penis). Advise them of treatment options and when to seek medical advice.

Bladder Cancer [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*]

- Inform patients to promptly report any signs of macroscopic hematuria or other symptoms potentially related to bladder cancer.

Severe and Disabling Arthralgia [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.13)*]

- Inform patients that severe and disabling joint pain may occur with this class of drugs. The time to onset of symptoms can range from one day to years. Instruct patients to seek medical advice if severe joint pain occurs.

Bullous Pemphigoid [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.14)*]

- Inform patients that bullous pemphigoid may occur with QTERN. Instruct patients to seek medical advice if blisters or erosions occur.

Pregnancy and Lactating Mothers [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.1), (8.2)*]

- Advise pregnant patients of the potential risk to a fetus with treatment with QTERN. Instruct patients to immediately inform their healthcare provider if pregnant or planning to become pregnant. Advise patients that use of QTERN is not recommended while breastfeeding.

Laboratory Tests

- Inform patients that due to its mechanism of action, patients taking QTERN will test positive for glucose in their urine.

Missed Dose

- Patients should be informed that if they miss a dose of QTERN they should take the next dose as prescribed, unless otherwise instructed by their healthcare provider. Patients should be instructed not to take an extra dose the next day.

Distributed by:

AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP
Wilmington, DE 19850

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MEDICATION GUIDE

QTERN® (CUE-turn) (dapagliflozin and saxagliptin) tablets, for oral use

What is the most important information I should know about QTERN?

Serious side effects can happen to people taking QTERN, including:

- **Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis).** Saxagliptin, one of the medicines in QTERN, can cause inflammation of the pancreas, which may be severe and lead to death.

Certain medical problems make you more likely to get pancreatitis.

Before you start taking QTERN:

Tell your healthcare provider if you have ever had

- inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis)
- stones in your gallbladder (gallstones)
- a history of alcoholism
- high blood triglyceride levels

It is not known if having these medical problems will make you more likely to get pancreatitis with QTERN.

Stop taking QTERN and contact your healthcare provider right away if you have pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that is severe and will not go away. The pain may be felt going from your abdomen through to your back. The pain may happen with or without vomiting. These may be symptoms of pancreatitis.

- **Heart failure.** Heart failure means your heart does not pump blood well enough.

Before you start taking QTERN:

Tell your healthcare provider if you

- have ever had heart failure or have problems with your kidneys.

Contact your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:

- increasing shortness of breath or trouble breathing, especially when you lie down
- swelling or fluid retention, especially in the feet, ankles or legs
- an unusually fast increase in weight
- unusual tiredness

These may be symptoms of heart failure.

- **Dehydration.** QTERN can cause some people to become dehydrated (the loss of body water and salt). Dehydration may cause you to feel dizzy, faint, lightheaded, or weak, especially when you stand up (orthostatic hypotension). You may be at a higher risk of dehydration if you:

- have low blood pressure
- take medicines to lower your blood pressure, including water pills (diuretics)
- are 65 years of age or older
- are on a low salt diet
- have kidney problems

- **Vaginal yeast infection.** Women who take QTERN may get vaginal yeast infections. Symptoms of a vaginal yeast infection include:

- vaginal odor
- white or yellowish vaginal discharge (discharge may be lumpy or look like cottage cheese)
- vaginal itching

- **Yeast infection of the penis (balanitis).** Men who take QTERN may get a yeast infection of the skin around the penis. Certain men who are not circumcised may have swelling of the penis that makes it difficult to pull back the skin around the tip of the penis. Other symptoms of yeast infection of the penis include:

- redness, itching, or swelling of the penis

- rash of the penis
- foul smelling discharge from the penis
- pain in the skin around the penis

Talk to your healthcare provider about what to do if you get symptoms of a yeast infection of the vagina or penis. Your healthcare provider may suggest you use an over-the-counter antifungal medicine. Talk to your healthcare provider right away if you use an over-the-counter antifungal medication and your symptoms do not go away.

- **Bladder cancer.** In studies of dapagliflozin in people with diabetes, bladder cancer occurred in a few more people who were taking dapagliflozin than in people who were taking other diabetes medications. There were too few cases to know if bladder cancer was related to dapagliflozin. You should not take QTERN if you have bladder cancer. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:
 - blood or a red color in your urine
 - pain while you urinate

What is QTERN?

QTERN is a prescription medicine that contains dapagliflozin and saxagliptin. QTERN is used along with diet and exercise to improve blood sugar (glucose) control in adults with type 2 diabetes.

- QTERN is not for people with type 1 diabetes.
- QTERN is not for people with diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in your blood or urine).
- It is not known if QTERN is safe and effective in children younger than 18 years of age.

Who should not take QTERN?

Do not take QTERN if you:

- are allergic to dapagliflozin, saxagliptin, or any of the ingredients in QTERN. See the end of this Medication Guide for a list of ingredients in QTERN.
Symptoms of a **serious** allergic reaction to QTERN may include:
 - swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and throat that may cause difficulty in breathing or swallowing
 - difficulty with swallowing or breathing
 - skin rash, itching, flaking or peeling
 - raised red patches on your skin (hives)

If you have any of these symptoms, stop taking QTERN and contact your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

- have severe kidney problems, or are on dialysis.

Before taking QTERN, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have type 1 diabetes or have had diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in your blood or urine).
- have kidney problems.
- have liver problems.
- have a history of urinary tract infections or problems urinating.
- have or have had bladder cancer.
- are going to have surgery.
- are eating less due to illness, surgery or a change in your diet.
- have or have had problems with your pancreas, including pancreatitis or surgery on your pancreas.
- drink alcohol very often, or drink a lot of alcohol in the short term (“binge” drinking).
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. QTERN may harm your unborn baby. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to control your blood sugar.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if QTERN passes into your breast milk.

Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby if you are taking QTERN.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

QTERN may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how QTERN works.

Contact your healthcare provider if you will be starting or stopping certain other types of medications, such as antibiotics, or medicines that treat fungus or HIV/AIDS, because your dose of QTERN might need to be changed.

How should I take QTERN?

- Take QTERN exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Take QTERN by mouth 1 time each day in the morning with or without food.
- Swallow QTERN whole. Do not split or cut QTERN tablets.
- During periods of stress on the body, such as fever, trauma, infection, or surgery, contact your healthcare provider right away as your medication needs may change.
- Stay on your prescribed diet and exercise program while taking QTERN.
- Your healthcare provider may do certain blood tests before you start QTERN and during your treatment.
- Your healthcare provider should test your blood to measure how well your kidneys are working before and during your treatment with QTERN.
- Your healthcare provider will check your diabetes with regular blood tests, including your blood sugar levels and your HbA1c.
- Follow your healthcare provider's instructions for treating low blood sugar (hypoglycemia). Talk to your healthcare provider if low blood sugar is a problem for you.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take the medicine at the next regularly scheduled time. Do not take 2 doses of QTERN at the same time unless your healthcare provider tells you to do so. Talk to your healthcare provider if you have questions about a missed dose.
- If you take too much QTERN, call your healthcare provider, or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

What are the possible side effects of QTERN?

QTERN may cause serious side effects, including:

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about QTERN?"**
- **Ketoacidosis (increased ketones in your blood or urine).** Ketoacidosis has happened in people who have **type 1 or type 2 diabetes**, during treatment with dapagliflozin. Ketoacidosis is a serious condition, which may need to be treated in a hospital. Ketoacidosis may lead to death. **Ketoacidosis can happen with dapagliflozin even if your blood sugar is less than 250 mg/dL. Stop taking QTERN and call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms:**
 - nausea
 - tiredness
 - vomiting
 - trouble breathing
 - stomach area (abdominal) painIf you get any of these symptoms during treatment with QTERN, if possible check for ketones in your urine, even if your blood sugar is less than 250 mg/dL.
- **Kidney problems.** Sudden kidney injury has happened to people taking dapagliflozin. Talk to your

healthcare provider right away if you:

- reduce the amount of food or liquid you drink for example, if you are sick and cannot eat or
- you start to lose liquids from your body when vomiting, diarrhea or being in the sun too long.
- **Serious urinary tract infections.** Serious urinary tract infections that may lead to hospitalization have happened in people who are taking dapagliflozin. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any signs or symptoms of a urinary tract infection such as a burning feeling when passing urine, a need to urinate often, the need to urinate right away, pain in the lower part of your stomach (pelvis), or blood in the urine. Sometimes people also may have a fever, back pain, nausea or vomiting.
- **Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).** When either of the medicines in QTERN, saxagliptin or dapagliflozin, are taken with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin, this can increase your risk of getting low blood sugar. Tell your healthcare provider if you take other diabetes medicines. Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include:
 - shaking or feeling jittery
 - sweating
 - rapid heartbeat
 - change in vision
 - hunger
 - headache
 - drowsiness
 - weakness
 - change in mood
 - confusion
 - irritability
- **A rare but serious bacterial infection that causes damage to the tissue under the skin (necrotizing fasciitis) in the area between and around the anus and genitals (perineum).** Necrotizing fasciitis of the perineum has happened in women and men who take dapagliflozin, one of the medicines in QTERN. Necrotizing fasciitis of the perineum may lead to hospitalization, may require multiple surgeries and may lead to death. **Seek medical attention immediately if you have fever or you are feeling very weak, tired or uncomfortable (malaise) and you develop any of the following symptoms in the area between and around the anus and genitals:**
 - pain or tenderness
 - swelling
 - redness of skin (erythema)
- **Increased fats in your blood (bad cholesterol or LDL).**
- **Joint pain.** Some people who take medicines called DPP-4 inhibitors like saxagliptin, may develop joint pain that can be severe. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have severe joint pain.
- **Skin reaction.** Some people who take medicines called DPP-4 inhibitors, one of the medicines in QTERN, may develop a skin reaction called bullous pemphigoid that can require treatment in a hospital. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you develop blisters or the breakdown of the outer layer of your skin (erosion). Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking QTERN.

The most common side effects of QTERN include:

- upper respiratory tract infection
- urinary tract infection
- dyslipidemia – abnormal amounts of fats in the blood

These are not all of the possible side effects of QTERN.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store QTERN?

Store QTERN at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).

Keep QTERN and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about the safe and effective use of QTERN

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in Medication Guides. Do not use QTERN for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give QTERN to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about QTERN that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in QTERN?

Active ingredients: saxagliptin and dapagliflozin

Inactive ingredients: anhydrous lactose, croscarmellose sodium, iron oxides, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol, silicon dioxide, talc, and titanium dioxide.

What is type 2 diabetes?

Type 2 diabetes is a condition in which your body does not make enough insulin, and the insulin that your body produces does not work as well as it should. Your body can also make too much sugar. When this happens, sugar (glucose) builds up in the blood. This can lead to serious medical problems.

The main goal of treating diabetes is to lower your blood sugar so that it is as close to normal as possible. High blood sugar can be lowered by diet and exercise, and by certain medicines when necessary.

QTERN is a registered trademark of the AstraZeneca group of companies.

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For more information about QTERN, go to www.QTERN.com or call 1-800-236-9933.

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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