For advanced, post-menopausal breast cancer.

When patients have progressed on tamoxifen.

Why? The combined analysis of two large international trials has shown that 'Arimidex' has a median survival benefit of 4.2 months compared to megestrol acetate.

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Means 'Arimidex' really does offer a clear choice for survival.

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Abbreviated Prescribing Information for DIFLUCAN™ (fluconazole)

Presentation: Capsules containing 50mg, 150mg or 200mg fluconazole: Intravenous infusion containing fluconazole 2mg/ml in 0.9% sodium chloride solution: Powder for Oral Suspension containing either fluconazole 50mg/5ml or 200mg/5ml on reconstitution with 24ml water.

Indications and dosage: Adults: Systemic candidiasis: 400mg on the first day followed by 200-400mg once daily. Coccidioidomycosis, including meningitis: 400mg on the first day followed by 200-400mg once daily. Oropharyngeal candidiasis: 50-100mg once daily for 7-14 days or longer in immunocompromised patients. Other mucosal candidal infections: 50-100mg once daily for up to 4 weeks.

Prevention of fungal infections in neutropenic patients following cytotoxic chemotherapy or radiotherapy: 200-400mg once daily based on patient's risk for developing fungal infection. Dermal fungal infections: 200mg once daily for up to 6 weeks (usually 2-4 weeks - see data sheet).

Vaginal candidiasis and candidal balanitis: single 150mg dose. In the elderly - as above except for those renally impaired - see data sheet.

Children: over 4 weeks old: Mucosal candidiasis: 3mg/kg daily. A loading dose of 6mg/kg may be used on the first day. Systemic candidiasis and cryptocoecal infection: 6-12mg/kg daily depending on severity of disease. Prevention of fungal infections in neutropenic patients following cytotoxic chemotherapy or radiotherapy: 200-400mg daily. Maximum dose of 400mg daily. Children below 4 weeks of age: First two weeks of life: the same mg/kg dosing as above to a maximum dose of 12mg/kg, administered every 12 hours. During weeks 2-4 of life same mg/kg dose to a maximum of 12mg/kg, given every 48 hours. Administration: either orally or by intravenous infusion at a rate of approximately 5-10ml/min.

The dosages for the two routes are equivalent. Contra-indications: Hypersensitivity to fluconazole or related azoles; pregnancy and women of childbearing potential unless adequate contraception is employed.

Co-administration of terfenadine and cisapride. Warnings: Lactation: Not recommended. Renal impairment: dosage reduction in both adults and children may be necessary, see data sheet. Drug interactions: Relevance to single-dose has not yet been established. Anticoagulants, aminoglycosides, diuretics, oral sulphophenylureas, phenytoin, rifabutin, rifampicin, tetracyclines, theophylline and zidovudine. Co-administration of terfenadine and cisapride contraindicated.

Side-effects: Nausea, abdominal discomfort, diarrhoea, flatulence, rash, headache and rarely anaphylaxis. Legal category: POM. Basic NHS Cost and Package Quantities: DIFLUCAN capsules in calendar packs containing x 50mg (£1.61, 577/0289), x 200mg (£6.42, 577/0317) or 1 x 150mg (£7.12, 577/0290). Powder for Oral Suspension, 35ml bottle of 50mg/5ml (£16.61, 577/0343), 35ml bottle of 200mg/5ml (£6.42, 577/0344). Intravenous Infusion: 25ml (50mg) bottle (£7.32, 577/0315), 100ml (200mg) bottle (£29.28, 577/0315). Hospital prices are available on request. Further information on request. DIFLUCAN is well tolerated with few adverse effects - Osterloh I (1992) in: The Antifungal Agents Vol 1. Fluconazole Johnson S & Johnson FN (Eds) Miki Press: 30-60. Further information on request. Pfizer Limited, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9XJ. 51794 December 1997
For Further Information Contact:
In the UK/Europe
Churchill Livingstone
Robert Stevenson House
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Customer Services
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