Saudi Public Assessment Report

(Summary Report)

ASACOL®

Type of Application: New Drug Application.

Type of Product: New chemical entity.

Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient(s): Mesalazine.

ATC code: A07EC02.

Dosage Form: Modified-release tablet.

Dosage Strength: 1600 mg.

Pack Size: 60 Blister.

Shelf life: 36 Months.

Storage Conditions: Store below 30°C.

Reference Product in SA (if applicable): NA.

Marketing Authorization Holder: Tillotts Pharma GmbH.

Manufacturer: Haupt Pharma Wulfing GmbH.

Registration No.: 2806222271.

Decision and Decision Date: Approved on 21/02/2022.

Proposed Indications: Ulcerative colitis, for the treatment of mild to moderate acute disease. For the maintenance of remission.

Product Background

This product is considered as a new chemical entity for Saudi regulatory purposes. Furthermore, this product is qualified to follow the SFDA's normal submission regulatory pathway.

The SFDA approval for ASACOL® (Mesalazine 1600 mg) is based on a review of the quality, safety and efficacy as summarized hereinafter:

Quality Aspects

Drug Substance

- Mesalazine is an almost white or light grey or light brown or light pink powder or crystals. Mesalazine is very slightly soluble in water, and practically insoluble in acetone and alcohol. It dissolves in dilute solutions of alkali hydroxides and in dilute hydrochloric acid. Mesalazine does not have a chiral center. Polymorphism has not been observed.
- The drug substance is manufactured by multiple-step chemical synthesis.
- The structure of Mesalazine has been fully elucidated using several spectroscopic techniques.
- The drug substance specification includes relevant tests for proper quality control. The control methods are validated according to international guidelines.
- Appropriate stability data have been presented and justify the established re-test period.

Drug Product

- The finished product is available as film-coated reddish brown oblong tablets with a semi-gloss appearance. Each tablet contains 1600 mg of Mesalazine. The composition of the drug product is adequately described, qualitatively and quantitatively. Suitable pharmaceutical development data have been provided for the finished product composition and manufacturing process.
- The manufacturing process is described narratively and in sufficient detail, taking into account pharmaceutical development data. Batch manufacturing formulas and in-process controls are included.
- The drug product specification covers appropriate parameters for this dosage form which allow for proper control of the finished drug product. The control methods are validated according to international guidelines. Batch data show the consistent quality of the drug product.
- The drug product is packaged in a carton box, containing 6 opaque PVC / aluminum foil blisters, each blister contains 10 tablets.

- Appropriate stability data have been generated in the packaging material intended for commercial use and following relevant international guidelines. The data show good stability of the finished product and support the shelf life.

Clinical Aspects

The clinical development program for ASACOL consisted of one pivotal TP0503 induction study and one TP0503 maintenance study, both of which assessed the efficacy, long-term safety and tolerability of the product.

Summary of the clinical studies presented hereafter:

- TP0503 Induction Study: A phase III, randomized, double-blind, active-controlled, multicenter, non-inferiority trial. The primary objective of the induction phase was to determine if 8 weeks of treatment with 3.2 g/day of TP05 is not inferior to 3.2 g/day of ASACOL in inducing clinical and endoscopic remission (a score ≤ 2 points on the Mayo scoring scale, with no individual sub-score > 1 point) in 817 subjects with active mild to moderate Ulcerative colitis (UC) (Mayo score ≥ 5 at baseline). The primary efficacy endpoint was the proportion of subjects in clinical and endoscopic remission after 8 weeks of treatment.

- TP0503 Maintenance Study: A phase III, randomized, double-blind, active-controlled, multi-center, non-inferiority trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of 3.2 g of TP05/day compared to 3.2 g/day of ASACOL with an open-label extension to assess the long-term safety and tolerability of TP05 administered over a 26 week. A total of 727 subjects with active mild to moderate Ulcerative colitis (UC) entered the open-label extension (OLE) and were evaluable for efficacy and safety analyses. The primary objective of the open-label extension (OLE) was to assess the safety and tolerability of TP05 over a 26-week in subjects achieving endoscopic and clinical remission or exhibiting a response during the initial phase of TP0503. Maintenance of clinical remission by TP05 was also assessed by determining the proportion of patients in clinical remission at the final visit.

The clinical pharmacology, efficacy and safety results from the aforementioned studies were assessed by the SFDA efficacy and safety department. Based on the review of the submitted evidence, the benefit/risk balance of ASACOL is considered positive. Therefore, we recommend the approval of the marketing authorization of ASACOL.

Product Information

The approved Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) with the submission can be found in Saudi Drug Information System (SDI) at: https://sdi.sfda.gov.sa/

The date of revision of this text corresponds to that of the Saudi PAR. New information concerning the authorized medicinal product in question will not be incorporated into the Saudi PAR. New findings that could impair the medicinal product's quality, efficacy, or safety are recorded and published at (SDI or Summary Saudi-PAR report).

For inquiry and feedback regarding Saudi PAR, please contact us at Saudi.PAR@sdfa.gov.sa