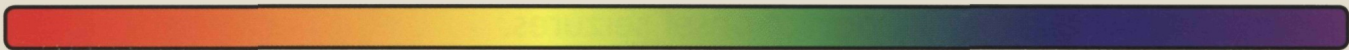


# CNS SPECTRUMS®

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NEUROPSYCHIATRIC MEDICINE



## **ORIGINAL RESEARCH**

### **Low-dose Transdermal Testosterone Augmentation Therapy Improves Depression Severity in Women**

K.K. Miller, R.H. Perlis, G.I. Papakostas, D. Mischoulon,  
D.V. Iosifescu, D.J. Brick, M. Fava

### **Adequacy of Pharmacotherapy Among Medicaid-Enrolled Patients Newly Diagnosed with OCD**

C.S. Hankin, L.M. Koran, A. Bronstone, D.W. Black, D.V. Sheehan, E. Hollander,  
J.D. Dunn, L. Culpepper, J. Knispel, D.D. Dougherty, Z. Wang

## **TRENDS IN PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY**

### **Crisis in Army Psychopharmacology and Mental Health Care at Fort Hood**

S.M. Stahl

## **BRAIN STIMULATION**

### **FDA Considers Classification of ECT**

S.H. Lisanby, S. Pallanti, T.E. Schlaepfer

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

### **Schizophreniform Psychosis at Onset of Adrenoleukodystrophy**

R. Ramos-Ríos, J. Berdullas, A. Araújo, D. Santos-García

### **Clarification Regarding Generic Substitution for Psychotropic Drugs**

P. Blier

**NEW** for patients with epilepsy

Now, at the first sign of failure, count on VIMPAT—a **first-in-class** AED for the adjunctive treatment of partial-onset seizures.

# FORGING NEW POWER

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

VIMPAT® tablets are indicated as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of partial-onset seizures in patients with epilepsy who are 17 years and older. VIMPAT injection is indicated as short-term replacement when oral administration is temporarily not feasible in these patients. Patients should be advised that VIMPAT may cause dizziness, ataxia, and syncope. Caution is advised for patients with known cardiac conduction problems, who are taking drugs known to induce PR interval prolongation, or with severe cardiac disease. In patients with seizure disorders, VIMPAT should be gradually withdrawn to minimize the potential of increased seizure frequency. Multiorgan hypersensitivity reactions have been reported with antiepileptic drugs. If this reaction is suspected, treatment with VIMPAT should be discontinued.

AEDs increase the risk of suicidal behavior and ideation. Patients taking VIMPAT should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

The most common adverse reactions occurring in ≥10 percent of VIMPAT-treated patients, and greater than placebo, were diplopia, headache, dizziness, and nausea.

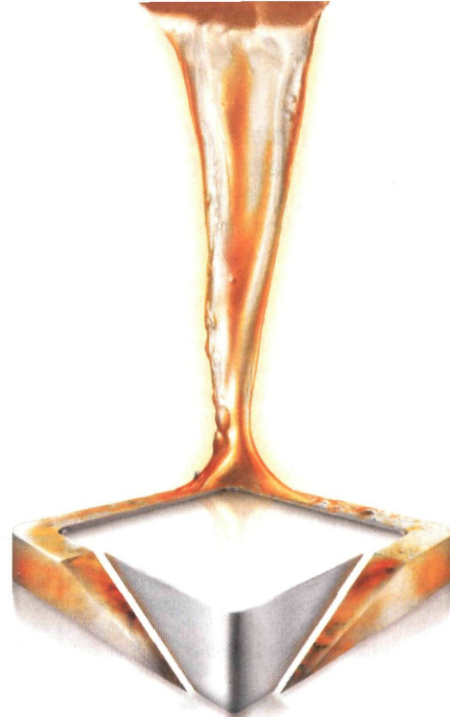
Please see adjacent page for Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information.

\*VIMPAT was tested with 2nd-generation AEDs including levetiracetam, lamotrigine, topiramate, oxcarbazepine, and zonisamide as well as 1st-generation AEDs such as carbamazepine, valproate, phenytoin, and phenobarbital.

**References:** 1. Data on file, UCB, Inc. 2. Beyreuther BK, Freitag J, Heers C, Krebsfänger N, Scharfenecker U, Stöhr T. Lacosamide: a review of preclinical properties. *CNS Drug Reviews*. 2007;13(1):21-42.



IN EPILEPSY.



VIMPAT.



**VIMPAT**<sup>®</sup> tablets  
injection  
(lacosamide)<sup>Ⓢ</sup>

- ◆ Patients achieved greater reduction in seizure frequency
- ◆ Proven efficacy with the broadest range of AEDs<sup>1\*</sup>
- ◆ Power that was generally well tolerated
- ◆ Introduce a novel mechanism of action<sup>2</sup>

AVAILABLE IN **ORAL TABLETS AND IV INJECTION.**



THE EPILEPSY COMPANY™

VIMPAT<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark under license from Harris FRC Corporation.  
©2009, UCB, Inc., Smyrna, GA 30080 All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. VE149-1208  
The Epilepsy Company is a trademark of the UCB Group of Companies.



**VIMPAT® (lacosamide) Tablets, CV**  
**VIMPAT® (lacosamide) Injection, CV**  
**Brief Summary of Full Prescribing Information**  
(See Package Insert for Full Prescribing Information)

**Rx Only**

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

**Partial-Onset Seizures**

VIMPAT (lacosamide) tablets are indicated as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of partial-onset seizures in patients with epilepsy aged 17 years and older.

VIMPAT (lacosamide) injection for intravenous use is indicated as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of partial-onset seizures in patients with epilepsy aged 17 years and older when oral administration is temporarily not feasible.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

None.

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

**Suicidal Behavior and Ideation**

Antiepileptic drugs (AEDs), including VIMPAT, increase the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior in patients taking these drugs for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooled analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients randomized to one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% CI: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal behavior or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior with AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The finding of increased risk with AEDs of varying mechanisms of action and across a range of indications suggests that the risk applies to all AEDs used for any indication. The risk did not vary substantially by age (5-100 years) in the clinical trials analyzed.

Table 1 shows absolute and relative risk by indication for all evaluated AEDs.

**Table 1 Risk by indication for antiepileptic drugs in the pooled analysis**

Indication	Placebo Patients with Events Per 1000 Patients	Drug Patients with Events Per 1000 Patients	Relative Risk: Incidence of Events in Drug Patients/ Incidence in Placebo Patients	Risk Difference: Additional Drug Patients with Events Per 1000 Patients
Epilepsy	1.0	3.4	3.5	2.4
Psychiatric	5.7	8.5	1.5	2.9
Other	1.0	1.8	1.9	0.9
Total	2.4	4.3	1.8	1.9

The relative risk for suicidal thoughts or behavior was higher in clinical trials for epilepsy than in clinical trials for psychiatric or other conditions, but the absolute risk differences were similar.

Anyone considering prescribing VIMPAT or any other AED must balance this risk with the risk of untreated illness. Epilepsy and many other illnesses for which antiepileptics are prescribed are themselves associated with morbidity and mortality and an increased risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior. Should suicidal thoughts and behavior emerge during treatment, the prescriber needs to consider whether the emergence of these symptoms in any given patient may be related to the illness being treated.

Patients, their caregivers, and families should be informed that AEDs increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior and should be advised of the need to be alert for the emergence or worsening of the signs and symptoms of depression, any unusual changes in mood or behavior, or the emergence of suicidal thoughts, behavior, or thoughts about self-harm. Behaviors of concern should be reported immediately to healthcare providers.

**Dizziness and Ataxia**

Patients should be advised that VIMPAT may cause dizziness and ataxia. Accordingly, they should be advised not to drive a car or to operate other complex machinery until they are familiar with the effects of VIMPAT on their ability to perform such activities.

In patients with partial-onset seizures taking 1 to 3 concomitant AEDs, dizziness was experienced by 25% of patients randomized to the recommended doses (200 to 400 mg/day) of VIMPAT (compared with 8% of placebo patients) and was the adverse event most frequently leading to discontinuation (3%). Ataxia was experienced by 6% of patients randomized to the recommended doses (200 to 400 mg/day) of VIMPAT (compared to 2% of placebo patients). The onset of dizziness and ataxia was most commonly observed during titration. There was a substantial increase in these adverse events at doses higher than 400 mg/day. [see *Adverse Reactions/*Table 2 (6.1)]

**Cardiac Rhythm and Conduction Abnormalities**

**PR interval prolongation**

Dose-dependent prolongations in PR interval with VIMPAT have been observed in clinical studies in patients and in healthy volunteers [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2) in *Full Prescribing Information*]. In clinical trials in patients with partial-onset epilepsy, asymptomatic first-degree atrioventricular (AV) block was observed as an adverse reaction in 0.4% (4/944) of patients randomized to receive VIMPAT and 0% (0/364) of patients randomized to receive placebo. In clinical trials in patients with diabetic neuropathy, asymptomatic first-degree AV block was observed as an adverse reaction in 0.5% (5/1023) of patients receiving VIMPAT and 0% (0/291) of patients receiving placebo. When VIMPAT is given with other drugs that prolong the PR interval, further PR prolongation is possible.

VIMPAT should be used with caution in patients with known conduction problems (e.g. marked first-degree AV block, second-degree or higher AV block and sick sinus syndrome without pacemaker), or with severe cardiac disease such as myocardial ischemia or heart failure. In such patients, obtaining an ECG before beginning VIMPAT, and after VIMPAT is titrated to steady-state, is recommended.

**Atrial fibrillation and Atrial flutter**

In the short-term investigational trials of VIMPAT in epilepsy patients, there were no cases of atrial fibrillation or flutter. In patients with diabetic neuropathy, 0.5% of patients treated with VIMPAT experienced an adverse reaction of atrial fibrillation or atrial flutter, compared to 0% of placebo-treated patients. VIMPAT administration may predispose to atrial arrhythmias (atrial fibrillation or flutter), especially in patients with diabetic neuropathy and/or cardiovascular disease. Patients should be made aware of the symptoms of atrial fibrillation and flutter (e.g., palpitations, rapid pulse, shortness of breath) and told to contact their physician should any of these symptoms occur.

**Syncope**

In the short-term controlled trials of VIMPAT in epilepsy patients with no significant system illnesses, there was no increase in syncope compared to placebo. In the short-term controlled trials of VIMPAT in patients with diabetic neuropathy, 1.2% of patients who were treated with VIMPAT reported an adverse reaction of syncope or loss of consciousness, compared to 0% of placebo-treated patients with diabetic neuropathy. Most of the cases of syncope were observed in patients receiving doses above 400 mg/day. The cause of syncope was not determined in most cases. However, several were associated with either changes in orthostatic blood pressure, atrial flutter/fibrillation (and associated tachycardia), or bradycardia.

**Withdrawal of Antiepileptic Drugs (AEDs)**

As with all AEDs, VIMPAT should be withdrawn gradually (over a minimum of 1 week) to minimize the potential of increased seizure frequency in patients with seizure disorders.

**Multiorgan Hypersensitivity Reactions**

One case of symptomatic hepatitis and nephritis was observed among 4011 subjects exposed to VIMPAT during clinical development. The event occurred in a healthy volunteer, 10 days after stopping VIMPAT treatment. The subject was not taking any concomitant medication and potential known viral etiologies for hepatitis were ruled out. The subject fully recovered within a month, without specific treatment. The case is consistent with a delayed multiorgan hypersensitivity reaction. Additional potential cases included 2 with rash and elevated liver enzymes and 1 with myocarditis and hepatitis of uncertain etiology.

Multiorgan hypersensitivity reactions (also known as Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms, or DRESS) have been reported with other anticonvulsants and typically, although not exclusively, present with fever and rash associated with other organ system involvement, that may or may not include eosinophilia, hepatitis, nephritis, lymphadenopathy, and/or myocarditis. Because this disorder is variable in its expression, other organ system signs and symptoms not noted here may occur. If this reaction is suspected, VIMPAT should be discontinued and alternative treatment started.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

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.



In all controlled and uncontrolled trials in patients with partial-onset seizures, 1327 patients have received VIMPAT of whom 1000 have been treated for longer than 6 months and 852 for longer than 12 months.

### Clinical Trials Experience

#### Controlled Trials

##### Adverse reactions leading to discontinuation

In controlled clinical trials, the rate of discontinuation as a result of an adverse event was 8% and 17% in patients randomized to receive VIMPAT at the recommended doses of 200 and 400 mg/day, respectively, 29% at 600 mg/day, and 5% in patients randomized to receive placebo. The adverse events most commonly (>1% in the VIMPAT total group and greater than placebo) leading to discontinuation were dizziness, ataxia, vomiting, diplopia, nausea, vertigo, and vision blurred.

##### Most common adverse reactions

Table 2 gives the incidence of treatment-emergent adverse events that occurred in ≥2% of adult patients with partial-onset seizures in the total VIMPAT group and for which the incidence was greater than placebo. The majority of adverse events in the VIMPAT patients were reported with a maximum intensity of 'mild' or 'moderate'.

**Table 2: Treatment-Emergent Adverse Event Incidence in Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Partial-Onset Seizure Trials (Events ≥2% of Patients in VIMPAT Total and More Frequent Than in the Placebo Group)**

System Organ Class/ Preferred Term	Placebo N=364 %	VIMPAT 200 mg/day N=270 %	VIMPAT 400 mg/day N=471 %	VIMPAT 600 mg/day N=203 %	VIMPAT TOTAL N=944 %
<b>Ear and labyrinth disorder</b>					
Vertigo	1	5	3	4	4
<b>Eye disorders</b>					
Diplopia	2	6	10	16	11
Vision blurred	3	2	9	16	8
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>					
Nausea	4	7	11	17	11
Vomiting	3	6	9	16	9
Diarrhea	3	3	5	4	4
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>					
Fatigue	6	7	7	15	9
Gait disturbance	<1	<1	2	4	2
Asthenia	1	2	2	4	2
<b>Injury, poisoning and procedural complications</b>					
Contusion	3	3	4	2	3
Skin laceration	2	2	3	3	3
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>					
Dizziness	8	16	30	53	31
Headache	9	11	14	12	13
Ataxia	2	4	7	15	8
Somnolence	5	5	8	8	7
Tremor	4	4	6	12	7
Nystagmus	4	2	5	10	5
Balance disorder	0	1	5	6	4
Memory impairment	2	1	2	6	2
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>					
Depression	1	2	2	2	2
<b>Skin and subcutaneous disorders</b>					
Pruritus	1	3	2	3	2

### Laboratory abnormalities

Abnormalities in liver function tests have been observed in controlled trials with VIMPAT in adult patients with partial-onset seizures who were taking 1 to 3 concomitant anti-epileptic drugs. Elevations of ALT to ≥3× ULN occurred in 0.7% (7/935) of VIMPAT patients and 0% (0/356) of placebo patients. One case of hepatitis with transaminases >20× ULN was observed in one healthy subject 10 days after VIMPAT treatment completion, along with nephritis (proteinuria and urine casts). Serologic studies were negative for viral hepatitis. Transaminases returned to normal within one month without specific treatment. At the time of this event, bilirubin was normal. The hepatitis/nephritis was interpreted as a delayed hypersensitivity reaction to VIMPAT.

### Other Adverse Reactions in Patients with Partial-Onset Seizures

The following is a list of treatment-emergent adverse events reported by patients treated with VIMPAT in all clinical trials in patients with partial-onset seizures, including controlled trials and long-term open-label extension trials. Events addressed in other tables or sections are not listed here. Events included in this list from the controlled trials occurred more frequently on drug than on placebo and were based on consideration of VIMPAT pharmacology, frequency above that expected in the population, seriousness, and likelihood of a relationship to VIMPAT. Events are further classified within system organ class.

*Blood and lymphatic system disorders:* neutropenia, anemia

*Cardiac disorders:* palpitations

*Ear and labyrinth disorders:* tinnitus

*Gastrointestinal disorders:* constipation, dyspepsia, dry mouth, oral hypoesthesia

*General disorders and administration site conditions:* irritability, pyrexia, feeling drunk

*Injury, poisoning, and procedural complications:* fall

*Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:* muscle spasms

*Nervous system disorders:* paresthesia, cognitive disorder, hypoesthesia, dysarthria, disturbance in attention, cerebellar syndrome

*Psychiatric disorders:* confusional state, mood altered, depressed mood

### Intravenous Adverse Reactions

Adverse reactions with intravenous administration generally appeared similar to those observed with the oral formulation, although intravenous administration was associated with local adverse events such as injection site pain or discomfort (2.5%), irritation (1%), and erythema (0.5%). One case of profound bradycardia (26 bpm; BP 100/60 mmHg) was observed in a patient during a 15 minute infusion of 150mg VIMPAT. This patient was on a beta-blocker. Infusion was discontinued and the patient experienced a rapid recovery.

### Comparison of Gender and Race

The overall adverse event rate was similar in male and female patients. Although there were few non-Caucasian patients, no differences in the incidences of adverse events compared to Caucasian patients were observed.

### DRUG INTERACTIONS

Drug-drug interaction studies in healthy subjects showed no pharmacokinetic interactions between VIMPAT and carbamazepine, valproate, digoxin, metformin, omeprazole, or an oral contraceptive containing ethinylestradiol and levonorgestrel. There was no evidence for any relevant drug-drug interaction of VIMPAT with common AEDs in the placebo-controlled clinical trials in patients with partial-onset seizures [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3) in Full Prescribing Information].

The lack of pharmacokinetic interaction does not rule out the possibility of pharmacodynamic interactions, particularly among drugs that affect the heart conduction system.

### USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

#### Pregnancy

##### Pregnancy Category C

Lacosamide produced developmental toxicity (increased embryofetal and perinatal mortality, growth deficit) in rats following administration during pregnancy. Developmental neurotoxicity was observed in rats following administration during a period of postnatal development corresponding to the third trimester of human pregnancy. These effects were observed at doses associated with clinically relevant plasma exposures.

Lacosamide has been shown *in vitro* to interfere with the activity of collapsin response mediator protein-2 (CRMP-2), a protein involved in neuronal differentiation and control of axonal outgrowth. Potential adverse effects on CNS development can not be ruled out.

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. VIMPAT should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Oral administration of lacosamide to pregnant rats (20, 75, or 200 mg/kg/day) and rabbits (6.25, 12.5, or 25 mg/kg/day) during the period of organogenesis did not produce any teratogenic effects. However, the maximum doses evaluated were limited by maternal toxicity in both species and embryofetal death in rats. These doses were associated with maternal plasma lacosamide exposures [area under the plasma-time concentration curve; (AUC)] ≈2 and 1 times (rat and rabbit, respectively) that in



humans at the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) of 400 mg/day.

When lacosamide (25, 70, or 200 mg/kg/day) was orally administered to rats throughout gestation, parturition, and lactation, increased perinatal mortality and decreased body weights were observed in the offspring at the highest dose. The no-effect dose for pre- and post-natal developmental toxicity in rats (70 mg/kg/day) was associated with a maternal plasma lacosamide AUC approximately equal to that in humans at the MRHD.

Oral administration of lacosamide (30, 90, or 180 mg/kg/day) to rats during the neonatal and juvenile periods of postnatal development resulted in decreased brain weights and long-term neurobehavioral changes (altered open field performance, deficits in learning and memory). The early postnatal period in rats is generally thought to correspond to late pregnancy in humans in terms of brain development. The no-effect dose for developmental neurotoxicity in rats was associated with a plasma lacosamide AUC approximately 0.5 times that in humans at the MRHD.

#### Pregnancy Registry

UCB, Inc. has established the UCB AED Pregnancy Registry to advance scientific knowledge about safety and outcomes in pregnant women being treated with VIMPAT. To ensure broad program access and reach, either a healthcare provider or the patient can initiate enrollment in the UCB AED Pregnancy Registry by calling 1-888-537-7734 (toll free).

Physicians are also advised to recommend that pregnant patients taking VIMPAT enroll in the North American Antiepileptic Drug Pregnancy Registry. This can be done by calling the toll free number 1-888-233-2334, and must be done by patients themselves. Information on the registry can also be found at the website <http://www.aedpregnancyregistry.org/>.

#### Labor and Delivery

The effects of VIMPAT on labor and delivery in pregnant women are unknown. In a pre- and post-natal study in rats, there was a tendency for prolonged gestation in all lacosamide treated groups at plasma exposures (AUC) at or below the plasma AUC in humans at the maximum recommended human dose of 400 mg/day.

#### Nursing Mothers

Studies in lactating rats have shown that lacosamide and/or its metabolites are excreted in milk. It is not known whether VIMPAT is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted into human milk, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue VIMPAT, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

#### Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of VIMPAT in pediatric patients <17 years have not been established.

Lacosamide has been shown *in vitro* to interfere with the activity of CRMP-2, a protein involved in neuronal differentiation and control of axonal outgrowth. Potential adverse effects on CNS development can not be ruled out. Administration of lacosamide to rats during the neonatal and juvenile periods of postnatal development resulted in decreased brain weights and long-term neurobehavioral changes (altered open field performance, deficits in learning and memory). The no-effect dose for developmental neurotoxicity in rats was associated with a plasma lacosamide exposure (AUC) approximately 0.5 times the human plasma AUC at the maximum recommended human dose of 400 mg/day.

#### Geriatric Use

There were insufficient numbers of elderly patients enrolled in partial-onset seizure trials (n=18) to adequately assess the effectiveness of VIMPAT in this population.

In healthy subjects, the dose and body weight normalized pharmacokinetic parameters AUC and  $C_{max}$  were approximately 20% higher in elderly subjects compared to young subjects. The slightly higher lacosamide plasma concentrations in elderly subjects are possibly caused by differences in total body water (lean body weight) and age-associated decreased renal clearance. No VIMPAT dose adjustment based on age is considered necessary. Caution should be exercised for dose titration in elderly patients.

#### Patients with Renal Impairment

A maximum dose of 300 mg/day is recommended for patients with severe renal impairment ( $CL_{CR} \leq 30$  mL/min) and in patients with endstage renal disease. VIMPAT is effectively removed from plasma by hemodialysis. Following a 4-hour hemodialysis treatment, AUC of VIMPAT is reduced by approximately 50%.

Therefore dosage supplementation of up to 50% following hemodialysis should be considered. In all renal impaired patients, the dose titration should be performed with caution. [see *Dosage and Administration (2.2)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)* in Full Prescribing Information]

#### Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment should be observed closely during dose titration. A maximum dose of 300 mg/day is recommended for patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment. The pharmacokinetics of lacosamide has not been evaluated in severe hepatic impairment. VIMPAT use is not recommended in patients with severe hepatic impairment. [see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)* in Full Prescribing Information] Patients with co-existing hepatic and renal impairment should be monitored closely during dose titration.

### DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

#### Controlled Substance

VIMPAT is a Schedule V controlled substance.

#### Abuse

In a human abuse potential study, single doses of 200 mg and 800 mg lacosamide produced euphoria-type subjective responses that differentiated statistically from placebo; at 800 mg, these euphoria-type responses were statistically indistinguishable from those produced by alprazolam, a Schedule IV drug. The duration of the euphoria-type responses following lacosamide was less than that following alprazolam. A high rate of euphoria was also reported as an adverse event in the human abuse potential study following single doses of 800 mg lacosamide (15% [5/34]) compared to placebo (0%) and in two pharmacokinetic studies following single and multiple doses of 300-800 mg lacosamide (ranging from 6% [2/33] to 25% [3/12]) compared to placebo (0%). However, the rate of euphoria reported as an adverse event in the VIMPAT development program at therapeutic doses was less than 1%.

#### Dependence

Abrupt termination of lacosamide in clinical trials with diabetic neuropathic pain patients produced no signs or symptoms that are associated with a withdrawal syndrome indicative of physical dependence. However, psychological dependence cannot be excluded due to the ability of lacosamide to produce euphoria-type adverse events in humans.

### OVERDOSAGE

#### Signs, Symptoms, and Laboratory Findings of Acute Overdose in Humans

There is limited clinical experience with VIMPAT overdose in humans. The highest reported accidental overdose of VIMPAT during clinical development was 1200 mg/day which was non-fatal. The types of adverse events experienced by patients exposed to supratherapeutic doses during the trials were not clinically different from those of patients administered recommended doses of VIMPAT.

There has been a single case of intentional overdose by a patient who self-administered 12 grams VIMPAT along with large doses of zonisamide, topiramate, and gabapentin. The patient presented in a coma and was hospitalized. An EEG revealed epileptic waveforms. The patient recovered 2 days later.

#### Treatment or Management of Overdose

There is no specific antidote for overdose with VIMPAT. Standard decontamination procedures should be followed. General supportive care of the patient is indicated including monitoring of vital signs and observation of the clinical status of patient. A Certified Poison Control Center should be contacted for up to date information on the management of overdose with VIMPAT.

Standard hemodialysis procedures result in significant clearance of VIMPAT (reduction of systemic exposure by 50% in 4 hours). Hemodialysis has not been performed in the few known cases of overdose, but may be indicated based on the patient's clinical state or in patients with significant renal impairment.

### PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

See FDA-approved Medication Guide and Patient Counseling Information section in the Full Prescribing Information.

VIMPAT tablets and VIMPAT injection



Manufactured for  
UCB, Inc.  
Smyrna, GA 30080

VIMPAT® is a registered trademark under license from Harris FRC Corporation and covered by one or more claims of U.S. Patent 38,551.

© 2009 UCB, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. • VE198-0309

1E 01/2009 UCB, Inc.

  
**VIMPAT**® tablets  
(lacosamide)  injection



# 2010 CALL FOR PAPERS

*CNS Spectrums* is now accepting submissions of the following manuscripts via *ScholarOne Manuscripts* web-based peer-review platform:

- **Review articles**
- **Original research**
- **Letters to the Editor**

Examples of topics and types of articles of interest include:

- Clinical interface of psychiatry and neurology.
- Neurology and neuropsychiatry in a clinical setting addressing spectrum disorders.
- Manuscripts geared toward deepening the clinician's understanding of neuropsychiatric disorders and treatments.
- Applications of psychopharmacology and pharmacokinetics across the neuropsychiatric spectrum.
- Review articles containing critical appraisal of the literature, with synthesis of the strengths and/or weaknesses of cited research. Review articles contextualizing the neuropsychiatric problem/topic.

**Authors:** Please submit manuscripts for consideration and peer review via ScholarOne by visiting the *CNS Spectrums* link: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cnsspectr>.

Author Guidelines can be found at [www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/authorguidelines.aspx](http://www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/authorguidelines.aspx).

*CNS Spectrums* has the largest circulation in the nation among peer-reviewed, indexed neuroscience journals with a monthly readership of 50,000 neurologists and psychiatrists.

If you have any questions about submitting manuscripts through the ScholarOne Manuscripts platform, please e-mail Lisa Arrington, Senior Acquisitions Editor, [lla@mbcommunications.com](mailto:lla@mbcommunications.com).

[www.cnsspectrums.com](http://www.cnsspectrums.com)

**PRIMARY PSYCHIATRY**  
The Largest Peer Reviewed Psychiatric Journal in the Nation

**CNS SPECTRUMS**  
The International Journal of Neuropsychiatric Medicine

**Psychiatry Weekly**  
The Leading News Service From Primary Psychiatry® and Physician's Weekly®

**ADS**  
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE SUMMIT  
"Outstanding Research - Advances for Clinical Practice"

*A Global Commitment to Advancing CNS Science, Clinical Practice, and Evidence-Based Medicine*



## EDITORS

### **EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Andrew A. Nierenberg, MD  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Harvard Medical School  
Boston, MA

### **FOUNDING EDITOR**

Eric Hollander, MD  
Institute of Clinical Neuroscience  
New York, NY

### **INTERNATIONAL EDITOR**

Joseph Zohar, MD  
Chaim Sheba Medical Center  
Tel-Hashomer, Israel

### **ASSOCIATE INTERNATIONAL EDITORS**

#### **EUROPE**

Donatella Marazziti, MD  
University of Pisa  
Pisa, Italy

#### **MID-ATLANTIC**

Dan J. Stein, MD, PhD  
University of Cape Town  
Cape Town, South Africa

#### **ASIA**

Shigeto Yamawaki, MD, PhD  
Hiroshima University School  
of Medicine  
Hiroshima, Japan

### **CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Cheryl S. Hankin, PhD  
Karen K. Miller, MD  
Ramón Ramos-Rios, MD  
Pierre Blier, MD, PhD

### **FIELD EDITOR**

Michael Trimble, MD, FRCP, FRPsych

### **COLUMNISTS**

Sarah H. Lisanby, MD  
Stefano Pallanti, MD, PhD  
Thomas E. Schlaepfer, MD  
Stephen M. Stahl, MD, PhD  
Dan J. Stein, MD, PhD

## EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Lenard Adler, MD  
New York University Medical School  
New York, NY

Dennis S. Charney, MD  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
New York, NY

Andrew J. Cole, MD, FRCP(c)  
Harvard Medical School  
Boston, MA

Jeffrey L. Cummings, MD  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, CA

Thilo Deckersbach, PhD  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Boston, MA

Robert L. Findling, MD  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland, OH

John Geddes, MD, FRCPsych  
University of Oxford  
Oxford, United Kingdom

Mark S. George, MD  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC

Daphne Holt, MD, PhD  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Charlestown, MA

Andres M. Kanner, MD  
Rush University  
Chicago, IL

Siegfried Kasper, MD  
University of Vienna  
Vienna, Austria

Yves Lecrubier, MD  
Hôpital de la Salpêtrière  
Paris, France

Sarah H. Lisanby, MD  
Columbia University  
New York, NY

Herbert Y. Meltzer, MD  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Nashville, TN

Mario F. Mendez, MD, PhD  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, CA

Philip Mitchell, MB BS, MD, FRANZCP,  
FRCPsych  
University of New South Wales  
Sydney, Australia

Stuart A. Montgomery, MD  
St. Mary's Hospital Medical School  
London, United Kingdom

Humberto Nicolini, MD, PhD  
National Mexican Institute of Psychiatry  
Mexico City, Mexico

Stefano Pallanti, MD, PhD  
University of Florence  
Florence, Italy

Katharine Phillips, MD  
Brown Medical School  
Providence, RI

Diego A. Pizzagalli, PhD  
Harvard University  
Boston, MA

Mark H. Pollack, MD  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Charlestown, MA

Mark Rapaport, MD  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, CA

Scott L. Rauch, MD  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Charlestown, MA

Peter P. Roy-Byrne, MD  
University of Washington School of Medicine  
Seattle, WA

Gerard Sanacora, MD, PhD  
Yale University  
New Haven, CT

Alan F. Schatzberg, MD  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
Stanford, CA

Thomas E. Schlaepfer, MD  
University of Bonn  
Bonn, Germany

Jordan W. Smoller, MD, ScD  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Charlestown, MA

Stephen M. Stahl, MD, PhD  
University of California, San Diego  
La Jolla, CA

Stephen M. Strakowski, MD  
University of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, OH

Scott Stroup, MD, MPH  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
Chapel Hill, NC

Norman Sussman, MD  
New York University Medical School  
New York, NY

Pierre N. Tariot, MD  
University of Arizona  
Phoenix, AZ

Michael E. Thase, MD  
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
Philadelphia, PA

Michael Trimble, MD, FRCP, FRPsych  
National Hospital for Neurology  
and Neurosurgery  
London, United Kingdom

Madhukar H. Trivedi, MD  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  
Dallas, TX

Karen Dineen Wagner, MD, PhD  
The University of Texas Medical Branch  
Galveston, TX

Daniel Weintraub, MD  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA

Herman G.M. Westenberg, MD  
University Hospital Utrecht  
Utrecht, The Netherlands

Stephen Wisniewski, PhD  
University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA

Carlos A. Zarate, Jr., MD  
National Institute of Mental Health  
Bethesda, MD

## PUBLICATION STAFF

### **CEO & PUBLISHER**

Darren L. Brodeur

### **VP, MANAGING EDITOR**

Christopher Naccari

### **GLOBAL ACCOUNT MANAGER**

Kelly Notine

### **VP, HUMAN RESOURCES**

Kimberly A. Brodeur

### **SENIOR PROJECTS EDITOR**

Deborah Hughes Levy

### **SENIOR EDITOR-PRIMARY PSYCHIATRY**

Dena Croog

### **EDITOR-CNS SPECTRUMS**

Virginia Jackson

### **ASSOCIATE EDITOR**

Lonnie Stoltzfoos

### **ASSISTANT EDITOR**

Carlos Perkins, Jr.

### **SENIOR ACQUISITIONS EDITOR**

Lisa Arrington

### **WEBMASTER**

Shamar Rose

### **CME DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS**

Annette Schwind  
Shelley Wong

### **CME ASSISTANT**

Kirk Clarke

### **ART DIRECTOR**

Derek Oscarson

### **GRAPHIC DESIGNER**

Michael J. Vodiiko

### **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

John Spano

### **ACCOUNTING INTERN**

Stephanie Spano

### **SALES & EVENT COORDINATOR**

Kimberly Schneider

### **OFFICE MANAGER**

Debbie Rizzo

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Clint Bagwell Consulting

### **CORPORATION COUNSEL**

Lawrence Ross, Esq.  
Bressler, Amery, and Ross



## MISSION STATEMENT

*CNS Spectrums'* editorial mission is to address relevant neuropsychiatric topics, including the prevalence of comorbid diseases among patients, and original research and reports that emphasize the profound diagnostic and physiologic connections made within the neurologic and psychiatric fields. The journal's goal is to serve as a resource to psychiatrists and neurologists seeking to understand and treat disturbances of cognition, emotion, and behavior as a direct consequence of central nervous system disease, illness, or trauma.

## GENERAL

*CNS Spectrums* (ISSN 1092-8529) is published monthly by MBL Communications, Inc., 333 Hudson Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10013. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *CNS Spectrums*, 333 Hudson St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10013.

*CNS Spectrums* is a monthly *Index Medicus*/MEDLINE journal designed to bridge the clinical information needs of 50,000 psychiatrists and neurologists. Introduced in 1996, *CNS Spectrums* reaches more physicians than any other indexed, peer-reviewed neuropsychiatric journal in the world.

In addition, the 2007 ISI Journal Citation Reports' Impact Factor for *CNS Spectrums* is 2.222. The Impact Factor is based on a total of 1,179 citations.

## EDITORIAL AND PEER REVIEW

*CNS Spectrums* Phone: 212-328-0800 Editor-in-Chief:  
333 Hudson St., 7th Floor Fax: 212-328-0600 Andrew A. Nierenberg, MD  
New York, NY 10013 e-Mail: [la@mbldcommunications.com](mailto:la@mbldcommunications.com) Harvard Medical School

**EDITORIAL CONTENT:** *CNS Spectrums* will consider and encourages the following types of articles for publication: **Original Research**—Methodologically and scientifically sound original data; **Reviews**—Comprehensive articles summarizing and synthesizing the literature on various topics presented in a scholarly and clinically relevant fashion; **Letters to the Editor**—Approved letters will be edited for style, clarity, and size.

**PEER REVIEW:** Articles appearing in *CNS Spectrums* are peer reviewed by two independent reviewers using the ScholarOne Manuscripts web platform.

**SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS TO *CNS Spectrums*:** All submissions to *CNS Spectrums*, including articles and Letters to the Editor, should be submitted through the following ScholarOne/*CNS Spectrums* web site: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cnsspectr>

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS:** Author Guidelines are available at [www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/authorguidelines.aspx](http://www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/authorguidelines.aspx)

## INDEXING

*CNS Spectrums* is indexed in the Index Medicus database, EMBASE, and is available on MEDLINE under the citation *CNS Spectr*. The full text article Link-Out feature is also available.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS, BACK ISSUES, AND ADDRESS CHANGES

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	United States	International
Individuals	\$120	\$165 (US)

**Institutional Pricing:** Please contact [cdn@mbldcommunications.com](mailto:cdn@mbldcommunications.com)  
For subscriptions: Tel: 212-328-0800; Fax: 212-328-0600; Web: [www.cnsspectrums.com](http://www.cnsspectrums.com).

**SINGLE COPIES AND BACK ISSUES:** To order a single copy or a back issue, please visit <https://secure.mblcommunications.com/CNSSpec/asp/BackIssues.aspx>. Issues are \$15 per copy (including all domestic shipping costs).

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** In order to change your address, please visit [www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/ChangeOfAddress.aspx](http://www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/ChangeOfAddress.aspx). Address changes take 4–6 weeks to verify. You can also fax a letter to 212-328-0600 or mail a letter to:

*CNS Spectrums*  
Attn: Subscriptions  
333 Hudson St., 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10013

**ATTENTION AMA MEMBERS:** To change your address, you must do so through the AMA since they are the source of our subscription database. We cannot process the change for you. *Please call the AMA at 800-262-3211.*

## ONLINE ACCESS

All *CNS Spectrums* content is available online at [www.cnsspectrums.com](http://www.cnsspectrums.com).

## COPYRIGHT/FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

**COPYRIGHT:** Materials are accepted for exclusive publication in *CNS Spectrums* and become the property of *CNS Spectrums*. Permission to reproduce material must be obtained from the publisher.

**DISCLOSURE OF COMMERCIAL AND NON-COMMERCIAL INTERESTS:** Authors must include a statement about all forms of support, including grant and pharmaceutical support, affiliations, and honoraria received for past and present material. Such information may, at the editor's discretion, be shared with reviewers. If the article is accepted for publication, all relevant disclosure information is listed.

## PERMISSIONS REQUESTS

## REQUESTS FOR PERMISSIONS MAY BE SUBMITTED VIA THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

- If you would like to electronically obtain permission to use materials (tables, figures, etc.) presented in *CNS Spectrums*, please visit <http://www.copyright.com> and enter "CNS Spectrums". You may also e-mail [cdn@mbldcommunications.com](mailto:cdn@mbldcommunications.com)
- If you would like to submit a written permission request, please fax or mail to the following number and/or address:  
Fax: 212-328-0600  
Mail: *CNS Spectrums*  
ATTN: Permissions  
333 Hudson St., 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10013

- Permission will not be granted until the article in which the material appears has been published in *CNS Spectrums*.
- In order to complete the request, we will need the following information: Article Title, Author(s); Journal Citation (Year; Volume; Issue Number; Page Range), the Copyrighted Item to be Used, and Description of Intended Use/Audience. Please include your Name, Company, Address, Phone/Fax Numbers, and E-mail Address.
- If the permission request is approved, the journal should be cited as "CNS Spectr" followed by the article's numerical citation.
- Use of the full text of material published in *CNS Spectrums* is not permitted on other Web sites.

## EMBARGO

All materials published in *CNS Spectrums* are embargoed until the 15th of the month of publication.

## REPRINTS

For bulk reprint purchases, please contact Christopher Naccari at [cdn@mbldcommunications.com](mailto:cdn@mbldcommunications.com) or go to [www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/Reprints.aspx](http://www.cnsspectrums.com/asp/Reprints.aspx). Please include: Article Title; Author(s); Journal Citation; Year; Volume; Issue Number; and Quantity.

## ADVERTISING

## CONTACTS:

- **Print Ads:** Christopher Naccari, [cdn@mbldcommunications.com](mailto:cdn@mbldcommunications.com)
- **Classifieds:** Kimberly Schneider, [ks@mbldcommunications.com](mailto:ks@mbldcommunications.com)
- **Web Ads:** Bill Jennings, [bill@goodhealthadvertising.com](mailto:bill@goodhealthadvertising.com)

**MEDIA KITS:** Media Kits are available upon request in print or PDF formats. Please e-mail Kimberly Schneider, [ks@mbldcommunications.com](mailto:ks@mbldcommunications.com).

## DISCLAIMER AND COPYRIGHT

Opinions and views expressed by authors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher, MBL Communications, Inc., *CNS Spectrums*, LLC, or the editorial advisory board. The publisher is not guaranteeing or warranting or assuming any liability or responsibility for or with respect to and expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility for or with respect to this publication or the information contained in it.

Although every effort has been made to ensure that drug doses and other information are presented accurately in this publication, the ultimate responsibility rests with the prescribing physician. Neither the publisher nor the authors can be held responsible for errors or for any consequences arising from the use or misuse of information contained herein. The information contained in *CNS Spectrums* is intended for general educational and informational purposes; it is not intended as the sole basis upon which any action is to be recommended or taken.

Readers are strongly urged to consult any relevant primary literature. No claims or endorsements are made for any drug or compound currently under clinical investigation. The readers of this publication use and evaluate the information contained in this publication at their own risk.

Copyright © 2009 by MBL Communications, Inc. *CNS Spectrums* is a registered trademark of *CNS Spectrums*, LLC, New York, NY. Permission to reproduce articles in whole or part must be obtained in writing from the publisher. Printed in the USA. All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction, in whole or in part, in any form. Reproduction without permission is prohibited.

**EDITORIAL****665 Promises, Pitfalls, and Pleasures of Practicing Evidence Based Psychiatry and Neurology**

Andrew A. Nierenberg, MD, *Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School*

**BRAIN STIMULATION****668 FDA Considers Classification of ECT**

S.H. Lisanby, MD, *Columbia University*; Stefano Pallanti, MD, PhD, *Mount Sinai School of Medicine*; and Thomas E. Schlaepfer, MD, *University of Bonn*

**TRENDS IN PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY****677 Crisis in Army Psychopharmacology and Mental Health Care at Fort Hood**

Stephen M. Stahl, MD, PhD, *University of California–San Diego*

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR****709 Clarification Regarding Generic Substitution for Psychotropic Drugs**

Pierre Blier, MD, PhD, *University of Ottawa*

**711 Schizophreniform Psychosis at Onset of Adrenoleukodystrophy**

Ramón Ramos-Ríos, MD, *Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago*; José Berdullas, PsyD, *Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago*; Alberte Araújo, MD, *Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago*; Diego Santos-García MD, PhD, *Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago*

**ORIGINAL RESEARCH****688 Low-dose Transdermal Testosterone Augmentation Therapy Improves Depression Severity in Women**

Karen K. Miller, MD, *Massachusetts General Hospital*; Roy H. Perlis, MD, MSc, *Massachusetts General Hospital*; George I. Papakostas, MD, *Massachusetts General Hospital*; David Mischoulon, MD, PhD, *Massachusetts General Hospital*; Dan V. Iosifescu, MD, MSc, *Massachusetts General Hospital*; Danielle J. Brick, BA, *Massachusetts General Hospital*; and Maurizio Fava, MD, *Massachusetts General Hospital*

**695 Adequacy of Pharmacotherapy Among Medicaid-Enrolled Patients Newly Diagnosed with OCD**

Cheryl S. Hankin, PhD, *BioMedEcon*; Lorrin M. Koran, MD, *Stanford University*; Amy Bronstone, *BioMedEcon*; PhD, Donald W. Black, MD, *Carver College of Medicine*; David V. Sheehan, MD, MBA, *University of South Florida*; Eric Hollander, MD, *Albert Einstein College of Medicine*; Jeffrey D. Dunn, PharmD, *SelectHealth*; Larry Culpepper, MPH, MD, *Boston University School of Medicine*; John Knispel, MD, *Knispel Associates*; Darin D. Dougherty, MD, *Harvard Medical School*; and Zhaohui Wang, MS, *BioMedEcon*

**CME EXPERT REVIEW SUPPLEMENTS**

MOUNT SINAI  
SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE

**Strategies for Improving Adherence in the Treatment of Major Depressive Disorder**

Richard C. Shelton, MD, Steven R. Hahn, MD, and Wayne J. Katon, MD

**The Sleep Cycle: A Four Stage Educational Initiative in Insomnia**

Andrew D. Krystal, MD, John W. Winkelman, MD, PhD, and W. Vaughn McCall, MD, MS





# Vyvanse® —

## ADHD symptom control for adults.

One capsule, once a day.<sup>1</sup>



**Vyvanse™** (lisdexamfetamine dimesylate) capsules  
20 mg • 30 mg • 40 mg • 50 mg • 60 mg • 70 mg

### Important Safety Information

Vyvanse is indicated for the treatment of ADHD. Efficacy based on two controlled trials in children aged 6 to 12 and one controlled trial in adults.

Vyvanse should not be taken by patients who have advanced arteriosclerosis; symptomatic cardiovascular disease; moderate to severe hypertension; hyperthyroidism; known hypersensitivity or idiosyncrasy to sympathomimetic amines; agitated states; glaucoma; a history of drug abuse; or during or within 14 days after treatment with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs).

Sudden death has been reported in association with CNS stimulant treatment at usual doses in children and adolescents with structural cardiac abnormalities or other serious heart problems. Sudden death, stroke, and myocardial infarction have been reported in adults taking stimulant drugs at usual doses in ADHD. Physicians should take a careful patient history, including family history, and physical exam, to assess the presence of cardiac disease. Patients who report symptoms of cardiac disease such as exertional chest pain and unexplained syncope should be promptly evaluated. Use with caution in patients whose underlying medical condition might be affected by increases in blood pressure or heart rate.

New psychosis, mania, aggression, growth suppression, and visual disturbances have been associated with the use of stimulants. Use with caution in patients with a history of psychosis, seizures or EEG abnormalities, bipolar disorder, or depression. Growth monitoring is advised during prolonged treatment.

**Amphetamines have a high potential for abuse. Administration of amphetamines for prolonged periods of time may lead to drug dependence. Particular attention should be paid to the possibility of subjects obtaining amphetamines for non-therapeutic uses or distribution to others and the drugs should be prescribed or dispensed sparingly. Misuse of amphetamine may cause sudden death and serious cardiovascular adverse events.**

The most common adverse events reported in clinical studies of Vyvanse were: *pediatric* – decreased appetite, insomnia, abdominal pain, and irritability; *adult* – decreased appetite, insomnia, and dry mouth.

**Please see Brief Summary of Full Prescribing Information, including Boxed Warning, on adjacent page.**

Reference: 1. Vyvanse [package insert], Wayne, Pa: Shire US Inc; 2008.

Vyvanse® is a registered trademark of Shire LLC.

This information is brought to you by

**Shire US Inc.**

...your ADHD Support Company™ 1-800-828-2088 www.vyvanse.com ©2009 Shire US Inc., Wayne, PA 19087 VYV-00255 02/09

**Shire**



BRIEF SUMMARY: Consult the Full Prescribing Information for complete product information.

**WARNING: POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE**

**AMPHETAMINES HAVE A HIGH POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE. ADMINISTRATION OF AMPHETAMINES FOR PROLONGED PERIODS OF TIME MAY LEAD TO DRUG DEPENDENCE. PARTICULAR ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO THE POSSIBILITY OF SUBJECTS OBTAINING AMPHETAMINES FOR NON-THERAPEUTIC USE OR DISTRIBUTION TO OTHERS AND THE DRUGS SHOULD BE PRESCRIBED OR DISPENSED SPARINGLY. MISUSE OF AMPHETAMINES MAY CAUSE SUDDEN DEATH AND SERIOUS CARDIOVASCULAR ADVERSE EVENTS.**

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

Vyvanse™ is indicated for the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The efficacy of Vyvanse in the treatment of ADHD was established on the basis of two controlled trials in children aged 6 to 12 and one controlled trial in adults who met DSM-IV-TR® criteria for ADHD.

Vyvanse is indicated as an integral part of a total treatment program for ADHD that may include other measures (psychological, educational, social).

**Long-Term Use**

The effectiveness of Vyvanse for long-term use, i.e., for more than 4 weeks, has not been systematically evaluated in controlled trials. The physician should periodically re-evaluate the long-term usefulness of the drug for the individual patient.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Advanced arteriosclerosis, symptomatic cardiovascular disease, moderate to severe hypertension, hyperthyroidism, known hypersensitivity or idiosyncratic reaction to sympathomimetic amines, glaucoma. Agitated states. Patients with a history of drug abuse. During or within 14 days following the administration of monoamine oxidase inhibitors (hypertensive crises may result).

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS****Serious Cardiovascular Events**

**Sudden Death and Pre-existing Structural Cardiac Abnormalities or Other Serious Heart Problems:** Children and Adolescents— Sudden death has been reported in association with CNS stimulant treatment at usual doses in children and adolescents with structural cardiac abnormalities or other serious heart problems. Although some serious heart problems alone carry an increased risk of sudden death, stimulant products generally should not be used in children or adolescents with known serious structural cardiac abnormalities, cardiomyopathy, serious heart rhythm abnormalities, or other serious cardiac problems that may place them at increased vulnerability to the sympathomimetic effects of a stimulant drug.

**Adults—**Sudden death, stroke, and myocardial infarction have been reported in adults taking stimulant drugs at usual doses for ADHD. Although the role of stimulants in these adult cases is unknown, adults have a greater likelihood than children of having serious structural cardiac abnormalities, cardiomyopathy, serious heart rhythm abnormalities, coronary artery disease, or other serious cardiac problems. Adults with such abnormalities should also generally not be treated with stimulant drugs.

**Hypertension and Other Cardiovascular Conditions:** Stimulant medications cause a modest increase in average blood pressure (about 2-4mm Hg) and average heart rate (about 3-6 bpm) and individuals may have larger increases. While the mean changes alone would not be expected to have short-term consequences, all patients should be monitored for larger changes in heart rate and blood pressure. Caution is indicated in treating patients whose underlying medical conditions might be compromised by increases in blood pressure or heart rate, e.g. those with pre-existing hypertension, heart failure, recent myocardial infarction, or ventricular arrhythmia.

**Assessing Cardiovascular Status in Patients Being Treated with Stimulant Medications:** Children, adolescents, or adults who are being considered for treatment with stimulant medications should have a careful history (including assessment for a family history of sudden death or ventricular arrhythmia) and physical exam to assess for the presence of cardiac disease, and should receive further cardiac evaluation if findings suggest such disease (e.g. electrocardiogram and echocardiogram). Patients who develop symptoms such as exertional chest pain, unexplained syncope, or other symptoms suggestive of cardiac disease during stimulant treatment should undergo a prompt cardiac evaluation.

**Psychiatric Adverse Events**

**Pre-existing Psychosis:** Administration of stimulants may exacerbate symptoms of behavior disturbance and thought disorder in patients with a pre-existing psychotic disorder.

**Bipolar Illness:** Particular care should be taken in using stimulants to treat ADHD in patients with comorbid bipolar disorder because of concern for possible induction of a mixed/manic episode in such patients. Prior to initiating treatment with a stimulant, patients with comorbid depressive symptoms should be adequately screened to determine if they are at risk for bipolar disorder. Such screening should include a detailed psychiatric history, including a family history of suicide, bipolar disorder and depression.

**Emergence of New Psychotic or Manic Symptoms:** Treatment-emergent psychotic or manic symptoms, e.g. hallucinations, delusional thinking, or mania in children and adolescents without a prior history of psychotic illness or mania can be caused by stimulants at usual doses. If such symptoms occur consideration should be given to a possible causal role of the stimulant, and discontinuation of treatment may be appropriate. In a pooled analysis of multiple short-term, placebo-controlled studies, such symptoms occurred in about 0.1% (4 patients with events out of 3482 exposed to methylphenidate or amphetamine for several weeks at usual doses) or stimulant-treated patients compared to 0 in placebo-treated patients.

**Aggression:** Aggressive behavior or hostility is often observed in children and adolescents with ADHD, and has been reported in clinical trials and the post marketing experience of some medications indicated for the treatment of ADHD. Although there is no systematic evidence that stimulants cause aggressive behavior or hostility, patients beginning treatment of ADHD should be monitored for the appearance of, or worsening of, aggressive behavior or hostility.

**Seizures**

There is some clinical evidence that stimulants may lower the convulsive threshold in patients with prior history of seizures, in patients with prior EEG abnormalities in absence of seizures, and, very rarely, in patients without a history of seizures and no prior EEG evidence of seizures. In the presence of seizures, the drug should be discontinued.

**Visual Disturbance**

Difficulties with accommodation and blurring of vision have been reported with stimulant treatment.

**Tics**

Amphetamines have been reported to exacerbate motor and phonic tics and Tourette's syndrome. Therefore, clinical evaluation for tics and Tourette's syndrome should precede use of stimulant medications.

**Long-Term Suppression of Growth**

Careful follow-up for weight in children ages 6 to 12 years who received Vyvanse over 12 months suggests that consistently medicated children (i.e. treatment for 7 days per week throughout the year) have a slowing in growth rate, measured by body weight as demonstrated by an age- and sex-normalized mean change from baseline in percentile, of -13.4 over 1 year (average percentile at baseline and 12 months, were 60.6 and 47.2, respectively). Therefore growth should be monitored during treatment with stimulants, and patients who are not growing or gaining weight as expected may need to have their treatment interrupted.

**Prescribing and Dispensing**

The least amount of amphetamine feasible should be prescribed or dispensed at one time in order to minimize the possibility of overdose. Vyvanse should be used with caution in patients who use other sympathomimetic drugs.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS****Clinical Studies Experience**

The premarketing development program for Vyvanse included exposures in a total of 762 participants in clinical trials (348 pediatric patients, 358 adult patients and 56 healthy adult subjects).

In the controlled pediatric (aged 6 to 12) trial, 10% (21/218) of Vyvanse-treated patients discontinued due to adverse reactions compared to 1% (1/72) who received placebo. The most frequent adverse events leading to discontinuation and considered to be drug-related (i.e. leading to discontinuation in at least 1% of Vyvanse-treated patients and at a rate at least twice that of placebo) were ECG voltage criteria for ventricular hypertrophy, tic, vomiting, psychomotor hyperactivity, insomnia, and rash (2/218 each; 1%). The most common adverse reactions (incidence  $\geq$ 5% and at a rate at least twice placebo) were decreased appetite, dizziness, dry mouth, irritability, insomnia, upper abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and decreased weight.

In the controlled adult trial, 6% (21/358) of Vyvanse-treated patients discontinued due to adverse events compared to 2% (1/62) who received placebo. The most frequent adverse events leading to discontinuation and considered to be drug-related (i.e. leading to discontinuation in at least 1% of Vyvanse-treated patients and at a rate at least twice that of placebo) were insomnia (8/358; 2%), tachycardia (3/358; 1%), irritability (2/358; 1%), hypertension (4/358; 1%), headache (2/358; 1%), anxiety (2/358; 1%), and dyspnea (3/358; 1%). The most common adverse reactions (incidence  $\geq$ 5% and at a rate at least twice placebo) were upper abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea, fatigue, feeling jittery, irritability, anorexia, decreased appetite, headaches, anxiety and insomnia.

**Postmarketing Reports**

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post approval use of Vyvanse.

**Cardiac Disorders:** Palpitation

**Eye Disorders:** Vision blurred, mydriasis

**Immune System Disorders:** Hypersensitivity

**Nervous System Disorders:** Seizure, dyskinesia

**Psychiatric Disorder:** Psychotic episodes, mania, hallucination, depression, aggression, dysphoria, euphoria, logorrhea

**Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorder:** Angioedema, urticaria

**USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS**

**Pregnancy:** Pregnancy Category C. Amphetamines should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

**Nursing Mothers:** Amphetamines are excreted in human milk. Mothers taking amphetamines should be advised to refrain from nursing.

**Pediatric Use:** Vyvanse has not been studied in children under 6 years of age or adolescents. Amphetamines are not recommended for use in children under 3 years of age.

**Geriatric Use:** Vyvanse has not been studied in the geriatric population.

**DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE**

Vyvanse is classified as a Schedule II controlled substance.

**OVERDOSAGE**

Toxic symptoms may occur idiosyncratically at low doses. Treatment: Consult with a Certified Poison Control Center for up-to-date guidance and advice. The prolonged release of Vyvanse in the body should be considered when treating patients with overdose.

Last Modified: 11/2008

VYV-00104