UBROGEPANT - A REVIEW

ABSTRACT:

Migraine is a mysterious disorder characterized by pulsating head ache, which is actually characterized to one side and comes in attacks which will be lasting for about 3-48 hours and can be associated with nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to sound, flashes of light, vertigoand diarrhoea [1]. Most of the drugs which are in current use for actue migraine like triptans, treats the disorder symptomatically. A novel group of drugs has been in research for the migraine which treats the disorder pathologically. Calcitonin gene – related peptide (CGRP) has a major role in the pathophysiology of the disorder and hence CGRP receptor antagonist, known as Gepants are in the research process [2]. Gepants are being studied for the efficacy of treating acute migraine [2]. This article will be a review article about the drug – Ubrogepant, which is approved for treatment of migraine with acute attacks in adults [3].

Keywords: Ubrogepant; Migraine

Introduction: Migraine is a mysterious disorder characterized by pulsating head ache, which is actually characterized one side and comes in attacks which will be lasting for about 3-48 hours and can be associated with nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to sound, flashes of light, vertigoand diarrhoea [1]. Inspite of many other causative factors for migraine like activation of trigeminovascular system, Calcitonin Gene-related peptide also has a major role in migraine attacks [4]. Though previous CGRP antagonist drugs like Telcagepant produced increased liver enzymes [5], a newer CGRP – Ubrogepant was approved by the FDA on 23rd December 2019 by the ALLERGAN COMPANY, is a promising and more potent drug with reduced risk of hepatotoxicity [3].

Clinical trial[2]:A phase III, multicentric, randomized,open label with 52 weeks extension trial was conducted. Patients diagnosed with Migraine and either with or without aura was recruited in the trial after the completion of Phase II trials. Participants were again randomized to 1:1:1 for standard treatment, ubrogepant 50mg and ubrogepant 100mg. The dose of ubrogepant was blinded. The primary outcomes were safety and tolerability. The study population included 1230 participants (404 for Ubrogepant 50mg, 409 for Ubrogepant 100mg and 417 for usual care). All through the study, 21454 migraine attacks were treated with31968 doses of ubrogepant. On long duration with intermittent usage of Ubrogepant 50mg and 100mg when administered as either with 1 or 2 doses for a single attack, the acute treatment of migraine was considered to be safe and well tolerated, with lower incidence of treatment related Treatment-emergent adverse effects and serious adverse events[2].

Pharmacokinetics[3]: After oral administration, ubrogepant is absorbed with maximum plasma levels reaching in 1.5 hours approximately. High fat meal delays and reduces absorption. It has 87% of plasma protein binding capacity. Mainly metabolized by CYP3A4. The elimination halflife is 5-7 hours. Most of the drug is eliminated via feces and renal elimination is only a minor pathway.

Dosage[3]: Oral tablets – 50mg or 100mg of Ubrogepant

Mechanism of action[3: The drug acts by blocking the receptors of the Calcitonin gene-related peptide

Use in specific population:

Renal impairment[3]: For patients with severe renal disorders the doses of ubrogepant has to reduced due to the possibilities of increased levels of the drug.

Hepatic impairment[3]: Patients with severe hepatic impairment or disorders requires dose adjustments.

Pregnancy[3]: There is no proper adequate information about the developmental risks with Ubrogepant use in pregnant women. Embryofetal developmental risks were observed in the animals with the use of Ubrogepant.

Geriatric[3]: Elderly patient who are above 65 years of age, the dose has to be altered and to be started with lower doses.

Adverse effects[3]: Nausea, dry mouth and somnolence.

Nonclinical toxicology[3]: Carcinogenicity – There is no evidence for any drug related tumours in animals or humans.

Indication[3]: It is indicated only in the treatment of acute migraine attack and not for preventive therapy.

Drug interactions[3]:Ubrogepant should not be given along with CYP3A4 inhibitors(ex: ketoconazole, ciprofloxacin, cyclosporine, etc.) which will increase the drug exposure. Coadministration with CYP3A4 inducers(ex: phenytoin, rifampicin, barbiturates) leads to loss of efficacy of ubrogepant and leads to significant reduction in the drug exposure. Use of BCRP/P-gp inhibitors(ex: quinidine, carvedilol) will lead to increased drug levels since Ubrogepant is a substrate for BCRP/P-gp.

Conclusion: A new drug Ubrogepant, which treats the disorder pathologicallyfor the acute attacks of migraine is considered to be safe and better tolerated with reduced risks of hepatotoxicity.

Ethical Clearance: Ethical Clearance for this study was got approved from the Institutional Human Ethical Committee (IHEC).

References:

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