

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

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

SIKLOS (hydroxyurea) tablets, for oral use

Initial U.S. Approval: 1967

**WARNING: MYELOSUPPRESSION and MALIGNANCIES**  
See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning.

- **Myelosuppression:** SIKLOS may cause severe myelosuppression. Do not give if bone marrow function is markedly depressed. Monitor blood counts at baseline and throughout treatment. Interrupt treatment and reduce dose as necessary. (5.1)
- **Malignancies:** Hydroxyurea is carcinogenic. Advise sun protection and monitor patients for malignancies. (5.2)

### RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Warnings and Precautions, Test Interference (5.8) 11/2023  
Drug interactions, Test Interference (7.3) 11/2023

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

SIKLOS is an antimetabolite, indicated to reduce the frequency of painful crises and to reduce the need for blood transfusions in adult and pediatric patients, 2 years of age and older, with sickle cell anemia with recurrent moderate to severe painful crises. (1)

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Initial dose: 15 mg/kg in adults and 20 mg/kg in children once daily. Monitor blood counts every two weeks. (2.1)

- The dose may be increased by 5 mg/kg/day every 8 weeks, or sooner if a severe painful crisis occurs, until a maximum tolerated dose or 35 mg/kg/day is reached if blood counts are in an acceptable range. (2.1)
- Discontinue SIKLOS until hematologic recovery if blood counts are considered toxic. Resume treatment after reducing the dose by 5 mg/kg/day from the dose associated with hematological toxicity. (2.1)

- Renal impairment: Reduce the dose of SIKLOS by 50% in patients with creatinine clearance less than 60 mL/min. (2.2, 8.6, 12.3)

### DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Tablets: functionally scored 100 mg and functionally triple-scored 1,000 mg tablet (3)

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

Patients who have demonstrated a previous hypersensitivity to hydroxyurea or any other component of its formulation. (4)

### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Embryo-Fetal toxicity: Can cause fetal harm. Advise of potential risk to a fetus and use of effective contraception. (5.3, 8.1, 8.3)
- Cutaneous vasculitic toxicities (incl. leg ulcers): Institute treatment and discontinue SIKLOS and/or reduce dose if this occurs. (5.4)
- Risks with concomitant use of antiretroviral drugs: Pancreatitis, hepatotoxicity, and neuropathy have occurred. Monitor for signs and symptoms patients with HIV infection using antiretroviral drugs; discontinue SIKLOS, and implement treatment. (5.5)
- Concomitant use with live virus vaccine: increased risk of severe infections. (5.6)
- Hemolytic Anemia: Monitor blood counts throughout treatment. If hemolysis persists, discontinue SIKLOS. (5.9)

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

Most common adverse reactions to SIKLOS (incidence > 10%) include infections and neutropenia in children and infections and headache and dry skin in adults. (6)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact the marketer Medunik at 1 844-884-5520 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

### USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Lactation: Advise women to stop breastfeeding while taking SIKLOS. (8.2)

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

Revised: 11/2023

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## FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

### WARNING: MYELOSUPPRESSION and MALIGNANCIES

**Myelosuppression:** SIKLOS may cause severe myelosuppression. Monitor blood counts at baseline and throughout treatment. Interrupt treatment and reduce dose as necessary [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

**Malignancies:** Hydroxyurea is carcinogenic. Advise sun protection and monitor patients for malignancies [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

## 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

SIKLOS® is indicated to reduce the frequency of painful crises and to reduce the need for blood transfusions in adult and pediatric patients, 2 years of age and older, with sickle cell anemia with recurrent moderate to severe painful crises

## 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

### 2.1 Recommended Dosing

The recommended SIKLOS dosing is described in Table 1.

**Table 1: Dosing Recommendation Based on Blood Count**

Dosing Regimen	Dose	Dose Modification Criteria	Monitoring Parameters
<b>Initial Recommended Dosing</b>	Adults: 15 mg/kg Pediatrics: 20 mg/kg once daily based on patient's actual or ideal weight, whichever is less.		Monitor the patient's blood count every 2 weeks [see <i>Warnings and Precautions (5.1)</i> ].
<b>Dosing Adjustment Based on Blood Counts in an acceptable range</b>	Increase dose 5 mg/kg/day every 8 weeks or if a painful crisis occurs.  Give until mild myelosuppression (absolute neutrophil count 2,000/uL to 4,000/uL) is achieved, up to a maximum of 35 mg/kg/day.	Increase dosing only if blood counts are in an acceptable range.  Increase dosing if a painful crisis occurs.  Do not increase if myelosuppression occurs.	<b>Blood Counts Acceptable Range:</b> - neutrophils greater than or equal to 2,000 cells/mm <sup>3</sup> - platelets greater than or equal to 80,000/mm <sup>3</sup> - hemoglobin greater than 5.3 g/dL - reticulocytes greater than or equal to 80,000/mm <sup>3</sup> if the hemoglobin concentration less than 9 g/dL
<b>Dosing Adjustment Based on Blood Counts in a toxic range</b>	Discontinue treatment.	If blood counts are considered toxic, discontinue SIKLOS until hematologic recovery.	<b>Blood Counts Toxic Range:</b> - neutrophils less than 2,000 cells/mm <sup>3</sup> younger patients with lower baseline counts may safely tolerate absolute neutrophil counts down to 1,250/mm <sup>3</sup> . - platelets less than 80,000/mm <sup>3</sup>

Dosing Regimen	Dose	Dose Modification Criteria	Monitoring Parameters
			- hemoglobin less than 4.5 g/dL - reticulocytes less than 80,000/mm <sup>3</sup> if the hemoglobin concentration less than 9 g/dL
<b>Dosing After Hematologic Recovery</b>	Reduce dose by 5 mg/kg/day.	Reduce the dose from the dose associated with hematologic toxicity.  May titrate up or down every 8 weeks in 5 mg/kg/day increments.  The patient should be at a stable dose with no hematologic toxicity for 24 weeks.  Discontinue the treatment permanently if a patient develops hematologic toxicity twice.	

Siklos is available in 100 mg and 1,000 mg tablets. The 100 mg tablets have 1 score line and can be split into 2 parts (each 50 mg). The 1,000 mg tablets have 3 score lines and can be split into 4 parts (each 250 mg). Therefore, the two strengths can be used to deliver doses of 1,000 mg, 750 mg, 500 mg, 250 mg, 100 mg, 50 mg and combinations thereof. Calculate the rounded doses to the nearest 50 mg or 100 mg strength based on clinical judgment.

Patients must be able to follow directions regarding drug administration and their monitoring and care.

Fetal hemoglobin (HbF) levels may be used to evaluate the efficacy of SIKLOS in clinical use. Obtain HbF levels every three to four months. Monitor for an increase in HbF of at least two-fold over the baseline value.

**Administration:**

The tablets should be taken once daily, at the same time each day, with a glass of water. For patients who are not able to swallow the tablets, these can be dispersed **immediately before use** in a small quantity of water in a teaspoon.

SIKLOS is a cytotoxic drug. Follow applicable special handling and disposal procedures [see *References (15)*].

**2.2 Dose Modifications for Renal Impairment**

Reduce the dose of SIKLOS by 50% in patients with creatinine clearance of less than 60 mL/min or with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.6) and Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*]. Obtain the creatinine clearance using a 24-hour urine collection.

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Recommended SIKLOS Initial Dose (mg/kg daily)	
	Pediatrics	Adults
Greater than or equal to 60	20	15

Less than 60 or ESRD*	10	7.5
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\* On dialysis days, administer SIKLOS to patients with ESRD following hemodialysis

Monitor the hematologic parameters closely in these patients.

### 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Tablets:

- 100 mg tablets: off-white, capsule-shaped, film-coated, functionally scored tablet with scoring on both sides which can be divided into two equal parts, each part is debossed with “H” on one side.
- 1,000 mg tablets: off-white, capsule-shaped, film-coated, functionally triple-scored tablet with scoring on both sides which can be divided into four equal parts, each part is debossed with “T” on one side.

### 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

SIKLOS is contraindicated in:

- Patients who have demonstrated a previous hypersensitivity to hydroxyurea or any other component of its formulation [see *Adverse Reactions (6)*].

### 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

#### 5.1 Myelosuppression

Hydroxyurea causes severe myelosuppression. Do not initiate treatment with hydroxyurea in patients if bone marrow function is markedly depressed. Bone marrow suppression may occur, and leukopenia is generally its first and most common manifestation. Thrombocytopenia and anemia occur less often, and are seldom seen without a preceding leukopenia.

Some patients, treated at the recommended initial dose of 15 mg/kg/day in adults or 20 mg/kg/day in children, have experienced severe or life-threatening myelosuppression. Due to the change in body weight requiring modification of daily dose, pediatric patients have an increased risk of myelosuppression at the time of dose adjustment.

Evaluate hematologic status prior to and every two weeks during treatment with SIKLOS. Provide supportive care and modify dose or discontinue SIKLOS as needed. Recovery from myelosuppression is usually observed within 15 days when therapy is interrupted. Resume therapy after interruption at a lower dose [see *Dosage and Administration (2.1)*].

#### 5.2 Malignancies

Hydroxyurea is a human carcinogen. In patients receiving long-term hydroxyurea for myeloproliferative disorders (a condition for which Siklos is not approved), secondary leukemia has been reported. Leukemia secondary to long-term hydroxyurea has also been reported in patients with for sickle cell disease. Leukemia has also been reported in patients with sickle cell disease and no prior history of treatment with hydroxyurea.

Skin cancer has also been reported in patients receiving long-term hydroxyurea. Advise protection from sun exposure and monitor for the development of secondary malignancies.

#### 5.3 Embryo-Fetal Toxicity

Based on the mechanism of action and findings in animals, SIKLOS can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Hydroxyurea was embryotoxic and teratogenic in rats and rabbits at doses 0.8 times and 0.3 times, respectively, the maximum recommended human daily dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis. Advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*].

Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during and after treatment with SIKLOS for at least 6 months after therapy. Advise males of reproductive potential to use effective

contraception during and after treatment with SIKLOS for at least 6 months after therapy [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.1, 8.3)*].

#### **5.4 Vasculitic Toxicities (Including Leg Ulcers)**

Cutaneous vasculitic toxicities, including vasculitic ulcerations and gangrene, have occurred in patients with myeloproliferative disorders during therapy with hydroxyurea. These vasculitic toxicities were reported most often in patients with a history of, or currently receiving, interferon therapy. Due to potentially severe clinical outcomes for the cutaneous vasculitic ulcers reported in patients with myeloproliferative disease (a condition for which SIKLOS is not approved), treatment with SIKLOS should be discontinued and/or its dose reduced if cutaneous vasculitic ulcerations develop. Rarely, ulcers are caused by leukocytoclastic vasculitis.

Avoid use of SIKLOS in patients with wounds on the legs (leg ulcers).

#### **5.5 Risks with Concomitant Use of Antiretroviral Drugs**

Pancreatitis, hepatotoxicity, and peripheral neuropathy have occurred when hydroxyurea was administered concomitantly with antiretroviral drugs, including didanosine and stavudine [see *Drug Interactions (7.1)*].

#### **5.6 Risks with Concomitant Use of Live Virus Vaccine**

Avoid use of live virus vaccine in patients taking SIKLOS. Concomitant use of hydroxyurea with a live virus vaccine may potentiate the replication of the vaccine virus and/or may increase the adverse reactions of the vaccine virus and result in severe infections [see *Drug Interactions (7.2)*]. Patient's antibody response to vaccines may be decreased. Consider consultation with a specialist.

#### **5.7 Macrocytosis**

SIKLOS may cause macrocytosis, which is self-limiting, and is often seen early in the course of treatment. The morphologic change resembles pernicious anemia, but is not related to vitamin B12 or folic acid deficiency. This may mask the diagnosis of pernicious anemia. Prophylactic administration of folic acid is recommended.

#### **5.8 Test Interference**

Interference with Uric Acid, Urea, or Lactic Acid Assays is possible, rendering falsely elevated results of these in patients treated with hydroxyurea [see *Drug Interactions (7.3)*].

Hydroxyurea may falsely elevate sensor glucose results from certain continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) systems and may lead to hypoglycemia if sensor glucose results are relied upon to dose insulin.

If a patient using a CGM is to be prescribed hydroxyurea, consult with the CGM prescriber about alternative glucose monitoring methods [see *Drug Interactions (7.3)*].

#### **5.9 Hemolytic Anemia**

Cases of hemolytic anemia in patients treated with hydroxyurea for myeloproliferative diseases have been reported [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. Patients who develop acute jaundice or hematuria in the presence of persistent or worsening of anemia should have laboratory tests evaluated for hemolysis (e.g., measurement of serum lactate dehydrogenase, haptoglobin, reticulocyte, unconjugated bilirubin levels, urinalysis, and direct and indirect antiglobulin [Coombs] tests). In the setting of confirmed diagnosis of hemolytic anemia not related to the disease and in the absence of other causes, discontinue SIKLOS.

### **6 ADVERSE REACTIONS**

The following clinically significant adverse reactions are described elsewhere in the labeling:

- Myelosuppression [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]
- Malignancies [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]
- Vasculitic toxicities (including Leg Ulcers) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]
- Risks with concomitant use of antiretroviral drugs [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]

- Risk with concomitant use of live virus vaccine [see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)]
- Macrocytosis [see Warnings and Precautions (5.7)]
- Hemolytic Anemia [see Warnings and Precautions (5.9)]

### 6.1 Clinical Trial 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 SIKLOS has been assessed in 405 pediatric patients with sickle cell disease from 2-18 years of age and 1077 adults in the European Sickle Cell Disease prospective Cohort study ESCORT-HU.

The most frequently reported adverse reactions in ESCORT-HU were infections and myelosuppression, with mild to moderate neutropenia as the most common manifestation.

Other adverse reactions include skin and subcutaneous disorders (skin depigmentation/melanonychia, skin rash, alopecia), gastrointestinal disorders, vitamin D deficiency and headache.

At least one serious adverse reaction was reported in 33% of the 405 pediatric patients and 32% of the 1077 adults with sickle cell disease in ESCORT-HU. The most frequent serious adverse reactions were infections (18%), and blood and lymphatic system disorders (9%) in children, including serious neutropenia (3.2%), thrombocytopenia (3%) and anemia (3%). Other reported serious adverse reactions were gastrointestinal disorders (3.2%), fever (2.5%) and nervous system disorders (4%), including headache (2.7%). Among adults, the most frequent serious adverse reactions were infections (12.9%), respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders (5.8%), blood and lymphatic disorders (4.8%), nervous system disorders (3.6%), and general disorders and administration site disorders (3.1%).

**Table 2: Most frequent (greater than or equal to 2%) adverse reactions reported in pediatric patients enrolled in ESCORT-HU**

Global Safety Set (N=405)	Total		Severity					
			Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
At least one adverse reaction	261	64						
<b>Infections</b>	161	40	120	30	88	22	18	4.4
Other Infections	92	23	66	16	32	8	3	0.7
Bacterial	65	16	24	6	37	9	10	2.5
Viral	40	10	23	6	14	3.5	3	0.7
Parvovirus B19	15	4	7	1.7	5	1.2	2	0.5
<b>Blood and lymphatic system disorders</b>	85	21	51	13	59	15	14	3.5
Neutropenia	51	13	26	6	31	8	4	1
Thrombocytopenia	30	7	16	4	15	3.7	2	0.5
Anemia	17	4.2	4	1	8	2	7	1.7
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>	53	13	29	7	30	7	4	1
Other Gastrointestinal Disorders	30	7	13	3.2	15	3.7	2	0.5
Constipation	10	2.5	5	1.2	5	1.2	0	0
Nausea	10	2.5	4	1	4	1	2	0.5
<b>Metabolic and nutrition disorders</b>	44	11	24	6	21	5	1	0.2
Deficiency of vitamin D	25	6	19	4.7	7	1.7	1	0.2
Other Metabolic and nutrition disorders	8	2	3	0.7	4	1	1	0.2

Weight gain	8	2	1	0.2	7	1.7	0	0
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>	45	11	19	4.7	19	4.7	8	2
Headache	30	7	15	3.7	7	1.7	4	1
Other Nervous system disorders	11	2.7	2	0.5	4	1	4	1
<b>General disorders</b>	41	10	22	5	17	4.2	4	1
Fever	31	8	20	4.9	12	3	2	0.5
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>	38	9	29	7	14	3.5	1	0.2
Skin reactions	15	4	8	2	7	1.7	1	0.2
Other Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	13	3.2	8	2	5	1.2	0	0
<b>Other Not SCD-related reactions</b>	23	6	16	4	3	0.7	1	0.2
Other Not SCD-related reactions	23	6	16	4	3	0.7	1	0.2
<b>Respiratory thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>	11	3	6	1.5	3	0.7	2	0.5
<b>Renal and urinary disorders</b>	8	2	2	0.5	4	1	0	0

n: number of patients with an adverse reaction

**Table 3: Most frequent (greater than or equal to 3%) adverse reactions reported in adult patients enrolled in ESCORT-HU**

Global adult safety set (N=1077)	Total		Severity					
			Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>At least one adverse reaction</b>	897	84	586	54	617	57	345	32
<b>Infections</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>9</b>
Viral infection	47	4.4	17	1.6	21	1.9	5	0.5
Bacterial infection	45	4.2	9	0.8	27	2.5	5	0.5
Bronchitis	41	3.8	10	0.9	19	1.8	3	0.3
Influenza	40	3.7	8	0.7	15	1.4	5	0.5
Urinary tract infection	40	3.7	19	1.8	11	1.0	1	0.1
Nasopharyngitis	40	3.7	21	1.9	13	1.2	1	0.1
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>5</b>
Headache	211	20	84	8	74	7	27	2.5
Dizziness	100	9	43	4.0	32	3.0	9	0.8
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Asthenia	100	9	30	2.8	18	1.7	10	0.9
Pyrexia	91	8	27	2.5	39	3.6	4	0.4
Fatigue	51	4.7	22	2.0	17	1.6	2	0.2
Edema peripheral	33	3.1	9	0.8	13	1.2	2	0.2
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Dry skin	128	12	67	6.2	36	3.3	5	0.5
Skin ulcer	80	7	19	1.8	44	4.1	11	1.0
Alopecia	49	4.5	31	2.9	13	1.2	5	0.5
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Nausea	69	6	28	2.6	26	2.4	3	0.3
Abdominal pain upper	52	4.8	15	1.4	22	2.0	5	0.5
Diarrhea	37	3.4	10	0.9	13	1.2		
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Cough	59	5.5	23	2.1	21	1.9	3	0.3
Lung disorder	51	4.7	4	0.4	28	2.6	16	1.5
Dyspnea	44	4.1	12	1.1	14	1.3	4	0.4
<b>Blood and lymphatic system disorders</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>6</b>
Anemia	103	10	11	1.0	51	4.7	37	3.4

Thrombocytopenia	70	7	29	2.7	30	2.8	13	1.2
Neutropenia	50	4.6	24	2.2	18	1.7	7	0.6
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Arthralgia	95	9	26	2.4	31	2.9	7	0.6
Back pain	48	4.5	11	1.0	18	1.7	6	0.6
Pain in extremity	33	3.1	14	1.3	10	0.9		
<b>Investigations</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Weight increased	43	4.0	15	1.4	22	2.0	4	0.4

## 6.2 Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of SIKLOS. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

- *Blood and lymphatic system disorders:* macrocytosis, hemolytic anemia in patients who are treated with hydroxyurea for myeloproliferative disorders.
- *Gastrointestinal disorders:* vomiting, gastrointestinal ulcer, severe hypomagnesemia
- *Hepatobiliary disorders:* elevation of hepatic enzymes
- *Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:* skin reactions (oral, ungula and cutaneous pigmentation), oral mucositis, rash, melanonychia,
- *Reproductive system and breast disorders:* oligospermia, azoospermia, amenorrhea

## 7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

### 7.1 Increased Toxicity with Concomitant Use of Antiretroviral Drugs

#### *Pancreatitis*

Pancreatitis (including fatal cases) have occurred in patients with HIV infection during therapy with hydroxyurea and didanosine, with or without stavudine. Hydroxyurea is not indicated for the treatment of HIV infection; however, if patients with HIV infection are treated with hydroxyurea, and in particular, in combination with didanosine and/or stavudine, monitor closely for signs and symptoms of pancreatitis. Permanently discontinue therapy with hydroxyurea in patients who develop signs and symptoms of pancreatitis.

#### *Hepatotoxicity*

Hepatotoxicity and hepatic failure resulting in death have been reported during postmarketing surveillance in patients with HIV infection treated with hydroxyurea and other antiretroviral drugs. Fatal hepatic events were reported most often in patients treated with the combination of hydroxyurea, didanosine, and stavudine. Avoid this combination.

#### *Peripheral Neuropathy*

Peripheral neuropathy, which was severe in some cases, has been reported in patients with HIV infection receiving hydroxyurea in combination with antiretroviral drugs, including didanosine, with or without stavudine.

### 7.2 Concomitant Use of Live Virus Vaccine

Concomitant use of SIKLOS with a live virus vaccine may potentiate the replication of the vaccine virus and/or may increase the adverse reactions of the vaccine virus, because normal defense mechanisms may be suppressed by SIKLOS therapy. Vaccination with a live vaccine in a patient taking SIKLOS may result in severe infections. Generally, the patient's antibody response to vaccines may be decreased. Treatment

with SIKLOS and concomitant immunization with live virus vaccines should only be performed if benefits clearly outweigh potential risks. Consider consultation with a specialist.

### **7.3 Test Interference**

#### *Interference with Uric Acid, Urea, or Lactic Acid Assays*

Studies have shown that there is an analytical interference of SIKLOS with the enzymes (urease, uricase, and lactate dehydrogenase) used in the determination of urea, uric acid, and lactic acid, rendering falsely elevated results of these in patients treated with SIKLOS.

#### *Interference with Continuous Glucose Monitoring Systems*

Hydroxyurea may falsely elevate sensor glucose results from certain continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) systems and may lead to hypoglycemia if sensor glucose results are relied upon to dose insulin.

If a patient using a CGM is to be prescribed hydroxyurea, consult with the CGM prescriber about alternative glucose monitoring methods.

## **8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS**

### **8.1 Pregnancy**

#### Risk Summary

SIKLOS can cause fetal harm based on findings from animal studies and the drug's mechanism of action [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)*]. There are no studies with the use of SIKLOS in pregnant women, and limited available data on SIKLOS use during pregnancy are insufficient to inform drug-associated risks. Drugs which affect DNA synthesis, such as hydroxyurea, may be potential mutagenic agents. In animal reproduction studies, administration of hydroxyurea to pregnant rats and rabbits during organogenesis produced embryotoxic and teratogenic effects at doses 0.8 times and 0.3 times, respectively, the maximum recommended human daily dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis. In rats and rabbits, fetal malformations were observed with partially ossified cranial bones, absence of eye sockets, hydrocephaly, bipartite sternbrae, and missing lumbar vertebrae. Embryotoxicity was characterized by decreased fetal viability, reduced live litter sizes, and developmental delays (*see Data*). Advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus (*see Clinical Considerations*).

Background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated population are unknown. All pregnancies have a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2%–4% and 15%–20%, respectively.

#### Clinical Considerations

##### *Fetal/Neonatal adverse reactions*

Although the data on a limited number of exposed pregnancies indicate no adverse effects on pregnancy or on the health of the fetus/newborn, patients on SIKLOS should be made aware of the potential risks to the fetus.

Based on the limited amount of available information, in case of an exposure to SIKLOS of pregnant female patients or pregnant partners of male patients, treated by SIKLOS, a careful follow-up with adequate clinical, biological and ultrasonographic examinations should be considered.

#### Data

##### *Human Data*

According to a retrospective analysis of a cohort of 123 adult patients treated with hydroxyurea, twenty-three pregnancies have been reported from 15 women treated with hydroxyurea and partners of 3 men not using barrier contraception treated with hydroxyurea. Most (61%) had no adverse developmental outcomes. In the other cases with known evolution, pregnancy had been interrupted either voluntarily or upon medical advice.

In retrospective cohorts of 352 children and adolescents with sickle cell disease older than 2 years treated with hydroxyurea for a period of up to 12 years, 3 pregnancies under hydroxyurea were reported with no adverse developmental outcomes.

From post-marketing data of SIKLOS, 3 pregnancies have been reported while the father was treated with SIKLOS and 16 pregnancies have been reported in 15 females treated with SIKLOS. Among the 13 cases with known evolution, 5 pregnancies had no adverse developmental outcomes, 4 led to premature birth, and 4 were early terminated.

#### *Animal Data*

Hydroxyurea has been demonstrated to be a potent teratogen in a wide variety of animal models, including mice, hamsters, cats, miniature swine, dogs, and monkeys at doses within 1-fold of the human dose given on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis. Hydroxyurea is embryotoxic and causes fetal malformations (partially ossified cranial bones, absence of eye sockets, hydrocephaly, bipartite sternbrae, missing lumbar vertebrae) at 180 mg/kg/day (about 0.8 times the maximum recommended human daily dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) in rats and at 30 mg/kg/day (about 0.3 times the maximum recommended human daily dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) in rabbits. Embryotoxicity was characterized by decreased fetal viability, reduced live litter sizes, and developmental delays. Hydroxyurea crosses the placenta. Single doses of  $\geq 375$  mg/kg (about 1.7 times the maximum recommended human daily dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) to rats caused growth retardation and impaired learning ability.

## **8.2 Lactation**

### Risk Summary

It is not known whether SIKLOS is excreted in human milk, the effects of SIKLOS on the breastfed child, or the effects of SIKLOS on milk production. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in a breastfed child from SIKLOS, including carcinogenicity, advise patients not to breastfeed during treatment with SIKLOS.

## **8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential**

### Pregnancy Testing

SIKLOS can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*].

Verify the pregnancy status of females of reproductive potential prior to initiating SIKLOS therapy.

### Contraception

#### *Females*

Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during and after treatment with SIKLOS for at least 6 months after therapy. Advise females to immediately report pregnancy.

#### *Males*

SIKLOS may damage spermatozoa and testicular tissue, resulting in possible genetic abnormalities. Males with female sexual partners of reproductive potential should use effective contraception during and after treatment with SIKLOS for at least 6 months after therapy [*see Nonclinical Toxicology (13.1)*].

### Infertility

#### *Males*

Based on findings in animals and humans, male fertility may be compromised by treatment with SIKLOS. Azoospermia or oligospermia, sometimes reversible, has been observed in men. Before the start of therapy, inform male patients about the possibility of sperm conservation [*see Adverse Reactions (6) and Nonclinical Toxicology (13.1)*].

## **8.4 Pediatric Use**

The safety and effectiveness of SIKLOS have been established in pediatric patients aged 2-18 years with sickle cell anemia with recurrent moderate to severe painful crises. Use of SIKLOS in these age groups is supported by evidence from a non-interventional cohort study, the European Sickle Cell Disease

prospective Cohort study, ESCORT-HU, in which 405 pediatric patients ages 2 to <18 were enrolled. Among the 405 pediatric patients treated with SIKLOS, 274 were children (2-11) and 108 were adolescents (12-16) [see *Clinical Studies (14)*].

Continuous follow-up of the growth of treated children is recommended.

Pediatric patients aged 2-16 years had a higher risk of neutropenia than patients more than 16 years old. The safety and effectiveness of SIKLOS have not been established in pediatric patients less than 2 years of age.

### 8.6 Renal Impairment

The exposure to SIKLOS is higher in patients with creatinine clearance of less than 60 mL/min. Reduce dosage and closely monitor the hematologic parameters when SIKLOS is to be administered to these patients [see *Dosage and Administration (2.2)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

### 8.7 Hepatic Impairment

Monitor hematologic parameters more frequently in patients with hepatic impairment receiving SIKLOS.

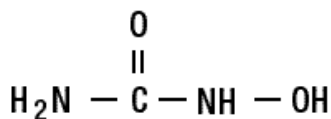
## 10 OVERDOSAGE

Acute mucocutaneous toxicity has been reported in patients receiving hydroxyurea at doses several times above the therapeutic dose. Soreness, violet erythema, oedema on palms and soles followed by scaling of hand and feet, severe generalized hyperpigmentation of the skin and stomatitis have been observed. In patients with sickle cell anemia, neutropenia was reported in isolated cases of hydroxyurea overdose (1.43 times and 8.57 times of the maximum recommended dose of 35 mg/kg b.w./day). Monitor blood counts weekly until recovery. Treatment of overdose consists of gastric lavage, followed by symptomatic treatment and control of bone marrow function.

## 11 DESCRIPTION

SIKLOS (hydroxyurea) is an antimetabolite that is available for oral use as functionally scored 100 mg film-coated tablet and functionally triple-scored 1,000 mg film-coated tablet containing 100 and 1,000 mg of hydroxyurea, respectively. Inactive ingredients include silicified microcrystalline cellulose, sodium stearyl fumarate, and film-coating agent amino methacrylate copolymer.

Hydroxyurea is a white crystalline powder. It has a molecular weight of 76.05. Its structural formula is:



## 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

### 12.1 Mechanism of Action

The precise mechanism by which hydroxyurea produces its cytotoxic and cytoreductive effects is not known. However, various studies support the hypothesis that hydroxyurea causes an immediate inhibition of DNA synthesis by acting as a ribonucleotide reductase inhibitor, without interfering with the synthesis of ribonucleic acid or of protein.

The mechanisms by which SIKLOS produces its beneficial effects in patients with sickle cell Anemia (SCA) are uncertain. Known pharmacologic effects of SIKLOS that may contribute to its beneficial effects include increasing hemoglobin F levels in red blood cells (RBCs), decreasing neutrophils, increasing the water content of RBCs, increasing deformability of sickled cells, and altering the adhesion of RBCs to endothelium.

## 12.2 Pharmacodynamics

The correlation between hydroxyurea concentrations, reduction of crisis rate, and increase in HbF, is not known.

## 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Mean peak plasma concentrations and AUCs increase more than proportionally with increase of dose. There is no drug accumulation upon once daily dosing of hydroxyurea.

### Absorption

Following oral administration, hydroxyurea reaches peak plasma concentrations in 1 to 4 hours. The oral bioavailability of hydroxyurea was reported to be 85 -100%.

### *Effect of Food*

There are no data on the effect of food on the absorption of hydroxyurea.

### Distribution

Hydroxyurea distributes throughout the body with a volume of distribution approximating total body water. Hydroxyurea concentrates in leukocytes and erythrocytes.

### Elimination

Half-life of hydroxyurea is about 2-4 hours.

### *Metabolism*

Up to 60% of an oral dose undergoes conversion through saturable hepatic metabolism and a minor pathway of degradation by urease found in intestinal bacteria.

### *Excretion*

The percentage of the dose excreted in urine was approximately 40% in pediatric patients with sickle cell anemia.

### Specific Populations

#### *Patients with Renal Impairment*

The effect of renal impairment on the pharmacokinetics of hydroxyurea was assessed in adult patients with sickle cell anemia and renal impairment. Patients with normal renal function (creatinine clearance [CrCl] >80 mL/min), mild (CrCl 50-80 mL/min), moderate (CrCl =30-<50 mL/min), or severe (<30 mL/min) renal impairment received a single oral dose of 15 mg/kg hydroxyurea. Creatinine clearance values were obtained using 24-hour urine collections. Patients with ESRD received two doses of 15 mg/kg separated by 7 days; the first was given following a 4-hour hemodialysis session, the second prior to hemodialysis. The exposure to hydroxyurea (mean AUC) in patients with CrCl <60 mL/min and those with ESRD was 64% higher than in patients with normal renal function (CrCl >60 mL/min). Reduce the dose of SIKLOS when it is administered to patients with creatinine clearance of <60 mL/min or with ESRD following hemodialysis [see *Dosage and Administration (2.2) and Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

#### *Patients with Hepatic impairment*

There are no data that support specific guidance for dose adjustment in patients with hepatic impairment.

#### *Pediatric Patients*

The pharmacokinetics of hydroxyurea is similar between children (4 to 17 years) and adults.

## 13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

### 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Conventional long-term studies to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of hydroxyurea have not been performed. However, hydroxyurea is presumed to be a transspecies carcinogen. Intraperitoneal administration of 125 to 250 mg/kg hydroxyurea (about 0.6-1.2 times the maximum recommended human oral daily dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) thrice weekly for 6 months to female rats increased the incidence of mammary tumors in rats surviving to 18 months compared to control. Hydroxyurea is mutagenic *in vitro* to bacteria, fungi, protozoa, and mammalian cells. Hydroxyurea is clastogenic *in vitro* (hamster cells, human lymphoblasts) and *in vivo* (SCE assay in rodents, mouse micronucleus assay). Hydroxyurea causes the transformation of rodent embryo cells to a tumorigenic phenotype [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2, 5.3)].

Hydroxyurea administered to male rats at 60 mg/kg /day (about 0.3 times the maximum recommended human daily dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) produced testicular atrophy, decreased spermatogenesis and significantly reduced their ability to impregnate females [see *Use in Specific Populations* (8.3)].

## 14 CLINICAL STUDIES

### Pediatric Patients with Sickle Cell Disease

The efficacy of SIKLOS was assessed in the European Sickle Cell Disease Cohort study (ESCORT HU) [NCT02516579]. This is an open-label single-arm study of 405 pediatric patients with sickle cell disease from 2-18 years of age, of which 141 had not been previously treated with hydroxyurea prior to enrollment. Evaluable patients had at least 12 months follow-up (median [range] 23 months [12,80]). Median (range) hemoglobin F percentages were 5.6% (1.3, 15.0) at baseline and 12.8% (2.1, 37.2) at least 6 months (the value closest to 6 months collected between 5 and 14 months) after initiation of SIKLOS treatment, with median (range) change of 5.9% (-2.2, 34.7) in 47 patients. Median (range) hemoglobin levels were 8.2 g/dL (3.7, 14.2) at baseline, 8.8 g/dL (0.7, 13.1) at 6 months (the value closest to 6 months collected between 5 and 7 months), and 8.9 g/dL (5.5, 13.2) at 12 months (the value closest to 12 months collected between 10 and 14 months) after initiation of SIKLOS treatment. The median (range) change was 0.5 g/dL (-4.6, 6.1) in 63 patients at 6 months (the post-baseline value closest to 6 months collected between 5 and 7 months) and 0.7 g/dL (-6.4, 6.0) in 83 patients at 12 months (the post-baseline value closest to 12 months collected between 10 and 14 months) after initiation of SIKLOS treatment.

Among pediatric patients not previously treated with hydroxyurea prior to enrollment and analyzable for efficacy (N=141), the percentage of patients with at least one vaso-occlusive episode, one episode of acute chest syndrome, one hospitalization due to SCD or one blood transfusion decreased after 12 months of SIKLOS treatment (Table ).

**Table 4: Comparison of SCD Events in the First Year of Treatment with SIKLOS with SCD Events in the 12 Months Prior to Enrollment – ESCORT HU Trial (N=141) in Pediatric Patients**

SCD events	Patients under 18 years old previously not treated with hydroxyurea with at least 12 months follow-up data available for clinical efficacy (N=141)		
	In the 12 months prior to enrolment	After 12 months of Siklos® treatment	Change
<b>Number of patients with at least one vaso-occlusive episode (in 120 evaluable patients)</b>			
No	37 (31%)	69 (57.5%)	
Yes	83 (69%)	51 (42.5%)	
<b>Number of vasoocclusive episodes over 12 months (in 113 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	2 (0, 1)	0 (0.0, 7.0)	-1 (-10.0, 5.0)
<b>Number of patients with at least one episode of acute chest syndrome (in 123 evaluable patients)</b>			

No	94 (76%)	116 (94%)	
Yes	29 (24%)	7 (6%)	
<b>Number of episodes of acute chest syndrome over 12 months (in 123 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	0 (0.0, 2.0)	0 (0.0, 1.0)	0 (-2.0, 1.0)
<b>Number of patients with at least one hospitalization related to SCD (in 110 evaluable patients)</b>			
No	27 (25%)	64 (58%)	
Yes	83 (75%)	46 (42%)	
<b>Number of hospitalizations related to SCD over 12 months (in 106 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	2 (0.0, 6.0)	0 (0.0, 7.0)	-1 (-6.0, 6.0)
<b>Number of days of hospitalizations related to SCD over 12 months (in 100 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	8 (0.0, 58.0)	0 (0.0, 100.0)	-3 (-58.0, 86.0)
<b>Number of patients with at least one blood transfusion (in 122 evaluable patients)</b>			
No	66 (54%)	94 (77%)	
Yes	56 (46%)	28 (23%)	

#### Adult Patients with Sickle Cell Disease

In ESCORT-HU 1077 adult patients were included of which 436 patients were naïve to HU treatment. There were 370 evaluable patients who had at least 12 months follow-up (Median [range] 41 months [29, 54]).

Median (range) hemoglobin F percentages were 5.2% (0.2, 30.9) at baseline and 14.2% (0.5, 41.5) at least 6 months (the value closest to 6 months collected between 5 and 14 months) after initiation of SIKLOS treatment, with a median (range) change of 8% (-8.0, 33.3) in 181 patients. Among adult patients previously not treated with hydroxyurea prior to enrollment and analyzable for efficacy (N=370), the incidence and number of vaso-occlusive events, hospitalizations, acute chest syndrome and blood transfusions in the 12 month period before treatment and after initiation of treatment decreased after 12 months of SIKLOS treatment. Table 5 provides the efficacy results for ESCORT-HU.

**Table 5: Comparison of SCD Events in the First Year of Treatment with SIKLOS with SCD Events in the 12 Months Prior to Enrollment – ESCORT HU Trial (N=370) in Adult Patients**

SCD events	Adult Patients previously not treated with hydroxyurea with at least 12 months follow-up data available for clinical efficacy (N=369)		
	In the 12 months prior to enrolment	After 12 months of Siklos® treatment	Change
<b>Number of patients with at least one vaso-occlusive episode (in 367 evaluable patients)</b>			
No	133 (36.2%)	226 (61.6%)	
Yes	234 (63.8%)	141 (38.4%)	
<b>Number of vasoocclusive episodes over 12 months (in 343 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	1.0 (0.0, 20.0)	0.0 (0.0, 30.0)	0.0 (-20.0, 24.0)
<b>Number of patients with at least one episode of acute chest syndrome (in 365 evaluable patients)</b>			
No	273 (74.8%)	338 (92.6%)	
Yes	92 (25.2%)	27 (7.4%)	
<b>Number of episodes of acute chest syndrome over 12 months (in 364 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	1.0 (0.0, 5.0)	0.0 (0.0, 3.0)	0.0 (-5.0 ; 2.0)
<b>Number of patients with at least one hospitalization related to SCD (in 366 evaluable patients)</b>			
No	152 (41.5%)	252 (68.9%)	
Yes	214 (58.5%)	114 (31.1%)	
<b>Number of hospitalizations related to SCD over 12 months (in 360 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	1 (0.0, 15.0)	0 (0.0, 10.0)	0 (-15.0, 8.0)
<b>Number of days of hospitalizations related to SCD over 12 months (in 313 evaluable patients)</b>			
Median (range)	2 (0.0, 90.0)	0 (0.0, 77.0)	0 (-90.0, 57.0)
<b>Number of patients with at least one blood transfusion (in 365 evaluable patients)</b>			
No	207 (56.7%)	296 (81.1%)	
Yes	158 (43.3%)	69 (18.9%)	

## 15 REFERENCES

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

## 16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

### 16.1 How Supplied

SIKLOS (hydroxyurea) film-coated tablet is supplied in high density polyethylene (HDPE) bottle with polypropylene child-resistant cap with a desiccant unit containing 30 (SIKLOS 1,000 mg) or 60 (SIKLOS 100 mg) film coated tablets. Each bottle containing SIKLOS 100 mg tablets or SIKLOS 1000 mg tablets is supplied in a carton.

SIKLOS is supplied in the following strengths:

- 100 mg off-white, capsule-shaped, film-coated, functionally scored tablet with scoring on both sides which can be divided into two equal parts, each part is debossed with “H” on one side.
- 1,000 mg off-white, capsule-shaped, film-coated, functionally triple-scored tablet with scoring on both sides which can be divided into four equal parts, each part is debossed with “T” on one side.

	Bottles of 30	Bottles of 60
100 mg	N/A	NDC 71770-105-60
1,000 mg	NDC 71770-120-30	N/A

## 16.2 Storage

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

Broken tablets must be stored in the bottle and must be used within three months.

## 16.3 Handling and Disposal

SIKLOS is a cytotoxic drug. Follow applicable special handling and disposal procedures [see *References (15)*].

To decrease the risk of contact, advise caregivers to wear disposable gloves when handling SIKLOS or bottles containing SIKLOS. Wash hands with soap and water before and after contact with the bottle or tablets when handling SIKLOS. Avoid exposure to crushed tablets. If contact with crushed tablets occurs on the skin, wash affected area immediately and thoroughly with soap and water. If contact with crushed tablets occurs on the eye(s), the affected area should be flushed thoroughly with water or isotonic eyewash designated for that purpose for at least 15 minutes.

Powder spilled from the broken tablet should be wiped up with a damp disposable towel which must be thrown away in a closed container such as a plastic bag to avoid ingestion of powder by other people. The spill areas should then be cleaned using a detergent solution followed by clean water.

## 17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient or caregiver to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Instructions for Use and Medication Guide).

- There is a risk of myelosuppression. Emphasize the importance of monitoring blood counts every two weeks throughout the duration of therapy to patients taking SIKLOS [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]. Advise patients to report signs and symptoms of infection or bleeding immediately.
- Advise patients that there is a risk of cutaneous vasculitic toxicities and secondary malignancies including leukemia. Advise use of sun protection [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].
- Advise females of reproductive potential of the potential risk to a fetus should they become pregnant while taking SIKLOS. Advise patients to inform their healthcare provider of a known or suspected pregnancy. Advise females and males of reproductive potential to use contraception during and after treatment with SIKLOS [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3)* and *Use in Specific Populations (8.1, 8.3)*].
- Advise females to discontinue breastfeeding during treatment with SIKLOS [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.2)*].
- Advise male patients of potential risk to fertility [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.3)*].
- Advise patients with HIV infection to contact their physician for signs and symptoms of pancreatitis, hepatic events, and peripheral neuropathy [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*].
- Advise patients to notify their healthcare provider if they are using a continuous glucose monitoring system while taking SIKLOS [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.8)*].
- Advise patients of the risk of hemolytic anemia. Advise patients that they will have blood tests to evaluate for this if they develop persistent anemia not related to sickle cell anemia [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.9)*].
- Because SIKLOS tablets are scored, advise patients on how to take SIKLOS properly.

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## MEDICATION GUIDE

SIKLOS (See – k – los)  
(hydroxyurea)  
tablets

### What is the most important information I should know about SIKLOS?

#### SIKLOS can cause serious side effects including:

- **Low blood cell counts are common with SIKLOS, including low red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets, and can be severe and life-threatening. If your white blood cell count becomes very low, you are at increased risk for infection.** Your healthcare provider will check your blood cell counts before and every 2 weeks during treatment with SIKLOS. Your healthcare provider may change your dose or tell you to stop taking SIKLOS if you have low blood cell counts. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms:

- fever or chills
- body aches
- feeling very tired
- shortness of breath
- unusual headache
- bleeding or unexplained bruising

- **Cancer.** Some people have developed cancer, such as leukemia and skin cancer, after taking SIKLOS for a long time. Your healthcare provider will check you for cancer. You should protect your skin from the sun using sunblock, hats, and sun-protective clothing.

- **SIKLOS can harm your unborn baby.**

#### For females taking SIKLOS who can become pregnant:

- You should talk with your healthcare provider about the risks of SIKLOS to your unborn baby.
- You should use effective birth control during treatment with SIKLOS and for at least 6 months after treatment with SIKLOS.
- Your healthcare provider will perform a pregnancy test before you start treatment with SIKLOS. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant or think you may be pregnant.

**For males taking SIKLOS:** SIKLOS can affect your sperm. If you have a female sexual partner who can become pregnant, you should use effective birth control during treatment with SIKLOS and for at least 6 months after treatment.

**SIKLOS may cause fertility problems in males. Talk to your healthcare provider if this is a concern for you.**

See “**What are the possible side effects of SIKLOS?**” for more information about side effects.

### What is SIKLOS?

SIKLOS is a prescription medicine that is used to reduce the frequency of painful crises and reduce the need for blood transfusions in adults and children, 2 years of age and older, with sickle cell anemia with recurrent moderate to severe painful crises.

It is not known if SIKLOS is safe and effective in children less than 2 years of age.

**Do not take SIKLOS if you are allergic to hydroxyurea or any of the ingredients in SIKLOS.** See the end of this Medication Guide for a list of the ingredients in SIKLOS.

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

- have kidney problems or are receiving hemodialysis
- have liver problems
- have human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or take HIV medicines. **Taking SIKLOS with certain HIV medicines can cause serious reactions and may lead to death.**
- have increased levels of uric acid in your blood (hyperuricemia)
- have a history of receiving interferon therapy or are currently receiving interferon therapy
- have leg wounds or ulcers
- plan to receive any vaccinations. You should not receive “live vaccines” during treatment with SIKLOS.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. See “**What is the most important information I should know about SIKLOS?**”
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if SIKLOS can pass into your breast milk. Do not breastfeed during treatment with SIKLOS.
- are using a continuous glucose monitor (CGM) to test your blood glucose. Hydroxyurea may affect your sensor glucose results and may lead to low blood sugar (hypoglycemia). Talk to the healthcare provider that prescribed your CGM about whether it is safe to use while you are taking SIKLOS.

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

### How should I take SIKLOS?

Read the Instructions for Use at the end of this Medication Guide for step-by-step instructions on how to prepare a dose of SIKLOS. If you have any questions, talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

- Take SIKLOS exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Take SIKLOS 1 time a day at the same time each day.

- Swallow the tablet(s) with a glass of water. If you are not able to swallow SIKLOS tablets, you can dissolve your prescribed dose in a small amount of water in a teaspoon and swallow right away.
- SIKLOS is supplied as 100 mg tablets and 1,000 mg tablets. The SIKLOS tablets have separation lines (score lines) and can be broken at these score lines to provide smaller doses.
  - Each 100 mg tablet can be divided into 2 equal parts (each part is 50 mg).
  - Each 1,000 mg tablet can be divided into 4 equal parts (each part is 250 mg).
- Your healthcare provider will tell you how many tablets or parts of a tablet you should take.
- SIKLOS tablets must be handled with care. To decrease the risk of exposure, you or your caregivers should do the following when handling SIKLOS:
  - Wear disposable gloves when handling SIKLOS or bottles containing SIKLOS. Wash your hands with soap and water before and after handling SIKLOS tablets or bottles containing SIKLOS.
  - Avoid contact with crushed tablets. If contact with crushed tablets happens on the skin, wash the skin area right away and thoroughly with soap and water. If contact with crushed tablets happens in the eyes, flush the eyes thoroughly with water or isotonic eyewash used for that purpose for at least 15 minutes.
  - Powder spilled from the broken tablet should be wiped up with a damp disposable towel which must be thrown away in a closed container such as a plastic bag to avoid ingestion of powder by other people. The spill areas should then be cleaned using a detergent solution followed by clean water.
- If you take too much SIKLOS, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

### What are the possible side effects of SIKLOS?

**SIKLOS may cause serious side effects, including:**

**See “What is the most important information I should know about SIKLOS?”**

- **Skin ulcers, including leg ulcers, and death of skin tissue (gangrene)** have happened in people who take SIKLOS. This has happened most often in people who receive interferon therapy or have a history of interferon therapy. Your healthcare provider will decrease your dose or stop treatment with SIKLOS if you develop any skin ulcers.
- **Enlarged red blood cells (macrocytosis).** Macrocytosis is common in people who take SIKLOS and can make it difficult to detect a decrease of folic acid. Your healthcare provider may prescribe a folic acid supplement for you.
- **Hemolytic Anemia**, the fast breakdown of red blood cells, has happened in people who take SIKLOS. Tell your healthcare provider if you develop yellowing of your skin (jaundice) or blood in your urine. Your healthcare provider may do blood tests if you have persistent or worsening anemia not related to sickle cell anemia.

**The most common side effects of SIKLOS in children include:**

- infections
- low white blood cells

**The most common side effects of SIKLOS in adults include:**

- infections
- headache
- dry skin

These are not all the possible side effects of SIKLOS.

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

### How should I store SIKLOS?

- Store SIKLOS at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Keep the SIKLOS bottle tightly closed.
- Broken SIKLOS tablets must be stored in the bottle and must be used within three months.

**Keep SIKLOS and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

### General information about the safe and effective use of SIKLOS.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use SIKLOS for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give SIKLOS to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about SIKLOS that is written for health professionals.

**What are the ingredients of SIKLOS?**

**Active ingredient:** hydroxyurea

**Inactive ingredients:** silicified microcrystalline cellulose, sodium stearyl fumarate, and film-coating agent amino methacrylate copolymer.

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Manufactured for: Theravia : 16 rue Montrosier 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France

Manufactured by: Delpharm Lille, 22 rue de Toufflers 59452 Lys Lez Lannoy France.

**SIKLOS is a trademark of Theravia.** For more information, call 1-844-884-5520.

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

Revised: 11/2023

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

SIKLOS (See – k – los)  
(hydroxyurea)  
tablets

Read this Instructions for Use before you start taking SIKLOS and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This Instructions for Use does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment. You and your healthcare provider should talk about SIKLOS when you start taking it and at regular checkups.

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### Important Information:

- Wash your hands with soap and water before and after handling SIKLOS tablets or bottles containing SIKLOS.
  - Wear disposable gloves when handling SIKLOS tablets or bottles containing SIKLOS.
  - Take SIKLOS 1 time a day at the same time each day.
  - Powder spilled from a broken tablet should be wiped up right away with a damp disposable paper towel and thrown away in a closed container, such as a plastic bag to avoid harm to other people. The spill area should then be cleaned using a detergent solution followed by clean water.
  - When the tablet is broken, avoid touching the broken surfaces.
  - If contact with crushed tablets happens on the skin, wash the skin area right away and thoroughly with soap and water.
  - If contact with crushed tablets happens in the eyes, flush the eyes thoroughly with water or isotonic eyewash used for that purpose for at least 15 minutes.
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### SIKLOS is supplied in 2 different strengths:

■ **Siklos® 100 mg:** 

**SIKLOS 100 mg tablet** has one separation line (score line) and can be broken at this score line to provide smaller doses. Each 100 mg tablet can be divided into 2 equal parts (each part is 50 mg).

■ **Siklos® 1,000 mg** 

**SIKLOS 1,000 mg tablet** has three separation lines (score lines) and can be broken at these score lines to provide smaller doses. Each 1,000 mg tablet can be divided into 4 equal parts (each part is 250 mg).

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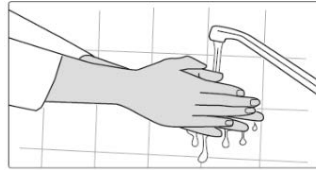
### SIKLOS tablet breaking instructions

You will need the following supplies to break a SIKLOS tablet:

- SIKLOS tablets
  - A damp disposable paper towel
  - A tablet cutter
  - Disposable gloves
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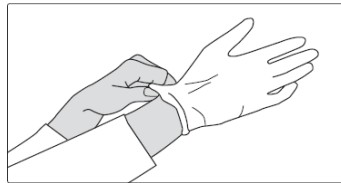
**Step 1:** Place a damp disposable paper towel on a flat surface where the tablets will be broken.

**Step 2:** Wash and dry your hands before handling SIKLOS tablets or bottles containing the tablets.

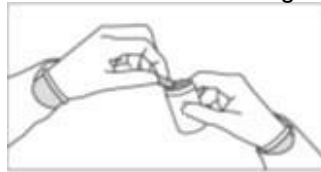


**Step 3:** Check your prescribed dose. You may need more than 1 tablet to get your prescribed dose.

**Step 4:** Put on disposable gloves.

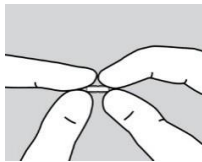


**Step 5:** Remove the SIKLOS tablet out of the bottle needed to get your dose.

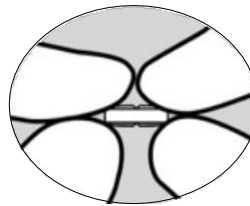


**Step 6:** Use your index fingers and thumbs to hold each end of the SIKLOS tablet.

**SIKLOS 100 mg**

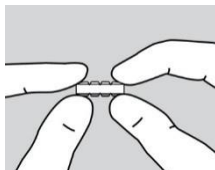


side view

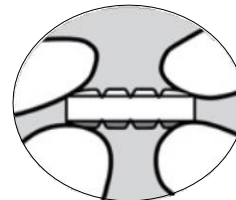


side view between fingers and thumbs

**SIKLOS 1,000 mg**



side view





side view between fingers and thumbs

**Step 7:** While holding the ends of the SIKLOS tablet, push down on the tablet to break the tablet on the score line to get your prescribed dose.





**SIKLOS 100 mg tablets can be broken as:**



- 1/2 of a tablet for a dose of 50 mg of SIKLOS: 
- a whole tablet for a dose of 100 mg of SIKLOS (no breaking needed): 

**SIKLOS 1,000 mg tablets can be broken as:**



- 1/4 of a tablet for a dose of 250 mg of SIKLOS: 
- 1/2 of a tablet for a dose of 500 mg of SIKLOS: 
- 3/4 of a tablet for a dose of 750 mg of SIKLOS: 
- a whole tablet for a dose of 1,000 mg of SIKLOS (no breaking needed): 

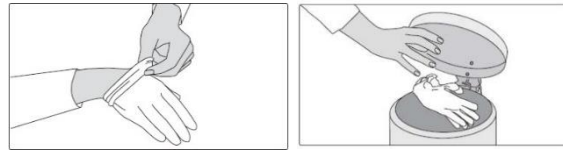
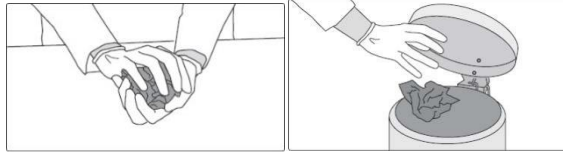
**Note:** You may need to use a tablet cutter.

**Step 8:** Take your prescribed dose by swallowing it with a glass of water.

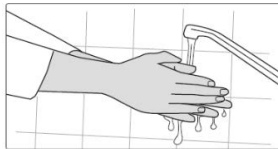


**Important:** If you have difficulty swallowing SIKLOS tablets, please stop here and follow the instructions below, "For people who cannot swallow SIKLOS tablets".

**Step 9:** Throw away the damp disposable paper towel in the trash. Pull off disposable gloves and throw away in the trash.



Wash and dry your hands.



**Step 10:** Store any unused broken tablets in the bottle and put the bottle back in the box. **Broken tablets must be used within three months.**

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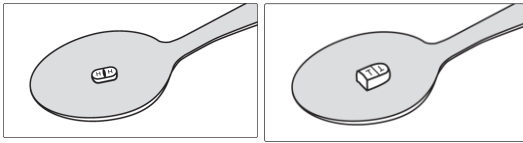
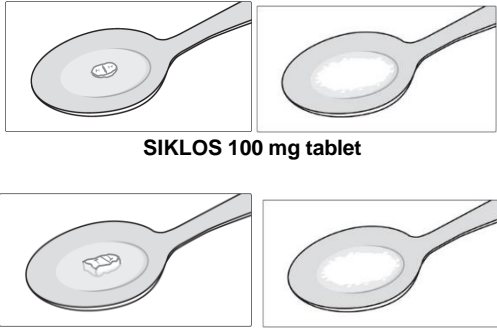


**For people who cannot swallow SIKLOS tablets**

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**You will need the following supplies to prepare and take your dose by dissolving the tablet:**

- Your bottle of SIKLOS tablets
    - **Note:** If you need to break your tablets, use the **SIKLOS Tablet Breaking Instructions** above to get your prescribed dose **before** you begin the steps below.
  - A teaspoon
  - Water to dissolve tablets
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**Step 1:** Get your prescribed dose of SIKLOS tablets. Put your prescribed dose of SIKLOS tablets onto the teaspoon.

 <p><b>SIKLOS 100 mg tablet    SIKLOS 1,000 mg tablet (broken)</b></p>
<p><b>Step 2:</b> Add a small amount of water to the teaspoon. The tablet dissolves within about 1 minute.</p>  <p><b>SIKLOS 100 mg tablet</b></p> <p><b>SIKLOS 1,000 mg tablet (broken)</b></p>
<p><b>Step 3:</b> Swallow the mixture right away.</p> 
<p><b>Step 4:</b> After you take your prescribed dose of SIKLOS tablets, drink a glass of water. When you are finished drinking a glass of water, continue to Step 9 and Step 10 above.</p> 

**Storing your SIKLOS tablets:**

- Store SIKLOS at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Keep the SIKLOS bottle tightly closed.

**Keep SIKLOS and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

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