MERCK SHARP & DOHME
SCIENTIFIC OFFICE
P.O. BOX 17098 Riyadh 11484
Tel.: 2506700
Fax: 2506840
M.O.H. License No.: 105/A

DHPC

MSD

22 Jan 2019

Keytruda (pembrolizumab): Restriction of indication for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who are not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy

Dear Healthcare Professional,
Merck Sharp & Dohme Limited (MSD) in agreement with the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) would like to inform you of the following:

Summary

- Preliminary data from an ongoing clinical trial (KEYNOTE-361) showed reduced survival with KEYTRUDA monotherapy compared to standard chemotherapy when used as first-line treatment for patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma whose tumour has low expression of the protein programmed death-ligand 1 (PD-L1).
- As a result, the indication of KEYTRUDA for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who are not eligible for cisplatin-based chemotherapy is being changed as follows:

  "KEYTRUDA as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who are not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy and whose tumours express PD-L1 with a combined positive score (CPS) ≥10."
- The indication of KEYTRUDA for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who have received prior platinum-containing chemotherapy remains unchanged.

Background on the concern

KEYNOTE-361 is an ongoing Phase III, randomized, controlled, open-label clinical trial of pembrolizumab with or without platinum-based combination chemotherapy versus chemotherapy as first-line treatment in subjects with advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma.

Preliminary data from an early review showed a reduced survival with KEYTRUDA monotherapy in patients whose tumours express PD-L1 with a CPS < 10 compared with standard chemotherapy.

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On 21st February 2018, based on a recommendation by the Data Monitoring Committee, MSD stopped the accrual in the KEYTRUDA monotherapy arm for patients whose tumours express PD-L1 with a CPS < 10. The KEYTRUDA monotherapy arm remains open only to patients whose tumours express PD-L1 with a CPS of ≥10. For subjects whose tumour express PD-L1 CPS <10 already enrolled into the KEYTRUDA monotherapy arm the decision regarding the continuation of study treatment is at the discretion of the investigator and participant. Randomisation to the chemotherapy and the chemotherapy-KEYTRUDA arms continues unaltered.

The DMC recommendations have also been communicated to EMA. Following review of these preliminary data by EMA, MSD has updated the product information for KEYTRUDA to limit pembrolizumab monotherapy for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who are not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy and whose tumours express PD-L1 with a combined positive score (CPS) ≥ 10.

Other approved indications for KEYTRUDA are not impacted.

Call for reporting

As a reminder, there is a need to report any suspected adverse reactions to National Pharmacovigilance Center (NPC):

- SFDA call center: 19999
- Toll free phone: 8002490000
- E-mail: npc.drug@sfda.gov.sa
- Website: http://ade.sfda.gov.sa/
- Fax: +966-11-2057662

Pharmacovigilance department in MSD:

- Telephone: +966112506719
- Fax: +966114006484
- Email: saudi.pharmacovigilance@merck.com

Yours sincerely,

Abdulilah AlMalik |
Regulatory Affairs Director, Saudi Arabia
Merck Sharp & Dohme Scientific Office, KSA
Tel : +966 11 250 6826.
GSM +966 555 464636.
Fax: +966 11 250 6840
abdulilah.almalik@merck.com

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Restriction of indication for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who are not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy
Keytruda containing pembrolizumab (25 mg/ml)

Customer Reply Form

(Healthcare Professional letter dated 22 Jan, 2019)

Please complete and return this form to the FAX number listed below as confirmation that you have received this notification. A fax cover sheet is not required.

F: +966114006484

Facility Name and Address :	
Reply Confirmation Completed By : *(Please print name)*	
Title : *(Please print)*	
Telephone Number (including Area Code) :	

We have received the above mentioned letter and have disseminated this information to our staff and to other services or facilities, as applicable.

☐ I do confirm receipt of DHCP notification related to **Keytruda containing pembrolizumab**

Signature/Date :
REQUIRED FIELD _____