

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

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

IXEMPRA Kit (ixabepilone) for injection, for intravenous use
Initial U.S. Approval: 2007

WARNING: TOXICITY IN PATIENTS WITH HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT

See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning.

IXEMPRA® in combination with capecitabine is contraindicated in patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1 x ULN due to increased risk of toxicity and neutropenia-related death. (4, 5.3)

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

IXEMPRA is a microtubule inhibitor indicated for treatment:

- In combination with capecitabine for patients with metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer resistant to treatment with an anthracycline and a taxane, or whose cancer is taxane resistant and for whom further anthracycline therapy is contraindicated. (1)
- As a single agent for patients with metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer after failure of an anthracycline, a taxane, and capecitabine. (1)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- The recommended dosage of IXEMPRA is 40 mg/m² administered as a 3 hour intravenous infusion once every 3 weeks. (2.2)
- Dose reduction is required in patients with elevated AST, ALT, or bilirubin. (2.3, 8.6)
- IXEMPRA must be reconstituted with the supplied DILUENT and further diluted to a concentration of 0.2 mg/mL to 0.6 mg/mL prior to administration. (2.6)

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

- IXEMPRA for injection, 15 mg supplied with DILUENT for IXEMPRA, 8 mL (3)
- IXEMPRA for injection, 45 mg supplied with DILUENT for IXEMPRA, 23.5 mL (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Baseline neutrophil count <1500 cells/mm³ or a platelet count <100,000 cells/mm³. (4)
- Hypersensitivity to drugs formulated with Cremophor® EL. (4)
- IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine is contraindicated for use in patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1 x ULN. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Peripheral Neuropathy: Monitor for symptoms of neuropathy (sensory and motor neuropathy). Withhold, reduce, or discontinue IXEMPRA depending on severity. (2.3, 5.1)

- Myelosuppression: Neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, and infections have occurred. Monitor blood cell counts before and during treatment with IXEMPRA. Withhold, reduce, or discontinue IXEMPRA depending on severity. (2.3, 5.2)
- Increased Toxicity in Patients with Hepatic Impairment: Grade 4 neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, and serious adverse reactions may occur in patients with hepatic impairment during treatment with IXEMPRA. Reduce dose depending on severity. (2.3, 5.3, 6.1)
- Hypersensitivity Reactions: Severe hypersensitivity reactions (including anaphylaxis) have occurred. Premedicate all patients before treatment with IXEMPRA. Withhold, reduce, or discontinue IXEMPRA depending on severity. (2.1, 2.3, 5.4)
- Cardiac Adverse Reactions: Myocardial ischemia and ventricular dysfunction have occurred. Closely monitor patients with a history of cardiac disease during treatment with IXEMPRA. Consider discontinuation of IXEMPRA in patients who develop cardiac ischemia or impaired cardiac function. (2.3, 5.5)
- Embryo-Fetal Toxicity: Can cause fetal harm. Advise patients of potential risk to a fetus and to use effective contraception. (5.6, 8.1, 8.3)
- Alcohol Content: The alcohol content in a dose of IXEMPRA may affect the central nervous system. This may include impairment of a patient's ability to drive or use machines immediately after infusion. (5.7)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

- The most common adverse reactions (≥20%) are peripheral sensory neuropathy, fatigue/asthenia, myalgia/arthralgia, alopecia, nausea, vomiting, stomatitis/mucositis, diarrhea, and musculoskeletal pain. Additional reactions occurred in ≥20% in combination treatment: palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome, anorexia, abdominal pain, nail disorder, and constipation (6).
- Hematologic laboratory abnormalities (>40%) include neutropenia, leukopenia, anemia, and thrombocytopenia (6).

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact R-Pharm US at 1-844-586-8953 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch

DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Strong CYP3A4 Inhibitors: Avoid strong CYP3A4 inhibitors. If coadministration cannot be avoided, reduce the dosage of IXEMPRA (2.5, 7.1)
- Strong CYP3A4 Inducers: Avoid strong CYP3A4 inducers. If coadministration cannot be avoided, increase the dosage of IXEMPRA (2.5, 7.1).

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATION

- Lactation: Advise not to breastfeed (8.2).
- Hepatic Impairment: Reduce the dosage in patients with elevated AST, ALT, or bilirubin (2.4, 8.6).

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling

Revised: 01/2023

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

WARNING: TOXICITY IN PATIENTS WITH HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT

IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine is contraindicated in patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1 x ULN due to increased risk of toxicity and neutropenia-related death [see Contraindications (4) and Warnings and Precautions (5.3)].

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

IXEMPRA is indicated in combination with capecitabine for the treatment of patients with metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer resistant to treatment with an anthracycline and a taxane, or whose cancer is taxane resistant and for whom further anthracycline therapy is contraindicated.

Anthracycline resistance is defined as progression while on therapy or within 6 months in the adjuvant setting or 3 months in the metastatic setting. Taxane resistance is defined as progression while on therapy or within 12 months in the adjuvant setting or 4 months in the metastatic setting [see *Clinical Studies (14)*].

IXEMPRA is indicated as a single agent for the treatment of patients with metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer whose tumors are resistant or refractory to anthracyclines, taxanes, and capecitabine [see *Clinical Studies (14)*].

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Premedication

All patients must be premedicated approximately 1 hour before the infusion of IXEMPRA with:

- An H₁ antagonist (e.g., diphenhydramine 50 mg orally or equivalent) and
- An H₂ antagonist (e.g., ranitidine 150 - 300 mg orally or equivalent).

Patients who experienced a hypersensitivity reaction to IXEMPRA require premedication with corticosteroids (e.g., dexamethasone 20 mg intravenously, 30 minutes before infusion or orally, 60 minutes before infusion) in addition to pretreatment with H₁ and H₂ antagonists [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*].

2.2 Recommended Dosage

The recommended dosage of IXEMPRA is 40 mg/m² administered intravenously over 3 hours every 3 weeks. Calculate doses for patients with body surface area (BSA) greater than 2.2 m² based on 2.2 m².

2.3 Dosage Modification for Adverse Reactions

Evaluate patients during treatment by periodic clinical observation and laboratory tests including complete blood cell counts [see the *Warnings and Precautions* (5)].

Dosage modifications for IXEMPRA for adverse reactions are shown in [Table 1](#).

If adverse reactions recur, reduce dose by an additional 20%.

Table 1: Dosage Modifications for Adverse Reactions^a

IXEMPRA (Single Agent or Combination Therapy)	IXEMPRA Dosage Modification
Nonhematologic:	
Grade 2 neuropathy (moderate) lasting ≥ 7 days	Decrease the dose by 20%
Grade 3 neuropathy (severe) lasting < 7 days	Decrease the dose by 20%
Grade 3 neuropathy (severe) lasting ≥ 7 days or disabling neuropathy	Discontinue treatment
Any grade 3 toxicity (severe) other than neuropathy	Decrease the dose by 20%
Transient grade 3 arthralgia/myalgia or fatigue	No change in dose of IXEMPRA
Grade 3 hand-foot syndrome (palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia)	
Any grade 4 toxicity (disabling)	Discontinue treatment
Hematologic:	
Neutrophil < 500 cells/mm ³ for ≥ 7 days	Decrease the dose by 20%
Febrile neutropenia	Decrease the dose by 20%
Platelets $< 25,000$ /mm ³ or platelets $< 50,000$ /mm ³ with bleeding	Decrease the dose by 20%
Capecitabine (when used in combination with IXEMPRA)	Capecitabine Dosage Modification
Nonhematologic:	
	See capecitabine prescribing information.
Hematologic:	
Platelets $< 25,000$ /mm ³ or $< 50,000$ /mm ³ with bleeding	Hold for concurrent diarrhea or stomatitis until platelet count $> 50,000$ /mm ³ , then continue at same dose.
Neutrophils < 500 cells/mm ³ for ≥ 7 days or febrile neutropenia	Hold for concurrent diarrhea or stomatitis until neutrophil count $> 1,000$ cells/mm ³ , then continue at same dose.

^a Toxicities graded in accordance with National Cancer Institute (NCI) Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE v3.0).

Re-treatment Criteria

Determine dosage modifications at the start of each cycle based on nonhematologic toxicity or blood counts from the preceding cycle following the guidelines in Table 1.

Do not begin a new cycle of treatment unless the neutrophil count is at least 1500 cells/mm³, the platelet count is at least 100,000 cells/mm³ [see *Contraindications (4)*].

Withhold IXEMPRA until nonhematologic toxicities have improved to grade 1 (mild) or resolved prior to beginning a new cycle of treatment.

2.4 Dosage Modifications in Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Combination Therapy

IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine is contraindicated in patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1 x ULN [see *Contraindications (4)*].

Single Agent

Reduce the dose of IXEMPRA for patients with hepatic impairment as recommended in [Table 2](#) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3)* and *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

Table 2: Dose Modifications for IXEMPRA as a Single Agent for Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Transaminase Levels			Bilirubin Levels ^a	IXEMPRA ^b (mg/m ²)
AST and ALT ≤2.5 x ULN	and		≤1 x ULN	No Modification
AST and ALT ≤10 x ULN	and		≤1.5 x ULN	32
AST and ALT ≤10 x ULN	and		>1.5 to ≤3 x ULN	20 – 30 ^c
AST and ALT >10 x ULN	or		>3 x ULN	Avoid Use

^a Excluding patients whose total bilirubin is elevated due to Gilbert's disease.

^b Dosage recommendations are for first course of therapy; further decreases in subsequent courses should be based on individual tolerance.

^c For patients with AST and ALT ≤ 10x ULN and bilirubin >1.5 to 3x ULN, consider increasing the dose from 20 mg/m² to 30 mg/m² in subsequent cycles if a dose of 20 mg/m² is tolerated.

2.5 Dosage Modifications for Drug Interactions

Strong CYP3A4 Inhibitors

Avoid the concomitant use of strong CYP3A4 inhibitors. If coadministration of a strong CYP3A4 inhibitor with IXEMPRA cannot be avoided, reduce the dose of IXEMPRA to 20 mg/m². If the strong inhibitor is

discontinued, increase the IXEMPRA dose (at 1 week after discontinuing the inhibitor) to that was used before starting the strong inhibitor [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

Strong CYP3A4 Inducers

Avoid the concomitant use of strong CYP3A4 inducers. If coadministration of a strong CYP3A4 inducer with IXEMPRA cannot be avoided, gradually increase the dose from 40 mg/m² to 60 mg/m² as tolerated once a patient has been maintained on a strong CYP3A4 inducer. Administer IXEMPRA as a 4-hour intravenous infusion and monitor patients carefully for adverse reactions.

If the strong inducer is discontinued, reduce the IXEMPRA dose to that before starting the strong CYP3A4 inducer [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

2.6 Preparation and Administration

IXEMPRA is a hazardous drug. Follow applicable special handling and disposal procedures.¹

IXEMPRA *Kit* contains two vials, a vial labeled IXEMPRA (ixabepilone) for injection which contains ixabepilone powder and a vial containing DILUENT for IXEMPRA. Use only the supplied DILUENT to reconstitute IXEMPRA (ixabepilone) for injection.

Reconstitution

1. Prior to reconstituting, remove the IXEMPRA Kit from the refrigerator and allow it to stand at room temperature for approximately 30 minutes. When the vials are first removed from the refrigerator, a white precipitate may be observed in the DILUENT vial. This precipitate will dissolve to form a clear solution once the DILUENT warms to room temperature.
2. With a suitable syringe, aseptically withdraw the DILUENT and slowly inject it into the IXEMPRA for injection vial. The 15-mg IXEMPRA is reconstituted with 8 mL of DILUENT and the 45-mg IXEMPRA is reconstituted with 23.5 mL of DILUENT.
3. Gently swirl and invert the vial until the powder in IXEMPRA is completely dissolved.
4. After reconstituting with the DILUENT, the concentration of ixabepilone is 2 mg/mL.
5. After reconstituting IXEMPRA, dilute the reconstituted with infusion fluid as soon as possible. The reconstituted solution may be stored in the vial (not the syringe) for a maximum of 1 hour at room temperature and room light.

Dilution

Before administration, the reconstituted solution must be further diluted with one of the specified infusion fluids listed below. Other infusion fluids should not be used with IXEMPRA.

The IXEMPRA infusion must be prepared in a DEHP [di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate] free bag.

The following infusion fluids have been qualified for use in the dilution of IXEMPRA:

- Lactated Ringer's Injection, USP

- 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP (pH adjusted with Sodium Bicarbonate Injection, USP)
 - When using a 250 mL or a 500 mL bag of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection to prepare the infusion, the pH must be adjusted to a pH between 6.0 and 9.0 by adding 2 mEq (ie, 2 mL of an 8.4% w/v solution or 4 mL of a 4.2% w/v solution) of Sodium Bicarbonate Injection, prior to the addition of the reconstituted IXEMPRA solution.
- PLASMA-LYTE A Injection pH 7.4[®]

For most doses, a 250 mL bag of infusion fluid is sufficient. However, it is necessary to check the final IXEMPRA infusion concentration of each dose based on the volume of infusion fluid to be used.

The final concentration for infusion must be between 0.2 mg/mL and 0.6 mg/mL. To calculate the final infusion concentration, use the following formulas:

Total Infusion Volume = mL of Reconstituted Solution + mL of infusion fluid

Final Infusion Concentration = Dose of IXEMPRA (mg)/Total Infusion Volume (mL)

1. Aseptically, withdraw the appropriate volume of reconstituted solution containing 2 mg of ixabepilone per mL.
2. Aseptically, transfer to an intravenous bag containing an appropriate volume of infusion fluid to achieve the final desired concentration of IXEMPRA.
3. Thoroughly mix the infusion bag by manual rotation.
4. Once diluted with infusion fluid, the solution is stable at room temperature and room light for a maximum of 6 hours. Administration of diluted IXEMPRA must be completed within this 6-hour period.

Administration

The infusion solution must be administered through an appropriate in-line filter with a microporous membrane of 0.2 to 1.2 microns.

DEHP-free infusion containers and administration sets must be used.

Discard any remaining solution according to institutional procedures for hazardous drugs.

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

IXEMPRA for injection, 15 mg single-dose vial supplied with DILUENT for IXEMPRA, 8 mL.

IXEMPRA for injection, 45 mg single-dose vial supplied with DILUENT for IXEMPRA, 23.5 mL.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

IXEMPRA is contraindicated in patients who have:

- a neutrophil count <1500 cells/mm³ or a platelet count <100,000 cells/mm³ [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]
- a history of a severe hypersensitivity to agents containing Cremophor® EL or its derivatives (e.g., polyoxyethylated castor oil) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]

IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine is contraindicated in patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1 x ULN [see *Boxed Warning and Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*].

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Peripheral Neuropathy

Peripheral neuropathy (sensory and motor neuropathy) occurred in patients treated with IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine and in patients treated with single agent IXEMPRA as shown in [Table 3](#).

Table 3: Peripheral Neuropathy

	IXEMPRA with capecitabine Study 046	IXEMPRA as a Single Agent Study 081
Peripheral neuropathy (all grades) ^{a,b}	67%	63%
Peripheral neuropathy (grades 3/4) ^{a,b}	23%	14%
Discontinuation due to neuropathy	21%	6%
Median number of cycles to onset of grade 3/4 neuropathy	4	4
Median time to improvement of grade 3/4 neuropathy to baseline or to grade 1	6.0 weeks	4.6 weeks

^a Sensory and motor neuropathy combined.

^b 24% and 27% of patients in 046 and 081, respectively, had preexisting neuropathy (grade 1).

In Studies 046 and 081, 80% and 87%, respectively, of patients with peripheral neuropathy who received IXEMPRA had improvement or no worsening of their neuropathy following dose reduction. For patients with grade 3 or 4 neuropathy in Studies 046 and 081, 76% and 79%, respectively, had documented improvement to baseline or grade 1, twelve weeks after onset.

A pooled analysis of 1540 cancer patients treated with IXEMPRA indicated that patients with diabetes mellitus or preexisting peripheral neuropathy may be at increased risk of severe neuropathy. Patients with moderate to severe neuropathy (grade 2 or greater) were excluded from studies with IXEMPRA.

Monitor patients for symptoms of neuropathy, such as burning sensation, hyperesthesia, hypoesthesia, paresthesia, discomfort, or neuropathic pain. Closely monitor patients with diabetes mellitus or

preexisting peripheral neuropathy. Withhold, reduce, or discontinue IXEMPRA depending on the severity and persistence of peripheral neuropathy [see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

5.2 Myelosuppression

Severe, life threatening, or fatal myelosuppression can occur in patients treated with IXEMPRA. Myelosuppression is dose-dependent and primarily manifests as neutropenia. In clinical studies, grade 4 neutropenia (<500 cells/mm³) occurred in 36% of patients treated with IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine and 23% of patients treated with single agent IXEMPRA. Febrile neutropenia and infection with neutropenia were reported in 5% and 6% of patients treated with IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine, respectively, and 3% and 5% of patients treated with IXEMPRA as a single agent, respectively. Neutropenia-related death occurred in 1.9% of 414 patients with normal hepatic function or mild hepatic impairment treated with IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine. The rate of neutropenia-related deaths was higher (29%, 5 out of 17) in patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1.5 x ULN [see *Boxed Warning, Contraindications (4), and Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]. Neutropenia-related death occurred in 0.4% of 240 patients treated with IXEMPRA as a single agent. No neutropenia-related deaths were reported in 24 patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1.5 x ULN treated with IXEMPRA a single agent.

IXEMPRA is contraindicated for use in patients with a neutrophil count of <1500 cells/mm³ [see *Contraindications (4)*].

Monitor patients receiving IXEMPRA for myelosuppression with frequent peripheral blood cell counts. Withhold, reduce, or discontinue IXEMPRA depending on the severity and persistence of myelosuppression [see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

5.3 Increased Toxicities in Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Patients with baseline AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1.5 x ULN experienced greater toxicity than patients with baseline AST or ALT ≤ 2.5 x ULN or bilirubin ≤ 1.5 x ULN when treated with IXEMPRA at 40 mg/m² in combination with capecitabine or as a single agent in breast cancer studies.

In combination with capecitabine, the overall frequency of grade 3/4 adverse reactions, febrile neutropenia, serious adverse reactions, and toxicity-related deaths was increased in patients with hepatic impairment. IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine is contraindicated in patients with AST or ALT >2.5 x ULN or bilirubin >1 x ULN due to increased risk of toxicity- and neutropenia-related death [see *Boxed Warning, Contraindications (4), and Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

With IXEMPRA single agent therapy, grade 4 neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, and serious adverse reactions were increased in patients with hepatic impairment [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2) and Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. Reduce the dose of IXEMPRA based on the degree of hepatic impairment. Avoid use in patients with AST or ALT >10 x ULN or bilirubin >3 x ULN [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)*].

5.4 Hypersensitivity Reactions

IXEMPRA is contraindicated in patients with a history of a severe hypersensitivity reaction to agents containing Cremophor[®] EL or its derivatives (e.g., polyoxyethylated castor oil) [see *Contraindications (4)*].

Of the 1323 patients treated with IXEMPRA in clinical studies, 9 patients (1%) experienced severe hypersensitivity reactions (including anaphylaxis). Three of the 9 patients were able to be retreated with IXEMPRA. Patients who experience a hypersensitivity reaction in one cycle of IXEMPRA must be premedicated in subsequent cycles with a corticosteroid in addition to the H₁ and H₂ antagonists, and extension of the infusion time should be considered [see *Dosage and Administration (2.X)* and *Contraindications (4)*].

Administer an H₁ and an H₂ antagonist approximately 1 hour before IXEMPRA infusion and observe patients for hypersensitivity reactions (e.g., flushing, rash, dyspnea, and bronchospasm). If severe hypersensitivity reactions occur, stop the infusion of IXEMPRA and provide supportive treatment as clinically indicated (e.g., epinephrine, corticosteroids).

5.5 Cardiac Adverse Reactions

Cardiac adverse reactions (myocardial ischemia and ventricular dysfunction) occurred patients receiving IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine (1.9%) and as a single agent (0.3%). Supraventricular arrhythmias were observed in the combination arm (0.5%).

Closely monitor patients with a history of cardiac disease during treatment with IXEMPRA. Consider discontinuation of IXEMPRA in patients who develop cardiac ischemia or impaired cardiac function [see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

5.6 Embryo-Fetal Toxicity

Based on findings in animals and its mechanism of action, IXEMPRA can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. In animal reproduction studies, intravenous administration of ixabepilone to pregnant rats and rabbits during the period of organogenesis caused maternal toxicity, embryo-fetal lethality, and fetal abnormalities at maternal exposures below the human clinical exposure based on AUC. Advise females of reproductive potential and pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus. Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 7 months after the last dose. Advise male patients with female partners of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 4 months after the last dose [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.1, 8.3)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)*].

5.7 Alcohol Content

The alcohol content in a dose of IXEMPRA may affect the central nervous system and should be taken into account for patients in whom alcohol intake should be avoided or minimized. Consideration should

be given to the alcohol content in IXEMPRA on the ability to drive or use machines immediately after the infusion. Each administration of IXEMPRA at the recommended dosage of 40 mg/m² delivers approximately 8.4 g/m² of ethanol. For a patient with a BSA of 2.0 m², this would deliver approximately 16.8 grams of ethanol [see *Description (11)*].

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions are discussed in greater detail in other sections.

- Peripheral neuropathy [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]
- Myelosuppression [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]
- Hypersensitivity reactions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]
- Cardiac Adverse Reactions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

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

Unless otherwise specified, assessment of adverse reactions is based on one randomized study (Study 046) and one single-arm study (Study 081). In Study 046, 369 patients with metastatic breast cancer were treated with IXEMPRA 40 mg/m² administered intravenously over 3 hours every 21 days, combined with capecitabine 1000 mg/m² twice daily for 2 weeks followed by a 1-week rest period. Patients treated with capecitabine as a single agent (n=368) in this study received 1250 mg/m² twice daily for 2 weeks every 21 days. In Study 081, 126 patients with metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer were treated with IXEMPRA 40 mg/m² administered intravenously over 3 hours every 3 weeks.

The most common adverse reactions (≥20%) reported by patients receiving IXEMPRA were peripheral sensory neuropathy, fatigue/asthenia, myalgia/arthralgia, alopecia, nausea, vomiting, stomatitis/mucositis, diarrhea, and musculoskeletal pain. The following additional reactions occurred in ≥20% in combination treatment: palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia (hand-foot) syndrome, anorexia, abdominal pain, nail disorder, and constipation. The most common hematologic abnormalities (>40%) include neutropenia, leukopenia, anemia, and thrombocytopenia.

[Table 4](#) presents nonhematologic adverse reactions reported in 5% or more of patients. Hematologic abnormalities are presented separately in [Table 5](#).

Table 4: Nonhematologic Adverse Reactions Occurring in at Least 5% of Patients with Metastatic or Locally Advanced Breast Cancer Treated with IXEMPRA

Adverse Reaction	Study 046				Study 081	
	IXEMPRA with capecitabine n=369		Capecitabine n=368		IXEMPRA as a Single Agent n=126	
	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)
<i>Infections and Infestations</i>						
Upper respiratory tract infection ^b	4	0	3	0	6	0
<i>Blood and Lymphatic System Disorders</i>						
Febrile neutropenia	5	4 ^c	1	1 ^d	3	3 ^d
<i>Immune System Disorders</i>						
Hypersensitivity ^b	2	1 ^d	0	0	5	1 ^d
<i>Metabolism and Nutrition Disorders</i>						
Anorexia ^b	34	3 ^d	15	1 ^d	19	2 ^d
Dehydration ^b	5	2	2	<1 ^d	2	1 ^d
<i>Psychiatric Disorders</i>						
Insomnia ^b	9	<1 ^d	2	0	5	0
<i>Nervous System Disorders</i>						
Peripheral neuropathy						
Sensory neuropathy ^{b,e}	65	21	16	0	62	14
Motor neuropathy ^b	16	5 ^d	<1	0	10	1 ^d
Headache	8	<1 ^d	3	0	11	0
Taste disorder ^b	12	0	4	0	6	0
Dizziness	8	1 ^d	5	1 ^d	7	0
<i>Eye Disorders</i>						
Lacrimation increased	5	0	4	<1 ^d	4	0
<i>Vascular Disorders</i>						
Hot flush ^b	5	0	2	0	6	0

Table 4: Nonhematologic Adverse Reactions Occurring in at Least 5% of Patients with Metastatic or Locally Advanced Breast Cancer Treated with IXEMPRA

Adverse Reaction	Study 046				Study 081	
	IXEMPRA with capecitabine n=369		Capecitabine n=368		IXEMPRA as a Single Agent n=126	
	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)
Respiratory, Thoracic, and Mediastinal Disorders						
Dyspnea ^b	7	1	4	1	9	1 ^d
Cough ^b	6	0	2	0	2	0
Gastrointestinal Disorders						
Nausea	53	3 ^d	40	2 ^d	42	2 ^d
Vomiting ^b	39	4 ^d	24	2	29	1 ^d
Stomatitis/mucositis ^b	31	4	20	3 ^d	29	6
Diarrhea ^b	44	6 ^d	39	9	22	1 ^d
Constipation	22	0	6	<1 ^d	16	2 ^d
Abdominal pain ^b	24	2 ^d	14	1 ^d	13	2 ^d
Gastroesophageal reflux disease ^b	7	1 ^d	8	0	6	0
Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders						
Alopecia ^b	31	0	3	0	48	0
Skin rash ^b	17	1 ^d	7	0	9	2 ^d
Nail disorder ^b	24	2 ^d	10	<1 ^d	9	0
Palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome ^{b,f}	64	18 ^d	63	17 ^d	8	2 ^d
Pruritus	5	0	2	0	6	1 ^d
Skin exfoliation ^b	5	<1 ^d	3	0	2	0
Skin hyperpigmentation ^b	11	0	14	0	2	0

Table 4: Nonhematologic Adverse Reactions Occurring in at Least 5% of Patients with Metastatic or Locally Advanced Breast Cancer Treated with IXEMPRA

Adverse Reaction	Study 046				Study 081	
	IXEMPRA with capecitabine n=369		Capecitabine n=368		IXEMPRA as a Single Agent n=126	
	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)	All Grades (%)	Grade 3/4 (%)
Musculoskeletal, Connective Tissue, and Bone Disorders						
Myalgia/arthralgia ^b	39	8 ^d	5	<1 ^d	49	8 ^d
Musculoskeletal pain ^b	23	2 ^d	5	0	20	3 ^d
General Disorders and Administration Site Conditions						
Fatigue/asthenia ^b	60	16	29	4	56	13
Edema ^b	8	0	5	<1 ^d	9	1 ^d
Pyrexia	10	1 ^d	4	0	8	1 ^d
Pain ^b	9	1 ^d	2	0	8	3 ^d
Chest pain ^b	4	1 ^d	<1	0	5	1 ^d
Investigations						
Weight decreased	11	0	3	0	6	0

^b A composite of multiple terms.

^c Three patients (1%) experienced Grade 5 (fatal) febrile neutropenia. Other neutropenia-related deaths (9) occurred in the absence of reported febrile neutropenia [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

^d No grade 4 reports.

^e Peripheral sensory neuropathy was defined as the occurrence of any of the following: areflexia, burning sensation, dysesthesia, hyperesthesia, hypoesthesia, hyporeflexia, neuralgia, neuritis, neuropathy, neuropathy peripheral, neurotoxicity, painful response to normal stimuli, paresthesia, paresthesia, peripheral sensory neuropathy, polyneuropathy, polyneuropathy toxic and sensorimotor disorder.

Peripheral motor neuropathy was defined as the occurrence of any of the following: multifocal motor neuropathy, neuromuscular toxicity, peripheral motor neuropathy, and peripheral sensorimotor neuropathy.

^f Palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia (hand-foot syndrome) was graded on a 1-3 severity scale in Study 046.

Table 5: Hematologic Abnormalities in Patients with Metastatic or Locally Advanced Breast Cancer Treated with IXEMPRA

Hematology Parameter	Study 046				Study 081	
	IXEMPRA with capecitabine n=369		Capecitabine n=368		IXEMPRA as a Single Agent n=126	
	Grade 3 (%)	Grade 4 (%)	Grade 3 (%)	Grade 4 (%)	Grade 3 (%)	Grade 4 (%)
Neutropenia ^a	32	36	9	2	31	23
Leukopenia (WBC)	41	16	5	1	36	13
Anemia (Hgb)	8	2	4	1	6	2
Thrombocytopenia	5	3	2	2	5	2

^a G-CSF (granulocyte colony stimulating factor) or GM-CSF (granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor) was used in 20% and 17% of patients who received IXEMPRA in Study 046 and Study 081, respectively.

The following serious adverse reactions were also reported in 1323 patients treated with IXEMPRA as a single agent or in combination with other therapies in clinical studies.

Infections and Infestations: sepsis, pneumonia, infection, neutropenic infection, urinary tract infection, bacterial infection, enterocolitis, laryngitis, lower respiratory tract infection

Blood and Lymphatic System Disorders: coagulopathy, lymphopenia

Metabolism and Nutrition Disorders: hyponatremia, metabolic acidosis, hypokalemia, hypovolemia

Nervous System Disorders: cognitive disorder, syncope, cerebral hemorrhage, abnormal coordination, lethargy

Cardiac Disorders: myocardial infarction, supraventricular arrhythmia, left ventricular dysfunction, angina pectoris, atrial flutter, cardiomyopathy, myocardial ischemia

Vascular Disorders: hypotension, thrombosis, embolism, hemorrhage, hypovolemic shock, vasculitis

Respiratory, Thoracic, and Mediastinal Disorders: pneumonitis, hypoxia, respiratory failure, acute pulmonary edema, dysphonia, pharyngolaryngeal pain

Gastrointestinal Disorders: ileus, colitis, impaired gastric emptying, esophagitis, dysphagia, gastritis, gastrointestinal hemorrhage

Hepatobiliary Disorders: acute hepatic failure, jaundice

Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders: erythema multiforme

Musculoskeletal, Connective Tissue, and Bone Disorders: muscular weakness, muscle spasms, trismus

Renal and Urinary Disorders: nephrolithiasis, renal failure

General Disorders and Administration Site Conditions: chills

Investigations: increased transaminases, increased blood alkaline phosphatase, increased gamma-glutamyltransferase

6.2 Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse reaction has been identified during postapproval use of IXEMPRA. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate the frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Procedural Complications: Radiation recall

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

7.1 Effect of Other Drugs on IXEMPRA

Strong CYP3A4 Inhibitors

The coadministration of IXEMPRA with a strong CYP3A4 inhibitor increased ixabepilone plasma concentration, which may increase the incidence and severity of adverse reactions of IXEMPRA. Avoid coadministration of IXEMPRA with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors. If the coadministration of IXEMPRA with strong CYP3A4 cannot be avoided, reduce the dose of IXEMPRA [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)*, *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

Moderate or Weak CYP3A4 Inhibitors

The coadministration of IXEMPRA with moderate or weak CYP3A4 inhibitors may increase the incidence and severity of adverse reactions of IXEMPRA. Monitor for adverse reactions and reduce the dose of IXEMPRA as recommended [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)*, *Adverse Reactions (6)*].

Strong CYP3A4 Inducers

The coadministration of IXEMPRA with a strong CYP3A4 inducer, decreased plasma concentrations of ixabepilone, which may decrease the efficacy of IXEMPRA [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*]. Avoid the coadministration IXEMPRA with strong CYP3A4 inducers. If the coadministration of IXEMPRA with a strong CYP3A4 inducer cannot be avoided, increase the dose of IXEMPRA [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)*].

Concomitant Use of IXEMPRA and Capecitabine

No clinically meaningful differences in the pharmacokinetics of ixabepilone and capecitabine were observed when IXEMPRA was administered in combination with capecitabine (1000 mg/m²) [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

Based on findings in animals and its mechanism or action, IXEMPRA can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)*]. There are no available data on the use of IXEMPRA in pregnant women to inform the drug-associated risk. IXEMPRA contains alcohol which can interfere with neurobehavioral development [see *Clinical Considerations*]. In animal reproduction studies, intravenous administration of ixabepilone to pregnant rats and rabbits during the period of organogenesis caused maternal toxicity, embryo-fetal lethality, and fetal abnormalities at maternal exposures below the human clinical exposure based on AUC (see *Data*). Advise females of reproductive potential and pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus.

The background risk of major birth defects and 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

IXEMPRA contains alcohol [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]. Published studies have demonstrated that alcohol is associated with fetal harm including central nervous system abnormalities, behavioral disorders, and impaired intellectual development.

Data

Animal data

In embryo-fetal development studies, pregnant rats and rabbits received intravenous doses of 0.02, 0.08, and 0.3 mg/kg/day and 0.01, 0.03, 0.11, and 0.3 mg/kg/day, respectively during the period of organogenesis. In rats, an increase in resorptions and post-implantation loss and a decrease in the number of live fetuses and fetal weight was observed at the maternally toxic dose of 0.3 mg/kg/day (approximately 0.1 times the human clinical exposure based on AUC). Abnormalities included a reduced ossification of caudal vertebrae, sternbrae, and metacarpals. In rabbits, ixabepilone caused maternal toxicity (death) and embryo-fetal toxicity (resorptions) at 0.3 mg/kg/day (approximately 0.1 times the human clinical dose based on body surface area).

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

There is no data on the presence of IXEMPRA in human milk, the effects on the breastfed child, or the effects on milk production. Ixabepilone and/or its metabolites were present in milk of lactating rats (see *Data*). Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in a breastfed child, advise women not to breastfeed during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 2 weeks after the last dose.

Data

Animal data

Following intravenous administration of radiolabeled ixabepilone to rats on days 7 to 9 postpartum, concentrations of radioactivity in milk were comparable with those in plasma and declined in parallel with the plasma concentrations.

8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential

Based on findings in animals and its mechanism of action, IXEMPRA can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*].

Pregnancy Testing

Verify the pregnancy status of females of reproductive potential prior to initiating treatment with IXEMPRA.

Contraception

Females

Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 7 months after the last dose.

Males

Based on genotoxicity and animal studies, advise male patients with female partners of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 4 months after the last dose [see *Nonclinical Toxicology (13.1)*].

Infertility

Based on findings in animals, IXEMPRA may impair male and female fertility [see *Nonclinical Toxicology (13.1)*].

8.4 Pediatric Use

The alcohol content of IXEMPRA should be taken into account when given to pediatric patients [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*].

The safety and effectiveness of IXEMPRA in pediatric patients has not been established. Safety and efficacy were assessed, but not established for IXEMPRA across two studies: an open-label, dose-finding trial in 21 patients aged 2 to 18 years with advanced or refractory solid tumors and hematologic malignancies [NCT00030108] and a trial with 28 patients aged 3 to 18 years with advanced or refractory solid tumors [NCT00331643] that was terminated early due to lack of efficacy. No new safety signals were identified. The median BSA normalized clearance of ixabepilone in 16 patients aged 2 to 18 years (17 L/h/m²) was within range of that of patients greater than 18 years (20 L/h/m²).

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical studies of IXEMPRA did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged sixty-five and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients.

Of the 431 patients treated with IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine, 10% were 65 years of age and over, and 0.1% were 75 years of age and over. The incidence of grade 3/4 adverse reactions was higher in patients ≥ 65 years of age versus those < 65 years of age (82% versus 68%) including grade 3/4 stomatitis (9% versus 1%), diarrhea (9% versus 6%), palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome (27% versus 20%), peripheral neuropathy (24% versus 22%), febrile neutropenia (9% versus 3%), fatigue (16% versus 12%), and asthenia (11% versus 6%). Deaths due to adverse reactions occurred in 2 (4.7%) of 43 patients ≥ 65 years with normal baseline hepatic function or mild impairment.

Of the 240 patients with breast cancer treated with IXEMPRA as a single agent, 13% were 65 years of age and over, and 0.2% were 75 years of age and over.

8.6 Hepatic Impairment

Monitor hepatic function before initiation of IXEMPRA and periodically thereafter.

Dose reduction is recommended when administering IXEMPRA as a single agent to patients with hepatic impairment [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.4)].

IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine is contraindicated in patients with AST or ALT > 2.5 x ULN or bilirubin > 1 x ULN [see *Contraindications* (4)].

The alcohol content of IXEMPRA should be taken into account when given to patients with hepatic impairment [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.7)].

10 OVERDOSAGE

In patients who received an overdose of IXEMPRA of up to 100 mg/m² (approximately 2.5 times the recommended dosage), peripheral neuropathy, fatigue, musculoskeletal pain/myalgia, and gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, anorexia, diarrhea, abdominal pain, stomatitis) occurred.

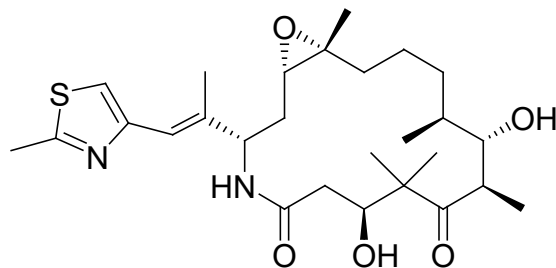
There is no known antidote for overdose of IXEMPRA. In case of overdose, closely monitor patients for adverse reactions and provide supportive treatment as clinically indicated.

11 DESCRIPTION

IXEMPRA (ixabepilone) is a microtubule inhibitor belonging to a class of antineoplastic agents, the epothilones and their analogs. The epothilones are isolated from the myxobacterium *Sorangium cellulosum*. Ixabepilone is a semisynthetic analog of epothilone B, a 16-membered polyketide macrolide, with a chemically modified lactam substitution for the naturally existing lactone.

The chemical name for ixabepilone is (1S,3S,7S,10R,11S,12S,16R)-7,11-dihydroxy-8,8,10,12,16-pentamethyl-3-[(1E)-1-methyl-2-(2-methyl-4-thiazolyl)ethenyl]-17-oxa-4-azabicyclo[14.1.0]

heptadecane-5,9-dione, and it has a molecular weight of 506.7. Ixabepilone has the following structural formula:



IXEMPRA (ixabepilone) for injection is intended for intravenous infusion only after constitution with the supplied DILUENT and after further dilution with a specified infusion fluid [see *Dosage and Administration (2)*].

IXEMPRA (ixabepilone) for injection is supplied as a sterile, non-pyrogenic, single-dose vial providing 15 mg or 45 mg ixabepilone as a lyophilized white powder. The DILUENT for IXEMPRA is a sterile, non-pyrogenic, solution of 52.8% (w/v) purified polyoxyethylated castor oil and 39.8% (w/v) dehydrated alcohol, USP. The IXEMPRA (ixabepilone) for injection and the DILUENT for IXEMPRA are copackaged and supplied as IXEMPRA *Kit*.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Ixabepilone is a semi-synthetic analog of epothilone B. Ixabepilone binds directly to β -tubulin subunits on microtubules, leading to suppression of microtubule dynamics. Ixabepilone suppresses the dynamic instability of $\alpha\beta$ -II and $\alpha\beta$ -III microtubules. Ixabepilone possesses low *in vitro* susceptibility to multiple tumor resistance mechanisms including efflux transporters, such as MRP-1 and P-glycoprotein (P-gp). Ixabepilone blocks cells in the mitotic phase of the cell division cycle, leading to cell death.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Ixabepilone has a plasma concentration-dependent effect on tubulin dynamics in peripheral blood mononuclear cells that is observed as the formation of microtubule bundles.

Cardiac Electrophysiology

At the recommended dosage, IXEMPRA does not cause large mean increases (i.e., >20 msec) in the QT interval. The QT prolongation potential of ixabepilone was assessed as part of an uncontrolled, open-label, single-dose study in advanced cancer patients. Fourteen patients received a single dose of IXEMPRA 40 mg/m² intravenously over 3 hours and serial ECGs were collected over 24 hours. The maximum mean Δ QTcF was observed 1 hour after the end of infusion and was 8 ms (upper 95% CI: 12 ms). No patients had a QTcF interval >450 ms or Δ QTcF >30 ms after IXEMPRA administration.

However, small increases in QTc interval with the use of ixabepilone cannot be excluded due to study design limitations.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Following administration of a single 40 mg/m² dose of IXEMPRA, the mean (% coefficient of variation) maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) was 252 ng/mL (56%) and the mean (%CV) area under the curve (AUC) was 2,143 ng•hr/mL (48%). The pharmacokinetics of ixabepilone were linear at doses of 15 (0.375 times the approved recommended dosage) to 57 mg/m² (1.425 times the approved recommended dosage).

Distribution

The mean (%CV) volume of distribution at steady-state was greater than 1,000 L (x CV%). Serum protein binding of ixabepilone ranged from 67% to 77% and the blood-to-plasma concentration ratios ranged from 0.65 to 0.85.

Elimination

Ixabepilone has a terminal elimination half-life of approximately 52 hours (x CV%).

Metabolism

Ixabepilone is metabolized by CYP3A4.

Excretion

Ixabepilone is eliminated primarily as metabolites in feces (65% of the dose) and in urine (21% of the dose). Unchanged ixabepilone accounted for approximately 1.6% and 5.6% of the dose in feces and urine, respectively.

Specific Populations

Based upon a population pharmacokinetic analysis in 676 cancer patients, gender, race, age, mild and moderate renal insufficiency (creatinine clearance [CL_{cr}]/CrCL >30 mL/min) do not have clinically meaningful effects on the pharmacokinetics of ixabepilone.

Patients with Hepatic Impairment

IXEMPRA was evaluated in 56 patients with mild to severe hepatic impairment defined by bilirubin levels and AST levels. Compared to patients with normal hepatic function (n=17), the area under the curve (AUC_{0-infinity}) of ixabepilone AUC increased by:

- 22% in patients with mild hepatic impairment [a) bilirubin >1 to 1.5 x ULN and AST < ULN or b) AST >ULN but bilirubin <1.5 x ULN];
- 30% in patients with moderate hepatic impairment (bilirubin >1.5 to 3 x ULN and any AST level);
- 81% in patients with severe hepatic impairment (bilirubin >3 x ULN and any AST level).

Drug Interaction Studies

Clinical Studies

Effect of Strong CYP3A4 Inhibitors on IXEMPRA:

Coadministration of ixabepilone with ketoconazole, a strong CYP3A4 inhibitor, increased ixabepilone AUC by 79% compared to ixabepilone treatment alone.

Effect of Strong CYP3A4 Inducers on IXEMPRA:

Coadministration of IXEMPRA with rifampin, a strong CYP3A4 inducer, decreased ixabepilone AUC by 43% compared to IXEMPRA treatment alone.

Capecitabine:

In patients with cancer who received ixabepilone (40 mg/m²) in combination with capecitabine decreased (1000 mg/m²), ixabepilone C_{max} decreased by 19% and capecitabine C_{max} decreased by 27%, and 5-fluorouracil AUC increased by 14%; as compared to ixabepilone or capecitabine administered separately.

In Vitro Studies

Cytochrome P450 (CYP) Enzymes:

In vitro studies using human liver microsomes indicate that clinically relevant concentrations of ixabepilone do not inhibit CYP3A4, CYP1A2, CYP2A6, CYP2B6, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, or CYP2D6.

Ixabepilone does not induce the activity or the corresponding mRNA levels of CYP1A2, CYP2B6, CYP2C9, or CYP3A4 in cultured human hepatocytes at clinically relevant concentrations.

Transporter Systems:

Ixabepilone is a substrate of P-gp but is not a substrate of BCRP. Ixabepilone is an inhibitor of P-gp for the drug efflux transporter P-glycoprotein (P-gp).

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenicity studies with ixabepilone have not been conducted. Ixabepilone did not induce mutations in the microbial mutagenesis (Ames) assay and was not clastogenic in an *in vitro* cytogenetic assay using primary human lymphocytes. Ixabepilone was clastogenic (induction of micronuclei) in the *in vivo* rat micronucleus assay at doses ≥ 0.625 mg/kg/day.

There were no effects on male or female rat mating or fertility at doses up to 0.2 mg/kg/day in both males and females (approximately 0.1 times the expected human clinical exposure based on AUC). The effect of ixabepilone on human fertility is unknown. However, when rats were given an IV infusion

of ixabepilone during breeding and through the first 7 days of gestation, a significant increase in resorptions and pre- and post-implantation loss and a decrease in the number of corpora lutea was observed at 0.2 mg/kg/day. Testicular atrophy or degeneration was observed in 6-month rat and 9-month dog studies when ixabepilone was given every 21 days at intravenous doses of 6.7 mg/kg (40 mg/m²) in rats (approximately 2.1 times the expected clinical exposure based on AUC) and 0.5 and 0.75 mg/kg (10 and 15 mg/m²) in dogs (approximately 0.2 and 0.4 times the expected clinical exposure based on AUC).

13.2 Animal Toxicology and/or Pharmacology

Overdosage

In rats, single intravenous doses of ixabepilone from 60 to 180 mg/m² (mean AUC values \geq 8156 ng•h/mL) were associated with mortality occurring between 5 and 14 days after dosing, and toxicity was principally manifested in the gastrointestinal, hematopoietic (bone-marrow), lymphatic, peripheral-nervous, and male-reproductive systems. In dogs, a single intravenous dose of 100 mg/m² (mean AUC value of 6925 ng•h/mL) was markedly toxic, inducing severe gastrointestinal toxicity and death 3 days after dosing.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

Combination Therapy

In an open-label, multicenter, multinational, randomized trial of 752 patients with metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer, the efficacy and safety of IXEMPRA (40 mg/m² every 3 weeks) in combination with capecitabine (at 1000 mg/m² twice daily for 2 weeks followed by 1 week rest) were assessed in comparison with capecitabine as a single agent (at 1250 mg/m² twice daily for 2 weeks followed by 1 week rest). Patients were previously treated with anthracyclines and taxanes. Patients were required to have demonstrated tumor progression or resistance to taxanes and anthracyclines as follows:

- tumor progression within 3 months of the last anthracycline dose in the metastatic setting or recurrence within 6 months in the adjuvant or neoadjuvant setting, and
- tumor progression within 4 months of the last taxane dose in the metastatic setting or recurrence within 12 months in the adjuvant or neoadjuvant setting.

For anthracyclines, patients who received a minimum cumulative dose of 240 mg/m² of doxorubicin or 360 mg/m² of epirubicin were also eligible.

In this study, the median age of patients was 53 years, 67% were White, 23% were Asian, and 3% were Black; Karnofsky performance status was 70-100%; and 75% had received prior adjuvant or neoadjuvant chemotherapy. Tumors were ER-positive in 47% of patients, ER-negative in 43%, HER2-positive in 15%, HER2-negative in 61%, and ER-negative, PR-negative, HER2-negative in 25%. The baseline disease characteristics and previous therapies for all patients (n=752) are shown in [Table 6](#).

Table 6: Baseline Disease Characteristics and Previous Therapies

	IXEMPRA with capecitabine n=375	Capecitabine n=377
Site of disease		
Visceral disease (liver or lung)	316 (84%)	315 (84%)
Liver	245 (65%)	228 (61%)
Lung	180 (48%)	174 (46%)
Lymph node	250 (67%)	249 (66%)
Bone	168 (45%)	162 (43%)
Skin/soft tissue	60 (16%)	62 (16%)
Number of prior chemotherapy regimens in metastatic setting^a		
0	27 (7%)	33 (9%)
1	179 (48%)	184 (49%)
2	152 (41%)	138 (37%)
≥3	17 (5%)	22 (6%)
Anthracycline resistance^b	164 (44%)	165 (44%)
Taxane Resistance^c		
Neoadjuvant/adjuvant setting	40 (11%)	44 (12%)
Metastatic setting	327 (87%)	319 (85%)

^a For IXEMPRA plus capecitabine versus capecitabine only, prior treatment in the metastatic setting included cyclophosphamide (25% vs. 23%), fluorouracil (22% vs. 16%), vinorelbine (11% vs. 12%), gemcitabine (9% each arm), carboplatin (9% vs. 7%), liposomal doxorubicin (3% each arm), and cisplatin (2% vs. 3%).

^b Tumor progression within 3 months in the metastatic setting or recurrence within 6 months in the adjuvant or neoadjuvant setting.

^c 24% and 21% of patients had received 2 or more taxane-containing regimens in the combination and single agent treatment groups, respectively.

The patients in the combination treatment group received a median of 5 cycles of treatment and patients in the capecitabine single agent treatment group received a median of 4 cycles of treatment.

The major efficacy outcome measure of the study was progression-free survival (PFS) defined as time from randomization to radiologic progression as determined by Independent Radiologic Review (IRR), clinical progression of measurable skin lesions or death from any cause. Additional efficacy outcome measures included objective tumor response based on Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST), response duration, and overall survival.

IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine resulted in a statistically significant improvement in PFS compared to capecitabine. The results of the study are presented in [Table 7](#) and [Figure 1](#).

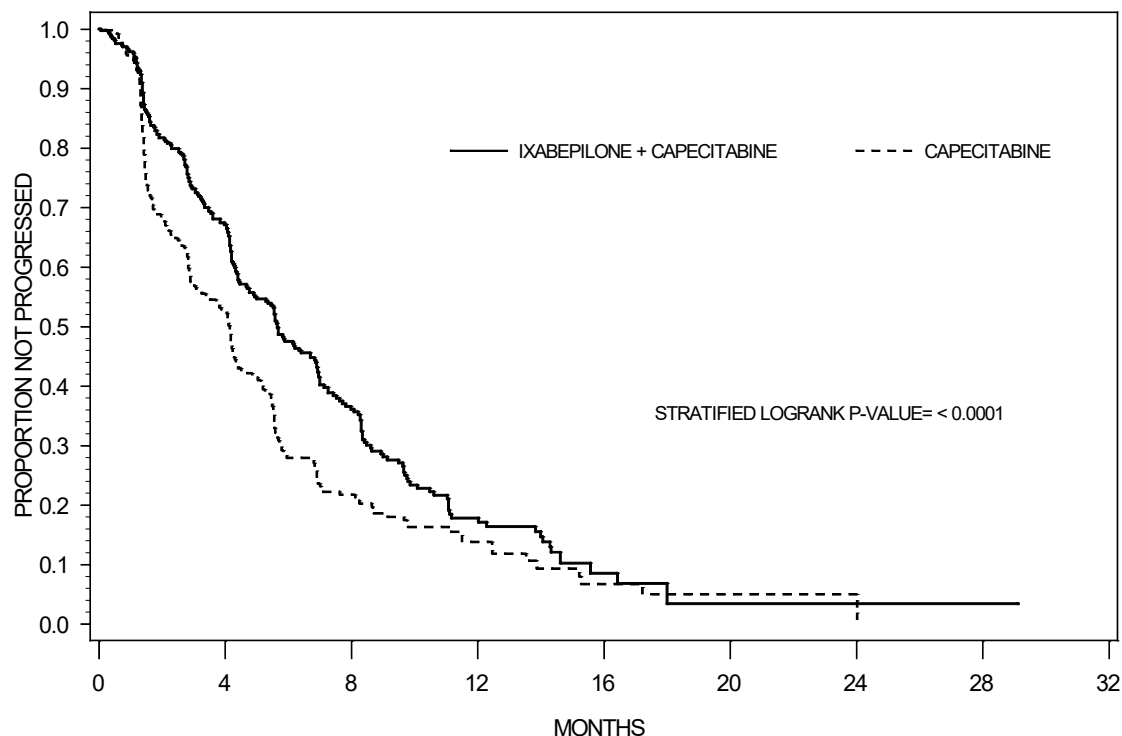
Table 7: Efficacy of IXEMPRA in Combination with Capecitabine vs Capecitabine Alone – Intent-to-Treat Analysis

Efficacy Parameter	IXEMPRA with capecitabine n=375	Capecitabine n=377
PFS		
Number of events	242	256
Median (95% CI)	5.7 months (4.8 - 6.7)	4.1 months (3.1 - 4.3)
Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	0.69 (0.58 - 0.83)	
p-value ^a (Log rank)	<0.0001	
Objective Tumor Response Rate (95% CI)	34.7% (29.9 - 39.7)	14.3% (10.9 - 18.3)
p-value ^{a,b} (CMH)	<0.0001	
Duration of Response, Median (95% CI)	6.4 months (5.6 - 7.1)	5.6 months (4.2 - 7.5)

^a Stratified by visceral metastasis in liver/lung, prior chemotherapy in metastatic setting, and anthracycline resistance.

^b Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test

Figure 1: Progression-free Survival Kaplan Meier Curves



There was no statistically significant difference in overall survival between treatment arms in this study, as well as in a second similar study. In the study described above, the median overall survivals were 12.9 months (95% CI: 11.5, 14.2) in the combination therapy arm and 11.1 months (95% CI: 10.0, 12.5) in the capecitabine alone arm [Hazard Ratio 0.90 (95% CI: 0.77, 1.05), p-value=0.19].

In the second trial, comparing IXEMPRA in combination with capecitabine versus capecitabine alone, conducted in 1221 patients pretreated with an anthracycline and a taxane, the median overall survival was 16.4 months (95% CI: 15.0, 17.9) in the combination therapy arm and 15.6 months (95% CI: 13.9, 17.0), in the capecitabine alone arm [Hazard Ratio 0.90 (95% CI: 0.78, 1.03), p-value=0.12].

IXEMPRA as a Single Agent

IXEMPRA was evaluated as a single agent in a multicenter single-arm study in 126 women with metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer. The study enrolled patients whose tumors had recurred or had progressed following two or more chemotherapy regimens including an anthracycline, a taxane, and capecitabine. Patients who had received a minimum cumulative dose of 240 mg/m² of doxorubicin or 360 mg/m² of epirubicin were also eligible. Tumor progression or recurrence were prospectively defined as follows:

- Disease progression while on therapy in the metastatic setting (defined as progression while on treatment or within 8 weeks of last dose),
- Recurrence within 6 months of the last dose in the adjuvant or neoadjuvant setting (only for anthracycline and taxane),

- HER2-positive patients must also have progressed during or after discontinuation of trastuzumab.

In this study, the median age was 51 years (range, 30-78), and 79% were White, 5% Black, and 2% Asian, Karnofsky performance status was 70-100%, 88% had received two or more prior chemotherapy regimens for metastatic disease, and 86% had liver and/or lung metastases. Tumors were ER-positive in 48% of patients, ER-negative in 44%, HER2-positive in 7%, HER2-negative in 72%, and ER-negative, PR-negative, HER2-negative in 33%.

IXEMPRA was administered at a dose of 40 mg/m² intravenously over 3 hours every 3 weeks. Patients received a median of 4 cycles (range 1 to 18) of IXEMPRA therapy.

Objective tumor response was determined by independent radiologic and investigator review using RECIST. Efficacy results are presented in Table 8.

Table 8: Efficacy of IXEMPRA in Metastatic and Locally Advanced Breast Cancer

Endpoint	Result
Objective tumor response rate (95% CI)	
IRR Assessment ^a (n=113)	12.4% (6.9 - 19.9)
Investigator Assessment (n=126)	18.3% (11.9 - 26.1)
Time to response ^b (n=14)	
Median, weeks (min - max)	6.1 (5 - 54.4)
Duration of response ^b (n=14)	
Median, months (95% CI)	6.0 (5.0 - 7.6)

^a All responses were partial.

^b As assessed by IRR.

15 REFERENCES

1. OSHA Hazardous Drugs. OSHA. <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/hazardousdrugs/index.html> OSHA

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

IXEMPRA is supplied as a *Kit* containing one single-dose vial of IXEMPRA[®] (ixabepilone) for injection and one vial of DILUENT for IXEMPRA.

NDC 70020-1910-1

IXEMPRA[®] *Kit* containing one single-dose vial of IXEMPRA[®] (ixabepilone) for injection, 15 mg and one vial of DILUENT for IXEMPRA, 8 mL

NDC 70020-1911-1

IXEMPRA[®] *Kit* containing one single-dose vial of IXEMPRA[®] (ixabepilone) for injection, 45 mg and one vial of DILUENT for IXEMPRA, 23.5 mL

IXEMPRA *Kit* must be stored in a refrigerator at 2° C to 8° C (36° F to 46° F). Retain in original package until time of use to protect from light.

IXEMPRA is a hazardous drug. Follow applicable special handling and disposal procedures.¹

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Patient Information).

Peripheral Neuropathy

Advise patients to report any numbness and tingling of the hands or feet to their healthcare provider [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

Fever/Neutropenia

Instruct patients immediately contact their healthcare provider if a fever of 100.5° F or greater or other evidence of potential infection such as chills, cough, or burning or pain on urination occur [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Hypersensitivity Reactions

Advise patients to immediately contact their healthcare provider if they experience urticaria, pruritus, rash, flushing, swelling, dyspnea, chest tightness, or other hypersensitivity-related symptoms following an infusion of IXEMPRA [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*].

Cardiac Adverse Reactions

Advise patients to immediately contact call their healthcare provider if they experience chest pain, difficulty breathing, palpitations, or unusual weight gain [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*].

Embryo-Fetal Toxicity

Advise females of reproductive potential and pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus. Advise patients to inform their healthcare provider of a known or suspected pregnancy.

Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 7 months after the last dose. Advise male patients with female partners of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 4 months after the last dose [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.6) and Use in Specific Populations (8.1, 8.3)*].

Lactation

Advise women not to breastfeed during treatment with IXEMPRA and for 2 weeks after the last dose [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.2)*].

Infertility

Advise males and females of reproductive potential that IXEMPRA may impair fertility [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.3)*].

Alcohol Content in IXEMPRA

Explain to patients the possible effects of the alcohol content in IXEMPRA, including possible effects on the central nervous system [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*].