Approval Package for:

APPLICATION NUMBER:

NDA 021908/S-010

Trade Name: AMITIZA

Generic Name: Lubiprostonel

Sponsor: Sucampo Pharma Americas, Inc.

Approval Date: 11/26/2012

Indications: Amitiza is a chloride channel activator indicated for:

- Treatment of chronic idiopathic constipation in adults (1.1)
- Treatment of irritable bowel syndrome with constipation in women ≥ 18 years old (1.2)
**APPLICATION NUMBER:**
NDA 021908/S-010

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APPROVAL LETTER
NDA 21908/S-010

Sucampo Pharma Americas, Inc.
Attention: Jeff Carey
Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs
4520 East-West Highway, Suite 300
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Dear Mr. Carey:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) dated and received March 7, 2012, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Amitiza (lubiprostone) Capsule, 24 mcg and 8 mcg.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendment dated May 8, 2012.

This Prior Approval supplemental new drug application provides for the following:

- Removal of Section 5.1 Pregnancy
- Revisions to Section 8.1 Pregnancy and Section 8.3 Nursing Mothers
- Addition of Section 17.2 Nursing Mothers

We have completed our review of this supplemental application, as amended. It is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed, agreed-upon labeling text.

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), as described at http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm. Content of labeling must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert), with the addition of any labeling changes in pending “Changes Being Effected” (CBE) supplements, as well as annual reportable changes not included in the enclosed labeling.

Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry titled “SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As” at http://www.fda.gov/downloads/DrugsGuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf.

The SPL will be accessible from publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications for this NDA, including CBE supplements for which FDA has not yet issued an action letter, with the content of labeling.
[21 CFR 314.50(l)(1)(i)] in MS Word format, that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application, as well as annual reportable changes and annotate each change. To facilitate review of your submission, provide a highlighted or marked-up copy that shows all changes, as well as a clean Microsoft Word version. The marked-up copy should provide appropriate annotations, including supplement number(s) and annual report date(s).

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit the following, in triplicate, (1) a cover letter requesting advisory comments, (2) the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and (3) the package insert(s) to:

Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP)
5901-B Ammendale Road
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

You must submit final promotional materials and package insert(s), accompanied by a Form FDA 2253, at the time of initial dissemination or publication [21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i)]. Form FDA 2253 is available at http://www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/fdaforms/cder.html; instructions are provided on page 2 of the form. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP), see http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

If you have any questions, call Matthew Scherer, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-2307.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Joyce Korvick, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy Director for Safety
Division of Gastroenterology and Inborn Errors Products
Office of Drug Evaluation III
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURE:
Content of Labeling
This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/

JOYCE A KORVICK
11/26/2012
APPLICATION NUMBER:
NDA 021908/S-010

LABELING
HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION
These highlights do not include all the information needed to use Amitiza safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for Amitiza.

Amitiza (lubiprostone) Capsules
Initial U.S. Approval: 2006

------------------ RECENT MAJOR CHANGES ------------------
Warnings and Precautions, Pregnancy (5.1) removed 09/2012

------------------- INDICATIONS AND USAGE ------------------
Amitiza is a chloride channel activator indicated for:
• Treatment of chronic idiopathic constipation in adults (1.1)
• Treatment of irritable bowel syndrome with constipation in women ≥ 18 years old (1.2)

--------------- DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION -------------
Chronic idiopathic constipation
• 24 mcg taken twice daily orally with food and water (2.1)
Reduce the dosage in patients with moderate and severe hepatic impairment (2.1)

Irritable bowel syndrome with constipation
• 8 mcg taken twice daily orally with food and water (2.2)
Reduce the dosage in patients with severe hepatic impairment (2.2)

------------- DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS ----------
• Gelatin capsules: 8 mcg and 24 mcg (3)

---------------------- CONTRAINDICATIONS ----------------------
• Patients with known or suspected mechanical gastrointestinal obstruction should not receive Amitiza (4)

---------- WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS ----------
• Patients may experience nausea; concomitant administration of food may reduce this symptom (5.1)
• Do not prescribe for patients that have severe diarrhea (5.2)
• Patients taking Amitiza may experience dyspnea within an hour of first dose. This symptom generally resolves within 3 hours, but may recur with repeat dosing (5.3)
• Evaluate patients with symptoms suggestive of mechanical gastrointestinal obstruction prior to initiating treatment with Amitiza (5.4)

---------- ADVERSE REACTIONS ----------
• Most common adverse reactions (incidence > 4%) in chronic idiopathic constipation are nausea, diarrhea, headache, abdominal pain, abdominal distension, and flatulence (6.1)
• Most common adverse reactions (incidence > 4%) in irritable bowel syndrome with constipation are nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal pain (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Takeda Pharmaceuticals at 1-877-825-3327 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

---------- USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS ----------
• Pregnancy: Based on animal data, may cause fetal harm (8.1)
• Nursing Mothers: Caution should be exercised when administered to a nursing woman (8.3)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Revised: November 2012
FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

1.1 Chronic Idiopathic Constipation

Amitiza® is indicated for the treatment of chronic idiopathic constipation in adults.

1.2 Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation

Amitiza is indicated for the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome with constipation (IBS-C) in women ≥ 18 years old.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Amitiza should be taken orally with food and water. Physicians and patients should periodically assess the need for continued therapy.

2.1 Chronic Idiopathic Constipation

The recommended dose is 24 mcg twice daily orally with food and water.

Reduced dosage in patients with hepatic impairment
For patients with moderately impaired hepatic function (Child-Pugh Class B), the recommended dose is 16 mcg twice daily. For patients with severely impaired hepatic function (Child-Pugh Class C), the recommended dose is 8 mcg twice daily. If this dose is tolerated and an adequate response has not been obtained after an appropriate interval, doses can then be escalated to full dosing with appropriate monitoring of patient response.

2.2 Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation

The recommended dose is 8 mcg twice daily orally with food and water.

Reduced dosage in patients with severe hepatic impairment
For patients with severely impaired hepatic function (Child-Pugh Class C), the recommended dose is 8 mcg once daily. If this dose is tolerated and an adequate response has not been obtained after an appropriate interval, doses can then be escalated to full dosing with appropriate monitoring of patient response. Dosage adjustment is not required for patients with moderately impaired hepatic function (Child-Pugh Class B).

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Amitiza is available as an oval, gelatin capsule containing 8 mcg or 24 mcg of lubiprostone.

- 8-mcg capsules are pink and are printed with “SPI” on one side
- 24-mcg capsules are orange and are printed with “SPI” on one side
CONTRAINDICATIONS

Amitiza is contraindicated in patients with known or suspected mechanical gastrointestinal obstruction.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Nausea

Patients taking Amitiza may experience nausea. If this occurs, concomitant administration of food with Amitiza may reduce symptoms of nausea [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)].

5.2 Diarrhea

Amitiza should not be prescribed to patients that have severe diarrhea. Patients should be aware of the possible occurrence of diarrhea during treatment. Patients should be instructed to inform their physician if severe diarrhea occurs [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)].

5.3 Dyspnea

In clinical trials conducted to study Amitiza in treatment of chronic idiopathic constipation and IBS-C there were reports of dyspnea. This was reported at 2.5% of the treated chronic idiopathic constipation population and at 0.4% in the treated IBS-C population. Although not classified as serious adverse events, some patients discontinued treatment on study because of this event. There have been postmarketing reports of dyspnea when using Amitiza 24 mcg. Most have not been characterized as serious adverse events, but some patients have discontinued therapy because of dyspnea. These events have usually been described as a sensation of chest tightness and difficulty taking in a breath, and generally have an acute onset within 30–60 minutes after taking the first dose. They generally resolve within a few hours after taking the dose, but recurrence has been frequently reported with subsequent doses.

5.4 Bowel Obstruction

In patients with symptoms suggestive of mechanical gastrointestinal obstruction, the treating physician should perform a thorough evaluation to confirm the absence of such an obstruction prior to initiating therapy with Amitiza.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

6.1 Clinical Studies Experience

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

Chronic Idiopathic Constipation

Adverse reactions in dose-finding, efficacy, and long-term clinical studies: The data described below reflect exposure to Amitiza in 1175 patients with chronic idiopathic constipation (29 at 24
mcg once daily, 1113 at 24 mcg twice daily, and 33 at 24 mcg three times daily) over 3- or 4-week, 6-month, and 12-month treatment periods; and from 316 patients receiving placebo over short-term exposure (≤ 4 weeks). The total population (N = 1491) had a mean age of 49.7 (range 19–86) years; was 87.1% female; 84.8% Caucasian, 8.5% African American, 5.0% Hispanic, 0.9% Asian; and 15.5% elderly (≥ 65 years of age). Table 1 presents data for the adverse reactions that occurred in at least 1% of patients who received Amitiza 24 mcg twice daily and that occurred more frequently with study drug than placebo. In addition, corresponding adverse reaction incidences in patients receiving Amitiza 24 mcg once daily is shown.

Table 1: Percent of Patients with Adverse Reactions (Chronic Idiopathic Constipation)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System/Adverse Reaction1</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Amitiza 24 mcg Once Daily</th>
<th>Amitiza 24 mcg Twice Daily</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N = 316</td>
<td>N = 29</td>
<td>N = 1113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal disorders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausea</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal pain</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal distension</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flatulence</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vomiting</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loose stools</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal discomfort2</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyspepsia</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry mouth</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stomach discomfort</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nervous system disorders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dizziness</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General disorders and site administration conditions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edema</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chest discomfort/pain</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory, thoracic, and mediastinal disorders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyspnea</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Includes only those events associated with treatment (possibly, probably, or definitely related, as assessed by the investigator).

2This term combines “abdominal tenderness,” “abdominal rigidity,” “gastrointestinal discomfort,” and “abdominal discomfort.”

Nausea: Approximately 29% of patients who received Amitiza 24 mcg twice daily experienced an adverse reaction of nausea; 4% of patients had severe nausea while 9% of patients discontinued treatment due to nausea. The rate of nausea associated with Amitiza (any dosage) was substantially lower among male (7%) and elderly patients (18%). Further analysis of the safety data revealed that long-term exposure to Amitiza does not appear to place patients at an elevated risk for experiencing nausea. The incidence of nausea increased in a dose-dependent manner with the lowest overall incidence for nausea reported at the 24 mcg once daily dosage (17%). In open-labeled, long-term studies, patients were allowed to adjust the dosage of Amitiza down to 24 mcg once daily from 24 mcg twice daily if experiencing nausea. Nausea decreased when Amitiza was administered with food. No patients in the clinical studies were hospitalized due to nausea.
**Diarrhea:** Approximately 12% of patients who received Amitiza 24 mcg twice daily experienced an adverse reaction of diarrhea; 2% of patients had severe diarrhea while 2% of patients discontinued treatment due to diarrhea.

**Electrolytes:** No serious adverse reactions of electrolyte imbalance were reported in clinical studies, and no clinically significant changes were seen in serum electrolyte levels in patients receiving Amitiza.

**Less common adverse reactions:** The following adverse reactions (assessed by investigator as probably or definitely related to treatment) occurred in less than 1% of patients receiving Amitiza 24 mcg twice daily in clinical studies, occurred in at least two patients, and occurred more frequently in patients receiving study drug than those receiving placebo: fecal incontinence, muscle cramp, defecation urgency, frequent bowel movements, hyperhidrosis, pharyngolaryngeal pain, intestinal functional disorder, anxiety, cold sweat, constipation, cough, dysgeusia, eructation, influenza, joint swelling, myalgia, pain, syncope, tremor, decreased appetite.

**Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation**

**Adverse reactions in dose-finding, efficacy, and long-term clinical studies:** The data described below reflect exposure to Amitiza 8 mcg twice daily in 1011 patients with IBS-C for up to 12 months and from 435 patients receiving placebo twice daily for up to 16 weeks. The total population (N = 1267) had a mean age of 46.5 (range 18–85) years; was 91.6% female; 77.5% Caucasian, 12.9% African American, 8.6% Hispanic, 0.4% Asian; and 8.0% elderly (≥ 65 years of age). Table 2 presents data for the adverse reactions that occurred in at least 1% of patients who received Amitiza 8 mcg twice daily and that occurred more frequently with study drug than placebo.

**Table 2: Percent of Patients with Adverse Reactions (IBS-C Studies)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System/Adverse Reaction¹</th>
<th>Placebo N = 435 %</th>
<th>Amitiza 8 mcg Twice Daily N = 1011 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal disorders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausea</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal pain</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal distension</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Includes only those events associated with treatment (possibly or probably related, as assessed by the investigator).

**Less common adverse reactions:** The following adverse reactions (assessed by investigator as probably related to treatment) occurred in less than 1% of patients receiving Amitiza 8 mcg twice daily in clinical studies, occurred in at least two patients, and occurred more frequently in patients receiving study drug than those receiving placebo: dyspepsia, loose stools, vomiting, fatigue, dry mouth, edema, increased alanine aminotransferase, increased aspartate aminotransferase, constipation, eructation, gastroesophageal reflux disease, dyspnea, erythema, gastritis, increased weight, palpitations, urinary tract infection, anorexia, anxiety, depression, fecal incontinence, fibromyalgia, hard feces, lethargy, rectal hemorrhage, pollakiuria.
One open-labeled, long-term clinical study was conducted in patients with IBS-C receiving Amitiza 8 mcg twice daily. This study comprised 476 intent-to-treat patients (mean age 47.5 [range 21–82] years; 93.5% female; 79.2% Caucasian, 11.6% African American, 8.6% Hispanic, 0.2% Asian; 7.8% ≥ 65 years of age) who were treated for an additional 36 weeks following an initial 12–16-week, double-blinded treatment period. The adverse reactions that were reported during this study were similar to those observed in the two double-blinded, controlled studies.

6.2 Postmarketing Experience

The following additional adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of Amitiza 24 mcg for the treatment of chronic idiopathic constipation. 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.

Voluntary reports of adverse reactions occurring with the use of Amitiza include the following: syncope, allergic-type reactions (including rash, swelling, and throat tightness), malaise, increased heart rate, muscle cramps or muscle spasms, and asthenia.

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

Based upon the results of in vitro human microsome studies, there is low likelihood of drug-drug interactions. In vitro studies using human liver microsomes indicate that cytochrome P450 isoenzymes are not involved in the metabolism of lubiprostone. Further in vitro studies indicate microsomal carbonyl reductase may be involved in the extensive biotransformation of lubiprostone to the metabolite M3 [see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]. Additionally, in vitro studies in human liver microsomes demonstrate that lubiprostone does not inhibit cytochrome P450 isoforms 3A4, 2D6, 1A2, 2A6, 2B6, 2C9, 2C19, or 2E1, and in vitro studies of primary cultures of human hepatocytes show no induction of cytochrome P450 isoforms 1A2, 2B6, 2C9, and 3A4 by lubiprostone. No drug-drug interaction studies have been performed. Based on the available information, no protein binding-mediated drug interactions of clinical significance are anticipated.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Pregnancy Category C.

Risk Summary
There are no adequate and well-controlled studies with Amitiza in pregnant women. A dose dependent increase in fetal loss was observed in pregnant guinea pigs that received lubiprostone doses equivalent to 0.2 to 6 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) based on body surface area (mg/m²). Animal studies did not show an increase in structural malformations. Amitiza should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Clinical Considerations
Current available data suggest that miscarriage occurs in 15-18% of clinically recognized pregnancies, regardless of any drug exposure. Consider the risks and benefits of available therapies when treating a pregnant woman for chronic idiopathic constipation or irritable bowel syndrome with constipation.

Animal Data
In developmental toxicity studies, pregnant rats and rabbits received oral lubiprostone during organogenesis at doses up to approximately 338 times (rats) and approximately 34 times (rabbits) the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) based on body surface area (mg/m²). Maximal animal doses were 2000 mcg/kg/day (rats) and 100 mcg/kg/day (rabbits). In rats, there were increased incidences of early resorptions and soft tissue malformations (situs inversus, cleft palate) at the 2000 mcg/kg/day dose; however, these effects were probably secondary to maternal toxicity. A dose-dependent increase in fetal loss occurred when guinea pigs received lubiprostone after the period of organogenesis, on days 40 to 53 of gestation, at daily oral doses of 1, 10 and 25 mcg/kg/day (approximately 0.2, 2 and 6 times the MRHD based on body surface area (mg/m²)). The potential of lubiprostone to cause fetal loss was also examined in pregnant Rhesus monkeys. Monkeys received lubiprostone post-organogenesis on gestation days 110 through 130 at daily oral doses of 10 and 30 mcg/kg/day (approximately 3 and 10 times the MRHD based on body surface area (mg/m²)). Fetal loss was noted in one monkey from the 10-mcg/kg dose group, which is within normal historical rates for this species. There was no drug-related adverse effect seen in monkeys.

8.3 Nursing Mothers
It is not known whether lubiprostone is excreted in human milk. In rats, neither lubiprostone nor its active metabolites were detectable in breast milk following oral administration of lubiprostone. Because lubiprostone increases fluid secretion in the intestine and intestinal motility, human milk-fed infants should be monitored for diarrhea. Caution should be exercised when Amitiza is administered to a nursing woman.

8.4 Pediatric Use
Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been studied.

8.5 Geriatric Use

Chronic Idiopathic Constipation
The efficacy of Amitiza in the elderly (≥ 65 years of age) subpopulation was consistent with the efficacy in the overall study population. Of the total number of constipated patients treated in the dose-finding, efficacy, and long-term studies of Amitiza, 15.5% were ≥ 65 years of age, and 4.2% were ≥ 75 years of age. Elderly patients taking Amitiza (any dosage) experienced a lower incidence of associated nausea compared to the overall study population taking Amitiza (18% vs. 29%, respectively).

Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation
The safety profile of Amitiza in the elderly (≥ 65 years of age) subpopulation (8.0% were ≥ 65 years of age and 1.8% were ≥ 75 years of age) was consistent with the safety profile in the
overall study population. Clinical studies of Amitiza did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients.

8.6 Renal Impairment

No dosage adjustment is required in patients with renal impairment [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

8.7 Hepatic Impairment

Patients with moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class B) and severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class C) experienced markedly higher systemic drug exposure; therefore, dosing with Amitiza should be modified in these patients [see *Dosage and Administration (2.1, 2.2)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*]. No dosage adjustment is required in patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A).

10 OVERDOSAGE

There have been two confirmed reports of overdosage with Amitiza. The first report involved a 3-year-old child who accidentally ingested 7 or 8 capsules of 24 mcg of Amitiza and fully recovered. The second report was a study patient who self-administered a total of 96 mcg of Amitiza per day for 8 days. The patient experienced no adverse reactions during this time. Additionally, in a Phase 1 cardiac repolarization study, 38 of 51 healthy volunteers given a single oral dose of 144 mcg of Amitiza (6 times the highest recommended dose) experienced an adverse event that was at least possibly related to the study drug. Adverse reactions that occurred in at least 1% of these volunteers included the following: nausea (45%), diarrhea (35%), vomiting (27%), dizziness (14%), headache (12%), abdominal pain (8%), flushing/hot flash (8%), retching (8%), dyspnea (4%), pallor (4%), stomach discomfort (4%), anorexia (2%), asthenia (2%), chest discomfort (2%), dry mouth (2%), hyperhidrosis (2%), and syncope (2%).

11 DESCRIPTION

Amitiza (lubiprostone) is chemically designated as (–)-7-[(2R,4aR,5R,7aR)-2-(1,1-difluoropentyl)-2-hydroxy-6-oxooctahydrocyclopenta[b]pyran-5-yl]heptanoic acid. The molecular formula of lubiprostone is C\textsubscript{20}H\textsubscript{32}F\textsubscript{2}O\textsubscript{5} with a molecular weight of 390.46 and a chemical structure as follows:

Lubiprostone drug substance occurs as white, odorless crystals or crystalline powder, is very soluble in ether and ethanol, and is practically insoluble in hexane and water. Amitiza is
available as an imprinted, oval, soft gelatin capsule in two strengths. Pink capsules contain 8 mcg of lubiprostone and the following inactive ingredients: medium-chain triglycerides, gelatin, sorbitol, ferric oxide, titanium dioxide, and purified water. Orange capsules contain 24 mcg of lubiprostone and the following inactive ingredients: medium-chain triglycerides, gelatin, sorbitol, FD&C Red #40, D&C Yellow #10, and purified water.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Lubiprostone is a locally acting chloride channel activator that enhances a chloride-rich intestinal fluid secretion without altering sodium and potassium concentrations in the serum. Lubiprostone acts by specifically activating ClC-2, which is a normal constituent of the apical membrane of the human intestine, in a protein kinase A–independent fashion. By increasing intestinal fluid secretion, lubiprostone increases motility in the intestine, thereby facilitating the passage of stool and alleviating symptoms associated with chronic idiopathic constipation. Patch clamp cell studies in human cell lines have indicated that the majority of the beneficial biological activity of lubiprostone and its metabolites is observed only on the apical (luminal) portion of the gastrointestinal epithelium. Additionally, activation of ClC-2 by lubiprostone has been shown to stimulate recovery of mucosal barrier function and reduce intestinal permeability via the restoration of tight junction protein complexes in ex vivo studies of ischemic porcine intestine.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Although the pharmacologic effects of lubiprostone in humans have not been fully evaluated, animal studies have shown that oral administration of lubiprostone increases chloride ion transport into the intestinal lumen, enhances fluid secretion into the bowels, and improves fecal transit.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Lubiprostone has low systemic availability following oral administration and concentrations of lubiprostone in plasma are below the level of quantitation (10 pg/mL). Therefore, standard pharmacokinetic parameters such as area under the curve (AUC), maximum concentration (C_max), and half-life (t_1/2) cannot be reliably calculated. However, the pharmacokinetic parameters of M3 (only measurable active metabolite of lubiprostone) have been characterized. Gender has no effect on the pharmacokinetics of M3 following the oral administration of lubiprostone.

Absorption

Concentrations of lubiprostone in plasma are below the level of quantitation (10 pg/mL) because lubiprostone has a low systemic availability following oral administration. Peak plasma levels of M3, after a single oral dose with 24 mcg of lubiprostone, occurred at approximately 1.10 hours. The C_max was 41.5 pg/mL and the mean AUC_0-t was 57.1 pg·hr/mL. The AUC_0-t of M3 increases dose proportionally after single 24-mcg and 144-mcg doses of lubiprostone.
**Distribution**

*In vitro* protein binding studies indicate lubiprostone is approximately 94% bound to human plasma proteins. Studies in rats given radiolabeled lubiprostone indicate minimal distribution beyond the gastrointestinal tissues. Concentrations of radiolabeled lubiprostone at 48 hours post-administration were minimal in all tissues of the rats.

**Metabolism**

The results of both human and animal studies indicate that lubiprostone is rapidly and extensively metabolized by 15-position reduction, α-chain β-oxidation, and ω-chain ω-oxidation. These biotransformations are not mediated by the hepatic cytochrome P450 system but rather appear to be mediated by the ubiquitously expressed carbonyl reductase. M3, a metabolite of lubiprostone found in both humans and animals, is formed by the reduction of the carbonyl group at the 15-hydroxy moiety that consists of both α-hydroxy and β-hydroxy epimers. M3 makes up less than 10% of the dose of radiolabeled lubiprostone. Animal studies have shown that metabolism of lubiprostone rapidly occurs within the stomach and jejunum, most likely in the absence of any systemic absorption. This is presumed to be the case in humans as well.

**Elimination**

Lubiprostone could not be detected in plasma; however, M3 has a $t_{1/2}$ ranging from 0.9 to 1.4 hours. After a single oral dose of 72 mcg of $^3$H-labeled lubiprostone, 60% of total administered radioactivity was recovered in the urine within 24 hours and 30% of total administered radioactivity was recovered in the feces by 168 hours. Lubiprostone and M3 are only detected in trace amounts in human feces.

**Food Effect**

A study was conducted with a single 72-mcg dose of $^3$H-labeled lubiprostone to evaluate the potential of a food effect on lubiprostone absorption, metabolism, and excretion. Pharmacokinetic parameters of total radioactivity demonstrated that $C_{\text{max}}$ decreased by 55% while $AUC_{0-\infty}$ was unchanged when lubiprostone was administered with a high-fat meal. The clinical relevance of the effect of food on the pharmacokinetics of lubiprostone is not clear. However, lubiprostone was administered with food and water in a majority of clinical trials.

**Special Populations**

**Renal Impairment**

Sixteen subjects, 34–47 years old (8 severe renally impaired subjects [creatinine clearance (CrCl) $< 20$ mL/min] who required hemodialysis and 8 control subjects with normal renal function [CrCl $> 80$ mL/min]), received a single oral 24-mcg dose of Amitiza. Following administration, lubiprostone plasma concentrations were below the limit of quantitation (10 pg/mL). Plasma concentrations of M3 were within the range of exposure from previous clinical experience with Amitiza. Thus there is no need for Amitiza dosage adjustment in patients with impaired renal function.
**Hepatic Impairment**

Twenty-five subjects, 38–78 years old (9 with severe hepatic impairment [Child-Pugh Class C], 8 with moderate impairment [Child-Pugh Class B], and 8 with normal liver function), received either 12 mcg or 24 mcg of Amitiza under fasting conditions. Following administration, lubiprostone plasma concentrations were below the limit of quantitation (10 pg/mL) except for two subjects. In moderately and severely impaired subjects, the $C_{\text{max}}$ and $AUC_{0-t}$ of M3 were increased, as shown in Table 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liver Function Status</th>
<th>Mean (SD) $AUC_{0-t}$ (pg·hr/mL)</th>
<th>% Change vs. Normal</th>
<th>Mean (SD) $C_{\text{max}}$ (pg/mL)</th>
<th>% Change vs. Normal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal (n=8)</td>
<td>39.6 (18.7)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>37.5 (15.9)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child-Pugh Class B (n=8)</td>
<td>119 (104)</td>
<td>+119</td>
<td>70.9 (43.5)</td>
<td>+66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child-Pugh Class C (n=8)</td>
<td>234 (61.6)</td>
<td>+521</td>
<td>114 (59.4)</td>
<td>+183</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These results demonstrate that there is a correlation between increased exposure of M3 and severity of hepatic impairment. In conjunction with the clinical safety results, which demonstrate an increased incidence and severity of adverse events in subjects with greater severity of hepatic impairment, the starting dosage should be reduced in patients with hepatic impairment receiving Amitiza [see Dosage and Administration (2.1, 2.2)]. No dosing adjustment is required in patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A).

13 **NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY**

13.1 **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

**Carcinogenesis**

Two 2-year oral (gavage) carcinogenicity studies (one in Crl:B6C3F1 mice and one in Sprague-Dawley rats) were conducted with lubiprostone. In the 2-year carcinogenicity study in mice, lubiprostone doses of 25, 75, 200, and 500 mcg/kg/day (approximately 2, 6, 17, and 42 times the highest recommended human dose, respectively, based on body surface area) were used. In the 2-year rat carcinogenicity study, lubiprostone doses of 20, 100, and 400 mcg/kg/day (approximately 3, 17, and 68 times the highest recommended human dose, respectively, based on body surface area) were used. In the mouse carcinogenicity study, there was no significant increase in any tumor incidences. There was a significant increase in the incidence of interstitial cell adenoma of the testes in male rats at the 400 mcg/kg/day dose. In female rats, treatment with lubiprostone produced hepatocellular adenoma at the 400 mcg/kg/day dose.

**Mutagenesis**

Lubiprostone was not genotoxic in the *in vitro* Ames reverse mutation assay, the *in vitro* mouse lymphoma (L5178Y TK$^{-/-}$) forward mutation assay, the *in vitro* Chinese hamster lung (CHL/IU) chromosomal aberration assay, and the *in vivo* mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay.
Impairment of Fertility

Lubiprostone, at oral doses of up to 1000 mcg/kg/day, had no effect on the fertility and reproductive function of male and female rats. However, the number of implantation sites and live embryos were significantly reduced in rats at the 1000 mcg/kg/day dose as compared to control. The number of dead or resorbed embryos in the 1000 mcg/kg/day group was higher compared to the control group, but was not statistically significant. The 1000 mcg/kg/day dose in rats is approximately 169 times the highest recommended human dose of 48 mcg/day, based on body surface area.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Chronic Idiopathic Constipation

Dose-finding Study

A dose-finding, double-blinded, parallel-group, placebo-controlled, Phase 2 study was conducted in patients with chronic idiopathic constipation. Following a 2-week baseline/washout period, patients (N = 127) were randomized to receive placebo (n = 33), Amitiza 24 mcg/day (24 mcg once daily; n = 29), Amitiza 48 mcg/day (24 mcg twice daily; n = 32), or Amitiza 72 mcg/day (24 mcg three times daily; n = 33) for 3 weeks. Patients were chosen for participation based on their need for relief of constipation, which was defined as less than 3 spontaneous bowel movements (SBMs) per week. The primary efficacy variable was the daily average number of SBMs.

The study demonstrated that all patients who took Amitiza experienced a noticeable improvement in clinical response. Based on the efficacy analysis, there was no statistically significant improvement in the clinical response beyond a total daily dose of 24 mcg during treatment weeks 2 and 3 (Figure 1).
Efficacy Studies

Two double-blinded, placebo-controlled studies of identical design were conducted in patients with chronic idiopathic constipation. Chronic idiopathic constipation was defined as, on average, less than 3 SBMs per week along with one or more of the following symptoms of constipation for at least 6 months prior to randomization: 1) very hard stools for at least a quarter of all bowel movements; 2) sensation of incomplete evacuation following at least a quarter of all bowel movements; and 3) straining with defecation at least a quarter of the time.

Following a 2-week baseline/washout period, a total of 479 patients (mean age 47.2 [range 20–81] years; 88.9% female; 80.8% Caucasian, 9.6% African American, 7.3% Hispanic, 1.5% Asian; 10.9% ≥ 65 years of age) were randomized and received Amitiza 24 mcg twice daily (48 mcg/day) or placebo twice daily for 4 weeks. The primary endpoint of the studies was SBM frequency. The studies demonstrated that patients treated with Amitiza had a higher frequency of SBMs during Week 1 than the placebo patients. In both studies, results similar to those in Week 1 were also observed in Weeks 2, 3, and 4 of therapy (Table 4).
Table 4: Spontaneous Bowel Movement Frequency Rates1 (Efficacy Studies)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trial</th>
<th>Study Arm</th>
<th>Baseline Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Baseline Median</th>
<th>Week 1 Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Week 1 Median</th>
<th>Week 2 Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Week 2 Median</th>
<th>Week 3 Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Week 3 Median</th>
<th>Week 4 Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Week 4 Median</th>
<th>Week 1 Change from Baseline Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Week 1 Change from Baseline Median</th>
<th>Week 4 Change from Baseline Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Week 4 Change from Baseline Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Placebo</td>
<td>1.6 ± 1.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>3.5 ± 2.3</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.2 ± 2.5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.8 ± 2.2</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.9 ± 2.4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.9 ± 2.2</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.3 ± 2.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study 1</td>
<td>Amitiza 24 mcg Twice Daily</td>
<td>1.4 ± 0.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>5.7 ± 4.4</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.1 ± 4.1</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.3 ± 4.9</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.3 ± 4.7</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.3 ± 4.3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.9 ± 4.6</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Placebo</td>
<td>1.5 ± 0.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>4.0 ± 2.7</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.6 ± 2.7</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.4 ± 2.8</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.5 ± 2.9</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.5 ± 2.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.9 ± 2.7</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amitiza 24 mcg Twice Daily</td>
<td>1.3 ± 0.9</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>5.9 ± 4.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0 ± 4.2</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.6 ± 4.6</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.4 ± 4.8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.6 ± 4.1</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.1 ± 4.8</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Frequency rates are calculated as 7 times (number of SBMs) / (number of days observed for that week).

In both studies, Amitiza demonstrated increases in the percentage of patients who experienced SBMs within the first 24 hours after administration when compared to placebo (56.7% vs. 36.9% in Study 1 and 62.9% vs. 31.9% in Study 2, respectively). Similarly, the time to first SBM was shorter for patients receiving Amitiza than for those receiving placebo.

Signs and symptoms related to constipation, including abdominal bloating, abdominal discomfort, stool consistency, and straining, as well as constipation severity ratings, were also improved with Amitiza versus placebo. The results were consistent in subpopulation analyses for gender, race, and elderly patients (≥ 65 years of age).

Following 4 weeks of treatment with Amitiza 24 mcg twice daily, withdrawal of Amitiza did not result in a rebound effect.

Long-term Studies

Three open-labeled, long-term clinical safety and efficacy studies were conducted in patients with chronic idiopathic constipation receiving Amitiza 24 mcg twice daily. These studies comprised 871 patients (mean age 51.0 [range 19–86] years; 86.1% female; 86.9% Caucasian, 7.3% African American, 4.5% Hispanic, 0.7% Asian; 18.4% ≥ 65 years of age) who were treated for 6–12 months (24–48 weeks). Patients provided regular assessments of abdominal bloating, abdominal discomfort, and constipation severity. These studies demonstrated that Amitiza decreased abdominal bloating, abdominal discomfort, and constipation severity over the 6–12-month treatment periods.

14.2 Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation

Efficacy Studies

Two double-blinded, placebo-controlled studies of similar design were conducted in patients with IBS-C. IBS was defined as abdominal pain or discomfort occurring over at least 6 months with two or more of the following: 1) relieved with defecation; 2) onset associated with a change in stool frequency; and 3) onset associated with a change in stool form. Patients were sub-typed as having IBS-C if they also experienced two of three of the following: 1) < 3 spontaneous bowel
movements per week, 2) > 25% hard stools, and 3) > 25% spontaneous bowel movements associated with straining.

Following a 4-week baseline/washout period, a total of 1154 patients (mean age 46.6 [range 18–85] years; 91.6% female; 77.4% Caucasian, 13.2% African American, 8.5% Hispanic, 0.4% Asian; 8.3% ≥ 65 years of age) were randomized and received Amitiza 8 mcg twice daily (16 mcg/day) or placebo twice daily for 12 weeks. The primary efficacy endpoint was assessed weekly utilizing the patient’s response to a global symptom relief question based on a 7-point, balanced scale (‘significantly worse’ to ‘significantly relieved’): ‘How would you rate your relief of IBS symptoms (abdominal discomfort/pain, bowel habits, and other IBS symptoms) over the past week compared to how you felt before you entered the study?’

The primary efficacy analysis was a comparison of the proportion of “overall responders” in each arm. A patient was considered an “overall responder” if the criteria for being designated a “monthly responder” were met in at least 2 of the 3 months on study. A “monthly responder” was defined as a patient who had reported “significantly relieved” for at least 2 weeks of the month or at least “moderately relieved” in all 4 weeks of that month. During each monthly evaluation period, patients reporting “moderately worse” or “significantly worse” relief, an increase in rescue medication use, or those who discontinued due to lack of efficacy, were deemed non-responders.

The percentage of patients in Study 1 qualifying as an “overall responder” was 13.8% in the group receiving Amitiza 8 mcg twice daily compared to 7.8% of patients receiving placebo twice daily. In Study 2, 12.1% of patients in the Amitiza 8 mcg group were “overall responders” versus 5.7% of patients in the placebo group. In both studies, the treatment differences between the placebo and Amitiza groups were statistically significant.

Results in men: The two randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blinded studies comprised 97 (8.4%) male patients, which is insufficient to determine whether men with IBS-C respond differently to Amitiza from women.

Study 1 also assessed the rebound effect from the withdrawal of Amitiza. Following 12 weeks of treatment with Amitiza 8 mcg twice daily, withdrawal of Amitiza did not result in a rebound effect.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

Amitiza is available as an oval, soft gelatin capsule containing 8 mcg or 24 mcg of lubiprostone with “SPI” printed on one side. Amitiza is available as follows:

8-mcg pink capsule
- Bottles of 60 (NDC 64764-080-60)

24-mcg orange capsule
- Bottles of 60 (NDC 64764-240-60)
- Bottles of 100 (NDC 64764-240-10)
Store at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15° to 30°C (59° to 86°F).

PROTECT FROM EXTREME TEMPERATURES.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

17.1 Dosing Instructions

Amitiza should be taken twice daily with food and water to reduce potential symptoms of nausea. The capsule should be taken once in the morning and once in the evening daily as prescribed. The capsule should be swallowed whole and should not be broken apart or chewed. Physicians and patients should periodically assess the need for continued therapy.

Patients on treatment who experience severe nausea, diarrhea, or dyspnea should inform their physician. Patients taking Amitiza may experience dyspnea within an hour of the first dose. This symptom generally resolves within 3 hours, but may recur with repeat dosing.

Chronic Idiopathic Constipation

Patients should take a single 24 mcg capsule of Amitiza twice daily with food and water.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation

Patients should take a single 8 mcg capsule of Amitiza twice daily with food and water.

17.2 Nursing Mothers

Advise lactating women to monitor their human milk-fed infants for diarrhea while taking Amitiza [see Use in Specific Populations (8.3)].
Marketed by:

Sucampo Pharma Americas, Inc.
Bethesda, MD 20814

and

Takeda Pharmaceuticals America, Inc.
Deerfield, IL 60015

Amitiza® is a registered trademark of Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
PHARMACOLOGY/TOXICOLOGY NDA/BLA REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Application number: 21908
Supporting document/s: 0105
Applicant’s letter date: March 07, 2012
CDER stamp date: March 07, 2012
Product: Amitiza (Lubiprostone) Capsules
Indication: Chronic idiopathic constipation and irritable bowel syndrome with constipation
Applicant: Sucampo Pharma Americas, Inc.
Review Division: Division of Gastroenterology and Inborn Errors Products (DGIEP)
Reviewer: Sushanta K. Chakder, Ph.D.
Supervisor: Sushanta K. Chakder, Ph.D.
Division Director: Donna Griebel, MD
Project Manager: Matthew Scherer, MBA

Submission Contents: The Division, in a correspondence dated October 03, 2011, proposed revisions to the labeling for Amitiza Capsules in response to the Prior Approval Supplement submitted by the applicant on June 21, 2011. In the current Prior Approval Supplement, the applicant submitted a white paper in support of the labeling text for Amitiza Capsules. In addition, the revised labeling with the applicant’s proposed changes was submitted.

Background:

Amitiza Capsules are approved for the treatment of chronic idiopathic constipation and irritable bowel syndrome with constipation. Amitiza is categorized as a pregnancy category C drug. However, the current labeling for Amitiza contains information which generally does not conform to pregnancy category C. Because of this inconsistency, the Division proposed a revision to the existing Amitiza labeling which was communicated to Sucampo on October 03, 2011. In response to the Division’s proposed changes in the existing labeling, the applicant submitted the current Prior Approval
Supplement. A white paper in support of the proposed changes in the labeling, along with the revised labeling with the applicant’s proposed changes was submitted in this submission.

**LABELING:**

**Proposed Version**

8.1 Pregnancy

**Recommended version**

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies with Amitiza in pregnant women. A dose dependent increase in fetal loss was observed in pregnant guinea pigs that received...
lubiprostone doses equivalent to 0.2 to 6 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) based on body surface area (mg/m²). Animal studies did not show an increase in structural malformations. Amitiza should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

In developmental toxicity studies, pregnant rats and rabbits received oral lubiprostone during organogenesis at doses up to approximately 338 times (rats) and approximately 34 times (rabbits) the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) based on body surface area (mg/m²). Maximal animal doses were 2000 mcg/kg/day (rats) and 100 mcg/kg/day (rabbits). In rats, there were increased incidences of early resorptions and soft tissue malformations (situs inversus, cleft palate) at the 2000 mcg/kg/day dose; however, these effects were probably secondary to maternal toxicity. A dose-dependent increase in fetal loss occurred when guinea pigs received lubiprostone after the period of organogenesis, on days 40 to 53 of gestation, at daily oral doses of 1, 10 and 25 mcg/kg/day (approximately 0.2, 2 and 6 times the MRHD based on body surface area (mg/m²). The potential of lubiprostone to cause fetal loss was also examined in pregnant Rhesus monkeys. Monkeys received lubiprostone post-organogenesis on gestation days 110 through 130 at daily oral doses of 10 and 30 mcg/kg/day (approximately 3 and 10 times the MRHD based on body surface area (mg/m²). Fetal loss was noted in one monkey from the 10-mcg/kg dose group, which is within normal historical rates for this species. There was no drug-related adverse effect seen in monkeys.

8.3 Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether lubiprostone is excreted in human milk. In rats, neither lubiprostone nor its active metabolites were detectable in breast milk following oral administration of lubiprostone. Because lubiprostone increases fluid secretion in the intestine and intestinal motility, human milk-fed infants should be monitored for diarrhea. Caution should be exercised when Amitiza is administered to a nursing woman.

Evaluation

No changes are recommended in this section.

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Lubiprostone is a locally acting chloride channel activator that enhances a chloride-rich intestinal fluid secretion without altering sodium and potassium concentrations in the serum. Lubiprostone acts by specifically activating CIC-2, which is a normal constituent of the apical membrane of the human intestine, in a protein kinase A–independent fashion. By increasing intestinal fluid secretion, lubiprostone increases motility in the intestine, thereby facilitating the passage of stool and alleviating symptoms associated with chronic idiopathic constipation. Patch clamp cell studies in human cell lines have indicated that the majority of the beneficial biological activity of lubiprostone and its metabolites is observed only on the apical (luminal) portion of the gastrointestinal
epithelium. Additionally, activation of CIC-2 by lubiprostone has been shown to stimulate recovery of mucosal barrier function and reduce intestinal permeability via the restoration of tight junction protein complexes in \textit{ex vivo} studies of ischemic porcine intestine.

**Evaluation**

No changes are recommended in this section, and the proposed change/inclusion is acceptable.

**SUMMARY AND EVALUATION:**

The applicant submitted a White Paper justifying the proposed labeling changes for Amitiza Capsules. The information submitted in the White Paper were previously submitted to the Agency and were reviewed earlier.

The applicant stated that lubiprostone is a prostone and a CIC-2 chloride channel activator acting locally in the gut. Lubiprostone does not show significant binding to prostaglandin receptors and does not show any effect on prostaglandin EP and FP receptors at clinically relevant concentrations. In addition, the systemic bioavailability of lubiprostone and its active metabolite is very low and the plasma concentrations achieved in patients may not induce EP and FP receptor activation. In \textit{in vitro} studies, lubiprostone demonstrated weak agonist activity at EP\textsubscript{1}, EP\textsubscript{2}, EP\textsubscript{3} and FP receptors when compared to misoprostol or other prostaglandin agonists.

Lubiprostone did not cause treatment related fetal loss in standard reproductive and developmental toxicity studies in rats and rabbits. In guinea pigs, lubiprostone caused a dose-related abortions following oral administration on gestation days 40 through 53. The highest dose tested in guinea pigs (25 mcg/kg) showed toxicity (adverse clinical signs, decreased body weight). The low (1.0 mcg/kg) and mid (10 mcg/kg) doses did not show any signs of toxicity. In rhesus monkeys, lubiprostone did not cause treatment-related abortions at oral doses up to 30 mcg/kg, administered on gestation days 110 through 130. One abortion observed at the 10 mcg/kg, and one early delivery each at 10 and 30 mcg/kg are within the historical control incidences in this species.

Following oral administration of a single dose of \textsuperscript{3}H-lubiprostone to pregnant or lactating rats, there was transfer of lubiprostone-related radioactivity across the placenta and into the milk at very low levels, and the radioactivity was identified to be due to inactive metabolites.

In a published study (Cuppoletti et al, Prostaglandins Other Lipid Mediat. 86: 56-60, 2008) in human uterine smooth muscle cells, lubiprostone caused a decrease in intracellular calcium, caused membrane hyperpolarization, and had no effect on [cAMP] in contrast to PGE\textsubscript{1}, PGE\textsubscript{2} and misoprostol which caused an increase in intracellular calcium, caused membrane depolarization, and increased [cAMP] suggesting different cellular effects.

The agonist activity of lubiprostone, M3 (mixture of two metabolite epimers designated E-U231 and E-U232) and each metabolite alone was tested on cloned human EP\textsubscript{1}, EP\textsubscript{2}, EP\textsubscript{3}, EP\textsubscript{4} and FP receptors expressed in cultured cells. Lubiprostone and the M3 epimer U-E231 showed very low affinities for EP and FP receptors. However, M3 and U-E232 had higher affinities for EP\textsubscript{1}, EP\textsubscript{3} and EP\textsubscript{4} receptors.

In summary, in standard reproductive and developmental toxicology studies in rats and rabbits, lubiprostone did not show significant treatment related adverse effects on fetuses at doses which
did not show maternal toxicity. However, in guinea pigs, it caused dose related abortions, the high dose being toxic to the animals. In rhesus monkeys, treatment with lubiprostone at oral doses up to 30 mcg/kg, was not associated with treatment related abortions. In cultured human myometrial cells, lubiprostone appeared to have different cellular effects compared to misoprostol or PGE1 and PGE2. The metabolite M3 and the M3-epimer U-E232 showed high agonist activities on EP receptors. Thus, the nonclinical data suggest that lubiprostone has a potential for fetal risk.
This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/

SUSHANTA K CHAKDER
06/05/2012
Hi Mr. Carey,

We acknowledge your proposed language received for NDA 2908 S/010 label supplement dated, March 7, 2012.

Revisions were made to Section 8.1, 8.3

Please see the following attached annotated label with our proposed revisions.

If you agree with our proposal, you do not need to resubmit the label with our changes. However, if you do not agree, please resubmit your recommendations to Supplement 10 of your NDA by May 4, 2012.

Thank you,

Chantal Phillips, M.S.H.S.
CDR, U.S. Public Health Service
Regulatory Project Manager for Safety
Food and Drug Administration
Division of Gastroenterology and Inborn Errors Products
BLDG 22, Rm 5128

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/s/

CHANTAL N PHILLIPS
06/01/2012