SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

GVITHER PLUS 20/120

Softgels of Artemether & Lumefantrine

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Softgels of Artemether & Lumefantrine

GVITHER PLUS 20/120 CAPSULE

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each soft gelatin capsule contains:
Artemether (PhI) 20 mg
Lumefantrine (PhI) 120 mg
Excipients q.s

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Capsule for oral use

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

For the treatment of most forms and resistant types of malaria.

4.2 Dosage and Administration

Dosage

Dosage in Adult Patients (>16 years of age)

A 3-day treatment schedule with a total of 6 doses is recommended for adult patients with a bodyweight of 35 kg and above.

One capsule as an initial dose, 1 capsule again after 8 hours and then 1 capsule twice daily (morning and evening) for the following two days (total course of 6 capsules).

Method of administration

Oral

Mode of administration

The precise antimalarial action of lumefantrine and Artemether is unknown, although both appears to act thought to interfere with the conversion of haem to nontoxic compounds. Artemether contains an endoperoxide bridge, which interacts with haem iron to generate reactive metabolites.

Lumefantrine is thought to interfere with haem polymerisation, a critical detoxifying pathway for the malaria parasite.
Both Artemether and lumefantrine have a secondary action, inhibiting nucleic acid and protein synthesis within the parasite.

Paediatric population
The use of this medicine should be avoided in infants.

4.3 Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients
- Patients who are taking any drug which is metabolized by the cytochrome enzyme CYP2D6 (e.g. flecainide, metoprolol, imioramine, amitryptiline, clomipramine).
- Patients with disturbances of electrolyte balance eg hypokalemia.

4.4 Warnings and Precautions

- It must not be used in first Trimester of Pregnancy.
- It has not been evaluated for the treatment of severe malaria.
- For the treatment of most forms and resistant types of malaria.

4.5 Drug Interactions

4.6 Pregnancy and Lactation

Pregnancy
There is insufficient data from the use of artemether and lumefantrine in pregnant women. Based on animal data, it is suspected to cause serious birth defects when administered during the first trimester of pregnancy. During second and third trimester, treatment should only be considered if the expected benefit to the mother outweighs the risk to the fetus.

Lactation
Animal data suggest excretion into breast milk but no data are available in humans. Women taking the product should not breast-feed during their treatment. Due to the long elimination half-time of lumefantrine (4 to 6 days), it is recommended that breastfeeding should not

resume until at least one week after the last dose unless potential benefits to the mother and child outweigh the risks of treatment.

4.7 Effects on Ability to Drive and Use Machines

No studies on the effect on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed.

4.8 Adverse Effects

- Muscle
- Joint pain
- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Headache

4.9 Overdose

Long-term use may cause a condition that affects the heart rhythm (QT Prolongation).

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic Properties

Artemether: P01BE

Lumafantrine: P01BE

ARTEMETHER

In the body, artemether is metabolized into the active metabolite metabolite Dihydroartemisinin. The drug works against the erythrocytic stages of P. falciparum by inhibiting nucleic acid and protein synthesis. Artemether is administered in combination with lumefantrine for improved efficacy. Artemether has a rapid onset of action and is rapidly cleared from the body. It is thought that artemether provides rapid symptomatic relief by reducing the number of malarial parasites. Lumefantrine has a much longer half life and is believed to clear residual parasites.

LUMEFANTRINE

Lumefantrine is a blood schizonticide active against erythrocytic stages of Plasmodium falciparum. It is thought that administration of lumefantrine with artemether results in cooperate antimalarial clearing effects. Artemether has a rapid onset of action and is rapidly cleared from the body. It is thus thought to provide rapid symptomatic relief by reducing the

number of malarial parasites. Lumefantrine has a much longer half life and is believed to clear residual parasites**.**

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

ARTEMETHER

Absorption of artemether is improved 2- to 3-fold with food. It is highly bound to protein (95.4%). Peak concentrations of artemether are seen 2 hours after administration.

Artemether is metabolized in the human body to the active metabolite, dihydroartemisinin, primarily by hepatic enzymes CYP3A4/5. Both the parent drug and active metabolite are eliminated with a half-life of about 2 hours.

LUMEFANTRINE

Bioavailability after oral administration is variable; absorption is substantially increased by co-administration with food, particularly with a high fat content. Peak plasma concentrations occur after 6–8h. The elimination half -life is 4–6 days. It is almost completely protein bound and metabolized mainly in the liver by CYP3A4.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on studies of safety pharmacology, genotoxicity and toxicity to reproduction.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of Excipients

Excipients

Refined Corn Oil

Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil

White Bees Wax

Butylated Hydroxy Anisole

Butylated Hydroxy Toluene

Soyalecithin

Methyl Paraben

Propyl Paraben

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not known

6.3 Shelf Life

30 months from the date of manufacturing.

6.4 Storage Conditions

Store below 30°C in a cool & dry place,

Protect from direct light, heat & moisture.

Keep out of reach of children.

6.5 Nature and content of container

6 Capsules packed in Alu-PVC Blister Pack, 1 Blisters packed in carton along with package insert.

6.6 Special Precaution/s for Disposal:

7. MARKETING AUTHORIZATION HOLDER

MANUFACTURER:
Asoj Soft Cap Pvt Limited G
Gujarat , Plot 517 & 518,
Village Asoj, Baroda - Halol Highway
Dist: Baroda, 391510

SEAGREEN PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED,
3, Okunfolami street Anthony Village, Lagos

8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

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9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

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10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT
