

Once-daily dosage lamivudine another ARV first for Cipla Medpro

In an effort to promote adherence to medication and offer convenience to many people living with HIV/AIDS, local pharmaceutical company Cipla Medpro has released South Africa's first single tablet once-daily dosage of the antiretroviral lamivudine. This 300 mg dosage is as effective as the currently available twice daily dose of lamivudine 150 mg and carries the same safety profile.

Jerome Smith, CEO of Enaleni Pharmaceuticals Ltd and founder of Cipla Medpro, says the launch of a single tablet once-daily lamivudine is a significant development for patient groups where adherence to medication and pill burden is problematic.

"For many people living with HIV/AIDS, adherence to the various medications necessary to manage the condition is hampered by difficult living conditions, lifestyle and time constraints. By offering a single tablet once daily dosage lamivudine we hope to reduce the pill burden and to promote greater adherence to medicines, ultimately assisting patients to achieve the necessary minimum 95% adherence rate.

"Just to give an example, lamivudine 300mg can be prescribed in combination with other preferred antiretrovirals such as tenofovir 300mg and efavirenz 600mg, both of which are once daily dosages. Now we can offer these individuals a complete once-daily regimen. The other benefit is that the 300mg once-daily lamivudine is the same price as the twice daily dosage, so there is absolutely no negative cost implication to a person switching from a twice daily 150mg dosage to the 300mg tablet," he says.

Launch of TAVALOXX 500mg and 750mg



Tavalox is Cipla's new Levofloxacin, a highly effective fluoroquinolone antibiotic.

Not only is Tavalox available in 500mg tablets, currently the most commonly used strength, but it is also available in the 750mg strength – a first for South Africa.

Clinical trials have shown that Levofloxacin 750mg is effective in treating, amongst others, community acquired pneumonia, complicated urinary tract infections and bacterial sinusitis (these indications have been approved for the 750mg dosage strength by the USFDA).

The higher dose will allow for a shorter treatment duration which could improve patient compliance and reduce emergence of resistance.

The SEP (excl VAT) for Tavalox 500mg, 5's is R94.95 and 750mg 5's R105.95 (excl VAT).

For further information, please contact Dr Gavin Jones at (021) 917 5620

FINCAR 5 for BPH



Cipla Medpro proudly launches *Fincar 5, finasteride 5mg*. Cipla has strategically targeted a number of disease entities: cardiovascular, respiratory, diabetes, gynaecology, neuropsychiatry, HIV /AIDS and is now planning to establish itself as a major player in the field of urology.

Fincar 5 is indicated for the symptomatic treatment of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) in men with enlarged prostates. **Fincar 5** is also indicated:

- for the improvement of urinary flow and the symptoms associated with BPH by reducing the size of the enlarged prostate
- to reduce the incidence of acute urinary retention, and
- to reduce the incidence of surgery including transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) and prostatectomy.

It has become an indispensable treatment option for patients that suffer with BPH and now this highly effective molecule can be offered to many more patients due to its affordability.

PRICE: Fincar 5 (30' s) R 140.00 (SEP excl. VAT)

Healthcare professionals and patients are guaranteed that Cipla is offering another high quality product. The formulation of Fincar 5 has the same bioavailability as the originator, ensuring comparative blood levels and therefore equivalent therapeutic effect.

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For more information, please contact Dr Gavin Jones at (021) 917 5620 or email: marketingpa@ciplamedpro.co.za