HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION
These highlights do not include all the information needed to use voriconazole for injection safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for voriconazole for injection.
Voriconazole for injection, for intravenous use
Initial U.S. Approval: 2002

RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Indications and Usage (1)	1/2019
Dosage and Administration (2)	1/2019
Contraindications (4)	1/2019
Warnings and Precautions (5)	1/2019

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Voriconazole for injection is an azole antifungal indicated for the treatment of adults and pediatric patients aged 12 to 14 years weighing greater than or equal to 50 kg and those aged 15 years and older regardless of body weight with:

- Invasive aspergillosis (1.1)
- Candidemia in non-neutropenics and other deep tissue Candida infections (1.2)
- Esophageal candidiasis (1.3)
- Serious fungal infections caused by *Scedosporium apiospermum* and *Fusarium* species including *Fusarium solani*, in patients intolerant of, or refractory to, other therapy (1.4)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Dosage in Adults (2.3)**

Infection	Loading dose	Maintenance Dose	
	Intravenous infusion	Intravenous infusion	Oral
Invasive Aspergillosis	6 mg/kg every 12 hours for the first 24 hours	4 mg/kg every 12 hours	200 mg every 12 hours
Candidemia in nonneutropenics and other deep tissue Candida infections		3-4 mg/kg every 12 hours	200 mg every 12 hours
Scedosporiosis and Fusariosis		4 mg/kg every 12 hours	200 mg every 12 hours
Esophageal Candidiasis	Not Evaluated	Not Evaluated	200 mg every 12 hours

- Adult patients weighing less than 40 kg: oral maintenance dose 100 mg or 150 mg every 12 hours
- *Hepatic Impairment*: Use half the maintenance dose in adult patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A and B) (2.5)
- *Renal Impairment*: Avoid intravenous administration in adult patients with moderate to severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance <50 mL/min) (2.6)
- **Dosage in Pediatric Patients (2.4)**
- For pediatric patients aged 12 to 14 years weighing greater than or equal to 50 kg and those aged 15 years and older regardless of body weight use adult dosage. (2.4)
- Dosage adjustment of Voriconazole for injection in pediatric patients with renal or hepatic impairment has not been established (2.5, 2.6).
- See full prescribing information for instructions on reconstitution of voriconazole for injection lyophilized powder for intravenous use (2.1, 2.6, 2.7)

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

1.1 Invasive Aspergillosis
Voriconazole for injection is indicated in adults and pediatric patients (aged 12 to 14 years weighing greater than or equal to 50 kg and those aged 15 years and older regardless of body weight) for the treatment of invasive aspergillosis (IA). In clinical trials, the majority of isolates recovered were *Aspergillus fumigatus*. There was a small number of cases of other *Aspergillus* species (*A. flavus* and *A. nidulans*) and cases of *Aspergillus* species (*A. terreus*, *A. flavus* and *A. nidulans*) (*14.1*, *14.5*) and *Microbiology (12.4)*.

1.2 Candidemia in Non-neutropenic Patients and Other Deep Tissue *Candida* Infections
Voriconazole for injection is indicated in adults and pediatric patients (aged 12 to 14 years weighing greater than or equal to 50 kg and those aged 15 years and older regardless of body weight) for the treatment of candidemia in non-neutropenic patients and the following *Candida* infections: disseminated infections in skin and infections in abdomen, kidney, bladder wall, and wounds [see *Clinical Studies (14.2, 14.5)* and *Microbiology (12.4)*].

1.3 Esophageal Candidiasis
Voriconazole for injection is indicated in adults and pediatric patients (aged 12 to 14 years weighing greater than or equal to 50 kg and those aged 15 years and older regardless of body weight) for the treatment of esophageal candidiasis (EC) [see *Clinical Studies (14.3, 14.5)* and *Microbiology (12.4)*].

1.4 Scedosporiosis and Fusariosis
Voriconazole for injection is indicated for the treatment of serious fungal infections caused by *Scedosporium apiospermum* (asexual form of *Pseudallescheria boydii*) and *Fusarium* spp, including *Fusarium solani*, in adults and pediatric patients (aged 12 to 14 years weighing greater than or equal to 50 kg and those aged 15 years and older regardless of body weight) intolerant of, or refractory to, other therapy [see *Clinical Studies (14.4)* and *Microbiology (12.4)*].

1.5 Usage
Specimens for fungal culture and other relevant laboratory studies (including histopathology) should be obtained prior to therapy to isolate and identify causative organism(s). Therapy may be instituted before the results of the cultures and other laboratory studies are known. However, once these results become available, antifungal therapy should be adjusted accordingly.

Additional pediatric use information is approved for PF PRISM C.V.'s VFEND (voriconazole). However, due to PF PRISM C.V.'s marketing exclusivity rights, this drug product is not labeled with that information.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Important Administration Instructions for Use in All Patients
Voriconazole for injection I.V. requires reconstitution to 10 mg/mL and subsequent dilution to 5 mg/mL or less prior to administration as an infusion, at a maximum rate of 3 mg/kg per hour over 1 to 2 hours.

Administer diluted voriconazole for injection I.V. by intravenous infusion over 1 to 2 hours only. Do not administer as an IV bolus injection.

2.2 Use of voriconazole for injection I.V. With Other Parenteral Drug Products
Blood products and concentrated electrolytes

Voriconazole for injection I.V. must not be infused concomitantly with any blood product or short-term infusion of concentrated electrolytes, even if the two infusions are running in separate intravenous lines (or cannulas). Electrolyte disturbances such as hypokalemia, hypomagnesemia and hypocalcemia should be corrected prior to initiation of and during voriconazole for injection therapy [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.9)*].

Intravenous solutions containing (non-concentrated) electrolytes

Voriconazole for injection I.V. can be infused at the same time as other intravenous solutions containing (non-concentrated) electrolytes, but must be infused through a separate line.

Total parenteral nutrition (TPN)

Voriconazole for injection I.V. can be infused at the same time as total parenteral nutrition, but must be infused in a separate line. If infused through a multiple-lumen catheter, TPN needs to be administered using a different port from the one used for voriconazole for injection I.V.

2.3 Recommended Dosing Regimen in Adults
Invasive aspergillosis and serious fungal infections due to *Fusarium* spp. and *Scedosporium apiospermum*

See Table 1. Therapy must be initiated with the specified loading dose regimen of intravenous voriconazole for injection I.V on Day 1 followed by the recommended maintenance dose (RMD) regimen. Intravenous voriconazole for injection I.V. should be continued for at least 7 days. Once the patient has clinically improved and can tolerate medication given by mouth, the oral tablet form or oral suspension form of voriconazole for injection may be utilized. The recommended oral maintenance dose is 200 mg twice a day for patients weighing greater than or equal to 40 kg. Patients weighing less than 40 kg should receive a dose similar to 4 mg/kg intravenously. Switching between the intravenous and oral formulations is appropriate because of the high bioavailability of the oral formulation in adults [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12)*].

Candidemia in non-neutropenic patients and other deep tissue Candida infections

See Table 1. Patients should be treated for at least 14 days following resolution of symptoms or following last positive culture, whichever is longer.

Esophageal Candidiasis

See Table 1. Patients should be treated for a minimum of 14 days and for at least 7 days following resolution of symptoms.

Table 1: Recommended Dosing Regimen (Adults)

Infection	Loading Dose	Maintenance Dose[a,b]	
	Intravenous infusion	Intravenous infusion	Oral[c]
Invasive Aspergillosis[d]	6 mg/kg every 12 hours for the first 24 hours	4 mg/kg every 12 hours	200 mg every 12 hours
Candidemia in nonneutropenic patients and other deep tissue Candida infections	6 mg/kg every 12 hours for the first 24 hours	3-4 mg/kg every 12 hours[e]	200 mg every 12 hours
Esophageal Candidiasis	Not Evaluated	Not Evaluated[f]	200 mg every 12 hours
Scedosporiosis and Fusariosis	6 mg/kg every 12 hours for the first 24 hours	4 mg/kg every 12 hours	200 mg every 12 hours

[a] Increase dose when voriconazole for injection is co-administered with phenytoin or efavirenz (7). Decrease dose in patients with hepatic impairment (2.5)
[b] In healthy volunteer studies, the 200 mg oral every 12 hours dose provided an exposure (AUC) similar to a 3 mg/kg intravenous infusion every 12 hours dose; the 300 mg oral every 12 hours dose provided an exposure (AUC) similar to a 4 mg intravenous infusion every 12 hours dose (12).
[c] Adult patients who weigh less than 40 kg should receive half of the oral maintenance dose.
[d] In a clinical study of IA, the median duration of intravenous therapy was 10 days (range 2 to 85 days). The median duration of oral voriconazole therapy was 76 days (range 2 to 232 days) (14.1).
[e] In clinical trials, patients with candidemia received 3 mg/kg intravenous infusion every 12 hours as primary therapy, while patients with other deep tissue Candida infections received 4 mg/kg every 12 hours as salvage therapy. Appropriate dose should be based on the severity and nature of the infection.
[f] Not evaluated in patients with EC.

Method for Adjusting the Dosing Regimen in Adults

If patient's response is inadequate, the oral maintenance dose may be increased from 200 mg every 12 hours (similar to 3 mg/kg intravenously every 12 hours) to 300 mg every 12 hours (similar to 4 mg/kg intravenously every 12 hours). For adult patients weighing less than 40 kg, the oral maintenance dose may be increased from 100 mg every 12 hours to 150 mg every 12 hours. If patient is unable to tolerate 300 mg orally every 12 hours, reduce the oral maintenance dose by 50 mg steps to a minimum of 200 mg every 12 hours (or to 100 mg every 12 hours for adult patients weighing less than 40 kg).

If patient is unable to tolerate 4 mg/kg intravenously every 12 hours, reduce the intravenous maintenance dose to 3 mg/kg every 12 hours.

2.4 Recommended Dosing Regimen in Pediatric Patients
For pediatric patients 12 to 14 years of age with a body weight greater than or equal to 50 kg and those 15 years of age and above regardless of body weight, voriconazole for injection should be administered using the adult dosing regimen of voriconazole for injection [see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

Initiate therapy with an intravenous infusion regimen. Consider an oral regimen only after there is a significant clinical improvement.

Method for Adjusting the Dosing Regimen in Pediatric Patients:

Pediatric patients 12 to 14 years of age weighing greater than or equal to 50kg and 15 years of age and older regardless of body weight:

Use the optimal intravenous method for titrating dosage [see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

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2.5 Dosage Modifications in Patients With Hepatic Impairment
Adults

The maintenance dose of voriconazole should be reduced in adult patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment. Child-Pugh Class A and B. There are no data in adult patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class C). Therefore, voriconazole for injection should not be used in these patients.

Duration of therapy should be based on the severity of the patient's underlying disease, recovery from immunosuppression, and clinical response.

Adult patients with baseline liver function tests (ALT, AST) of up to 5 times the upper limit of normal (ULN) were included in the clinical program. Dose adjustments are not necessary for adult patients with this degree of abnormal liver function, but continued monitoring of liver function tests for further abnormalities is recommended [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

It is recommended that the normal recommended voriconazole loading dose regimens be used, but that the maintenance dose be halved in adult patients with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis (Child-Pugh Class A and B) [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

Voriconazole has not been studied in adult patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis (Child-Pugh Class C) or in patients with chronic hepatitis B or chronic hepatitis C disease. Voriconazole is principally metabolized by the liver and patients with severe liver function tests and with clinical signs of liver disease, such as jaundice. Voriconazole should only be used in patients with severe hepatic impairment if the benefit outweighs the potential risk. Patients with hepatic impairment must be carefully monitored for drug toxicity.

Pediatric Patients

Dosage adjustment of voriconazole in pediatric patients with hepatic impairment has not been established *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.4)]*.

2.6 Dosage Modifications in Patients With Renal Impairment
Adult Patients

The pharmacokinetics of orally administered voriconazole are not significantly affected by renal impairment. Therefore, no adjustment is necessary for oral dosing in patients with mild to severe renal impairment [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

In patients with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance less than 50 mL/min) who are receiving an intravenous infusion of voriconazole for injection, accumulation of the intravenous vehicle, SBECD, occurs. Oral voriconazole should be administered to these patients, unless an assessment of the benefit/risk to the patient justifies the administration of voriconazole for injection intravenously. Serum creatinine levels should be closely monitored for an increase in patients who are receiving voriconazole for injection therapy. If the serum creatinine level increases, dose adjustment should be given to changing to oral voriconazole therapy *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.7)]*.

Voriconazole is hemodialyzed with clearance of 121 mL/min. The intravenous vehicle, SBECD, is hemodialyzed with clearance of 55 mL/min. A 4-hour hemodialysis session does not remove a sufficient fraction of voriconazole to warrant dose adjustment.

Pediatric Patients

Dosage adjustment of voriconazole in pediatric patients with renal impairment has not been established *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.4)]*.

2.7 Dosage Adjustment When Co-Administered With Phenytoin or Efavirenz
The maintenance dose of voriconazole should be increased when co-administered with phenytoin or efavirenz. Use the optimal method for titrating dosage [see *Drug Interactions (7)* and *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

2.8 Preparation and Intravenous Administration of Voriconazole for Injection
Reconstitution

The powder is reconstituted with 19 mL of Water for Injection to obtain an extractable volume of 20 mL of clear concentrate containing 10 mg/mL of voriconazole. It is recommended that a vial adapter (20 mL non-automated vial adapter) be used to reconstitute the powder (19.0 mL) of Water for injection is dispensed. Direct the flow of a vacuum does not put the diluent into the vial. Shake the vial until all the powder is dissolved.

Dilution

Voriconazole for injection must be infused over 1 to 3 hours, at a concentration of 5 mg/mL or less. Therefore, the required volume of the 10 mg/mL voriconazole for injection concentrate should be further diluted as follows (appropriate diluents listed below):

1. Calculate the volume of 10 mg/mL voriconazole for injection concentrate required based on the patient's weight (see Table 3).
2. In order to allow the required volume of voriconazole for injection concentrate to be added, withdraw and discard at least an equal volume of diluent from the infusion bag or bottle to be used. The volume of diluent remaining in the bag or bottle should be such that when the 10 mg/mL voriconazole for injection concentrate is added, the final concentration is not less than 0.5 mg/mL nor greater than 5 mg/mL.
3. Using a suitable size syringe and aseptic technique, withdraw the voriconazole for injection concentrate from the appropriate number of vials and add to the infusion bag or bottle. **Discard Partially Used Vials.**

The final voriconazole for injection solution must be infused over 1 to 3 hours at a maximum rate of 3 *mg/kg per hour*.

Table 3: Volumes of 10 mg/mL Voriconazole for injection Concentrate

Body Weight (kg)	Volume of Voriconazole for injection Concentrate (10 mg/mL) required for:			
	3 mg/kg dose (number of vials)	4 mg/kg dose (number of vials)	6 mg/kg dose (number of vials)	
30	9 mL (1)	12 mL (1)	18 mL (1)	
35	10.5 mL (1)	14 mL (1)	21 mL (2)	
40	12 mL (1)	16 mL (1)	24 mL (2)	
45	13.5 mL (1)	18 mL (1)	27 mL (2)	
50	15 mL (1)	20 mL (1)	30 mL (2)	
55	16.5 mL (1)	22 mL (2)	33 mL (2)	
60	18 mL (1)	24 mL (2)	36 mL (2)	
65	19.5 mL (1)	26 mL (2)	39 mL (2)	
70	21 mL (2)	28 mL (2)	42 mL (3)	
75	22.5 mL (2)	30 mL (2)	45 mL (3)	
80	24 mL (2)	32 mL (2)	48 mL (3)	
85	25.5 mL (2)	34 mL (2)	51 mL (3)	
90	27 mL (2)	36 mL (2)	54 mL (3)	
95	28.5 mL (2)	38 mL (2)	57 mL (3)	
100	30 mL (2)	40 mL (2)	60 mL (3)	

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS
For Injection: Lyophilized powder containing 200 mg of voriconazole and 3,200 mg of sulfobutyl ether beta-cyclodextrin sodium (SBECD); after reconstitution 10 mg/mL of voriconazole and 160 mg/mL of SBECD (3)

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS
- Hypersensitivity to voriconazole or its excipients (4)
- Coadministration with cisapride, pimozide or quinidine, sirolimus due to risk of serious adverse reactions (4, 7)
- Coadministration with rifampin, carbamazepine, long-acting barbiturates, efavirenz, ritonavir, rifabutin, ergot alkaloids, and St. John's Wort due to risk of loss of efficacy (4, 7)

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS
- *Hepatic Toxicity*: Serious hepatic reactions reported. Evaluate liver function tests at start of and during voriconazole for injection therapy (5.1)
- *Arrhythmias and QT Prolongation*: Correct potassium, magnesium and calcium prior to use; caution patients with proarrhythmic conditions (5.2)
- *Infusion Related Reactions (including anaphylaxis)*: Stop the infusion (5.3)
- *Visual Disturbances (including optic neuritis and papilledema)*: Monitor visual function if treatment continues beyond 28 days (5.4)
- *Serious Exfoliative Cutaneous Reactions*: Discontinue for exfoliative cutaneous reactions (5.5)
- *Photosensitivity*: Avoid sunlight due to risk of photosensitivity (5.6)
- *Embryo-Fetal Toxicity*: Voriconazole can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Inform pregnant patients of the potential hazard to the fetus. Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with voriconazole (5.8, 8.1, 8.3)
- *Skeletal Adverse Reactions*: Fluorosis and periostitis with long-term voriconazole therapy. Discontinue if these adverse reactions occur (5.11)
- *Clinically Significant Drug Interactions*: Review patient's concomitant medications (5.12, 7)

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS
- *Adult Patients*: The most common adverse reactions (incidence ≥2%) were visual disturbances, fever, nausea, rash, vomiting, chills, headache, liver function test abnormal, tachycardia, hallucination (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Fresenius Kabi USA, LLC at 1-800-551-7176 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS
- CYP3A4, CYP2C9, and CYP2C19 inhibitors and inducers: Adjust voriconazole for injection dosage and monitor for adverse reactions or lack of efficacy (4,7)
- Voriconazole for injection may increase the concentrations and activity of drugs that are CYP3A4, CYP2C9 and CYP2C19 substrates. Reduce dosage of these other drugs and monitor for adverse reactions (4, 7)
- Phenytoin or Efavirenz: With co-administration, increase maintenance oral and intravenous dosage of voriconazole for injection (2.3, 2.7, 7)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS
- *Pediatrics*: Safety and effectiveness in patients younger than 2 years has not been established (8.4)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

Additional pediatric use information is approved for PF PRISM C.V.'s VFEND (voriconazole). However, due to PF PRISM C.V.'s marketing exclusivity rights, this drug product is not labeled with that information.

Revised: 04/2020

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

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*Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

5.1 Hepatic Toxicity
In clinical trials, there have been uncommon cases of serious hepatic reactions during treatment with voriconazole for injection (including clinical hepatitis, cholestasis and fulminant hepatic failure, including fatalities). Instances of hepatic reactions were noted to occur primarily in patients with serious underlying medical conditions (predominantly hematological malignancy). Hepatic reactions, including hepatitis and jaundice, occurred in patients with no other identifiable risk factors. Liver dysfunction has usually been reversible on discontinuation of therapy [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].

A higher frequency of liver enzyme elevations was observed in the pediatric population [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].Hepatic function should be monitored in both adult and pediatric patients.

Measure serum transaminase levels and bilirubin at the initiation of voriconazole for injection therapy and monitor at least weekly for the first month of treatment. Monitoring frequency can be reduced to monthly if no changes are observed. If significant changes are noted, the liver function tests become markedly elevated compared to baseline, voriconazole for injection should be discontinued unless the medical judgment of the benefit/risk of the treatment for the patient justifies continued use [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)* and *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].

5.2 Arrhythmias and QT Prolongation
Some azoles, including voriconazole for injection, have been associated with prolongation of the QT interval on the electrocardiogram. During clinical development and post-marketing surveillance, there have been rare cases of arrhythmias (including torsades de pointes), cardiac arrest and sudden deaths in patients taking voriconazole. These cases usually involved seriously ill patients with multiple confounding risk factors, such as history of cardiotoxic chemotherapy, cardiomyopathy, hypokalemia and concomitant medications that may have such potential.

Voriconazole for injection should be administered with caution to patients with potentially proarrhythmic conditions, such as:

- Congenital or acquired QT prolongation
- Cardiomyopathy, in particular when heart failure is present
- Sinus bradycardia
- Existing symptomatic arrhythmias
- Concomitant medications that are known to prolong QT interval [see *Contraindications (4)*, *Drug Interactions (7)*, and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*]

Electrolyte disturbances such as hypokalemia, hypomagnesemia and hypocalcemia should be corrected prior to initiation of and during voriconazole for injection therapy.

Patient management should include laboratory evaluation of renal (particularly serum creatinine) and hepatic function (particularly liver function tests and bilirubin).

5.3 Infusion Related Reactions
During infusion of the intravenous formulation of voriconazole for injection in healthy subjects, anaphylactoid-type reactions, including flushing, fever, sweating, tachycardia, chest tightness, dyspnea, pruritus, nausea, pain and rash, have occurred uncommonly. Symptoms appeared immediately upon initiating the infusion. Consideration should be given to stopping the infusion should these reactions occur.

5.4 Visual Disturbances
The effect of voriconazole for injection on visual function is not known if treatment continues beyond 28 days. There have been postmarketing reports of prolonged visual adverse events, including optic neuritis and papilledema. If treatment continues beyond 28 days, visual function including visual acuity, visual field, and color perception should be monitored [see *Adverse Reactions (6.2)*].

5.5 Serious Exfoliative Cutaneous Reactions
Serious exfoliative cutaneous reactions, such as Stevens-Johnson syndrome, have been reported during treatment with voriconazole for injection. If a patient develops an exfoliative cutaneous reaction, voriconazole for injection should be discontinued.

5.6 Photosensitivity
Voriconazole for injection has been associated with photosensitivity skin reaction. Patients, including pediatric patients, should avoid exposure to direct sunlight during voriconazole for injection treatment and should use measures such as protective clothing and sunscreen with high sun protection factor (SPF). If phototoxicity is observed, consideration should be given to referral to a dermatologist and voriconazole for injection discontinuation should be considered. If voriconazole for injection is continued despite the occurrence of phototoxicity-related lesions, dermatologic evaluation should be performed on a systematic and regular basis to allow early detection and management of premalignant lesions. Squamous cell carcinoma of the skin and melanoma have been reported during long-term voriconazole for injection therapy in patients with photosensitivity skin reactions. If a patient develops a skin lesion consistent with premalignant skin lesions, squamous cell carcinoma or melanoma during voriconazole for injection therapy, voriconazole for injection has been associated with photosensitivity related skin reactions such as pseudoporphyria, cheilitis, and cutaneous lupus erythematosus. Patients should avoid strong, direct sunlight during voriconazole for injection therapy.

The frequency of phototoxicity reactions is higher in the pediatric population. Because squamous cell carcinoma has been reported in patients who experience photosensitivity reactions, stringent measures for photoprotection are warranted in children. If skin changes proceeding injuries such as lentigines or ephelides, are noted, referral to a dermatologist should be considered to allow for further evaluation.

5.7 Renal Toxicity
Acute renal failure has been observed in patients undergoing treatment with voriconazole for injection. Patients being treated with voriconazole are likely to be treated concomitantly with nephrotoxic medications and may have concurrent conditions that may result in decreased renal function.

Patients should be monitored for the development of abnormal renal function. This should include laboratory evaluation of serum creatinine [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)* and *Dosage and Administration (2.6)*].

5.8 Embryo-Fetal Toxicity
Voriconazole can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman.

In animals, voriconazole administration was associated with fetal malformations, embryotoxicity, increased gestational length, dystocia and embryomortality [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*].

If voriconazole for injection is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking voriconazole for injection, inform the patient of the potential hazard to the fetus. Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with voriconazole for injection [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.3)*].

5.9 Laboratory Tests
Patient management should include laboratory evaluation of renal (particularly serum creatinine) and hepatic function (particularly liver function tests and bilirubin).

5.10 Pancreatitis
Pancreatitis has been observed in patients undergoing treatment with voriconazole for injection [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1, 6.2)*] Patients with risk factors for acute pancreatitis, such as recent chemotherapy, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation [HSCT]) should be monitored for the development of pancreatitis during voriconazole for injection treatment.

5.11 Skeletal Adverse Reactions
Fluorosis and periostitis have been reported during long-term voriconazole for injection therapy. If a patient develops skeletal pain and radiologic findings consistent with skeletal fluorosis or periostitis, voriconazole for injection should be discontinued *[see Adverse Reactions (6.2)]*.

5.12 Clinically Significant Drug Interactions
See Table 10 for a listing of drug that may significantly alter voriconazole concentrations. Also, see Table 11 for a listing of drugs that may interact with voriconazole requiring dose adjusted pharmacokinetics or pharmacodynamics of the other drug [see *Contraindications (4)* and *Drug Interactions (7)*].

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS
The following serious adverse reactions are described elsewhere in the labeling:

Hepatic Toxicity [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]
Arrhythmias and QT Prolongation [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]
Infusion Related Reactions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]
Visual Disturbances [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]
Serious Exfoliative Cutaneous Reactions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]
Photosensitivity [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*]
Renal Toxicity [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience
Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in 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.

Clinical Trials Experience in Adults

Overview

The most frequently reported adverse reactions (see Table 4) in the adult therapeutic trials were visual disturbances (18.7%), fever (5.7%), nausea (5.4%), rash (5.3%), vomiting (4.4%), chills (3.7%), headache (3.0%), liver function test increased (2.7%), tachycardia (2.4%), hallucinations (2.4%). The adverse reactions which most often led to discontinuation of voriconazole therapy were elevated liver function tests, rash, and visual disturbances (*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1, 5.4)* and *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*).

The data described in Table 4 reflect exposure to voriconazole in 1655 patients in nine therapeutic trials. This represents a heterogeneous population, including immunocompromised patients, e.g., patients with hematological malignancy or HIV and non- neutropenic patients. This subgroup does not include healthy subjects and patients enrolled in the comparative use and non therapeutic studies. This patient population was 82% male, had a mean age of 46 years (range 11-90, including 151 patients aged 12-18 years), and was 78% White and 10% Black. Five hundred sixty one patients had a duration of voriconazole therapy of greater than 12 weeks, with 136 patients receiving voriconazole for over six months. Table 4 includes all adverse reactions which were reported at an incidence of ≥2% during voriconazole therapy in the all therapeutic studies population, studies 307/602 and 608 combined, or study 305, as well as events of concern which occurred at an incidence of <2%.

In study 307/602, 381 patients (196 on voriconazole, 185 on amphotericin B) were treated to compare voriconazole to amphotericin B followed by other licensed antifungal therapy (OLAT) in the primary treatment of patients with acute IA. The rate of discontinuation from voriconazole study medication due to adverse events was 21.4% (42/196 patients). In study 608, 403 patients were treated to compare voriconazole and fluconazole for the treatment of candidemia. The rate of discontinuation from voriconazole study medication due to adverse events was 19.5% (out of 272 patients. Study 305 evaluated the effects of oral voriconazole (200 patients) and oral fluconazole (191 patients) in the treatment of EC. The rate of discontinuation from voriconazole study medication in Study 305 due to adverse events was 7% (14/200 patients). Laboratory test abnormalities for these studies are discussed under Clinical Laboratory Values below.

Table 4:
Treatment Emergent Adverse Events Rate ≥ 2% on Voriconazole or Adverse Events of Concern in Therapeutic Studies Population, Studies 307/602-608 Combined, or Study 305. Possibly Related to Therapy or Causality Unknown[1]

	Therapeutic Studies[2]				Study 305 (oral therapy)	
	Voriconazole N=1655	Voriconazole N=468	Ampho B[3] N=185	Ampho B→ Fluconazole N=131	Voriconazole N=200	Fluconazole N=191
	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
Special Senses[4]						
Abnormal vision	310 (18.7)	63 (13.5)	1 (0.5)	0	31 (15.5)	8 (4.2)
Photophobia	37 (2.2)	8 (1.7)	0	0	5 (2.5)	2 (1.0)
Chromatopsia	20 (1.2)	2 (0.4)	0	0	2 (1.0)	0
Body as a Whole						
Fever	94 (5.7)	8 (1.7)	25 (13.5)	5 (3.8)	0	0
Chills	61 (3.7)	1 (0.2)	36 (19.5)	8 (6.1)	1 (0.5)	0
Headache	49 (3.0)	9 (1.9)	8 (4.3)	1 (0.8)	0	1 (0.5)
Cardiovascular System						
Tachycardia	39 (2.4)	6 (1.3)	5 (2.7)	0	0	0
Digestive System						
Nausea	89 (5.4)	18 (3.8)	29 (15.7)	2 (1.5)	2 (1.0)	3 (1.6)
Vomiting	72 (4.4)	15 (3.2)	18 (9.7)	1 (0.8)	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Liver function tests abnormal	45 (2.7)	15 (3.2)	4 (2.2)	1 (0.8)	6 (3.0)	2 (1.0)
Cholestatic jaundice	17 (1.0)	8 (1.7)	0	1 (0.8)	3 (1.5)	0
Metabolic and Nutritional Systems						
Alkaline phosphatase increased	59 (3.6)	19 (4.1)	4 (2.2)	3 (2.3)	10 (5.0)	3 (1.6)
Hepatic enzymes increased	30 (1.8)	11 (2.4)	5 (2.7)	1 (0.8)	3 (1.5)	0
SGOT increased	31 (1.9)	9 (1.9)	0	1 (0.8)	8 (4.0)	2 (1.0)
SGPT increased	29 (1.8)	9 (1.9)	1 (0.5)	2 (1.5)	6 (3.0)	2 (1.0)
Hypokalemia	26 (1.6)	3 (0.6)	36 (19.5)	16 (12.2)	0	0
Bilirubinemia	15 (0.9)	5 (1.1)	3 (1.6)	2 (1.5)	1 (0.5)	0
Creatinine increased	4 (0.2)	0	59 (31.9)	10 (7.6)	1 (0.5)	0
Nervous System						
Hallucinations	39 (2.4)	13 (2.8)	1 (0.5)	0	0	0
Skin and Appendages						
Rash	88 (5.3)	20 (4.3)	7 (3.8)	1 (0.8)	3 (1.5)	1 (0.5)
Urogenital						
Kidney function abnormal	10 (0.6)	6 (1.3)	40 (21.6)	9 (6.9)	1 (0.5)	1 (0.5)
Acute kidney failure	7 (0.4)	2 (0.4)	11 (5.9)	7 (5.3)	0	0

[1] Study 307/602: IA; Study 608: candidemia; Study 305: EC
[2] Studies 303, 304, 305, 307, 309, 602, 604, 606, 608
[3] **Amphotericin B** followed by other licensed antifungal therapy
[4] **See Warnings and Precautions (5.4)**

Visual Disturbances

Voriconazole for injection treatment-related visual disturbances are common. In therapeutic trials, approximately 21% of patients experienced abnormal vision, color vision change and/or photophobia. Visual disturbances may be associated with higher plasma concentrations and/or doses. The mechanism of action of the visual disturbances is unknown, although the site of action is most likely to be within the retina. In a study in healthy subjects investigating the effect of 28-day treatment with voriconazole on retinal function, voriconazole for injection caused a decrease in the electroretinogram (ERG) waveform amplitude, a decrease in the visual field, and an alteration in color perception. The ERG measures electrical currents in the retina that are triggered by light.

10 OVERDOSAGE

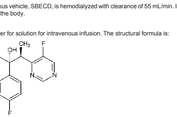
In clinical trials, there were three cases of accidental overdose. All occurred in pediatric patients who received up to five times the recommended intravenous dose of voriconazole. A single adverse event of photophobia of 10 minutes duration was reported.

There is no known antidote to voriconazole.

Voriconazole is hemodialyzed with clearance of 121 mL/min. The intravenous vehicle, SBECD, is hemodialyzed with clearance of 55 mL/min. In an overdose, hemodialysis may assist in the removal of voriconazole and SBECD from the body.

11 DESCRIPTION

Voriconazole, an azole antifungal agent is available as a lyophilized powder for solution for intravenous infusion. The structural formula is:



Voriconazole is designated chemically as (2R,3S)-2-(4, 2-difluorophenyl)-3-(5-fluoro-4-pyrimidinyl)-1-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)-2- butanol with an empirical formula of $C_{16}H_{14}F_3N_5O$ and a molecular weight of 349.3.

Voriconazole drug substance is a white to light-colored powder.

Voriconazole for injection I.V. is a white lyophilized powder containing nominally 200 mg voriconazole and 3200 mg sulfobutyl ether beta-cyclodextrin sodium in a 30 mL Type I clear glass vial.

Voriconazole for injection I.V. is intended for administration by intravenous infusion. It is a single-dose, unpreserved product. Vials containing 200 mg lyophilized voriconazole are intended for reconstitution with Water for injection to produce a solution containing 10 mg/mL voriconazole for injection and 160 mg/mL of sulfobutyl ether beta-cyclodextrin sodium. The resultant solution is further diluted prior to administration as an intravenous infusion *[see Dosage and Administration (2)]*.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Voriconazole is an antifungal drug *[see Microbiology (12.4)]*.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Exposure-Response Relationship For Efficacy and Safety

In 10 clinical trials (N=121), the median values for the average and maximum voriconazole plasma concentrations in individual patients across these studies was 2.51 µg/mL (inter-quartile range 1.21 to 4.44 µg/mL) and 3.79 µg/mL (inter-quartile range 2.06 to 6.31 µg/mL), respectively. A pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic analysis of patient data from 6 of these 10 clinical trials (N=280) could not detect a positive association between mean, maximum or minimum plasma voriconazole concentration and efficacy.

However, pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic analyses of the data from all 10 clinical trials identified positive associations between plasma voriconazole concentrations and rate of both liver function test abnormalities and visual disturbances *[see Adverse Reactions (6)]*.

Cardiac Electrophysiology

A placebo-controlled, randomized, crossover study to evaluate the effect on the QT interval of healthy male and female subjects was conducted with three single oral doses of voriconazole and ketoconazole. Serial ECGs and plasma samples were obtained at specified intervals over a 24-hour post dose observation period. The placebo-adjusted mean maximum increases in QTc from baseline after 800, 1200, and 1600 mg of voriconazole and after ketoconazole 800 mg were all <10 msec. Females exhibited a greater increase in QTc than males, although all mean changes were <10 msec. Age was not found to affect the magnitude of increase in QTc. No subject in any group had an increase in QTc of ≥60 msec from baseline. No subject experienced an interval exceeding the potentially clinically relevant threshold of 500 msec. However, the QT effect of voriconazole combined with drugs known to prolong the QT interval is unknown *[see Contraindications (4) and Drug Interactions (7)]*.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

The pharmacokinetics of voriconazole have been characterized in healthy subjects, special populations and patients.

The pharmacokinetics of voriconazole are non-linear due to saturation of its metabolism. The interindividual variability of voriconazole pharmacokinetics is high. Oral bioavailability is reduced when voriconazole is administered with food. It is estimated that, over a dose range of 200 mg every 12 hours to 300 mg every 12 hours leads to an approximately 2.5-fold increase in exposure (AUC $_{\tau}$); similarly, increasing the intravenous dose from 3 mg/kg every 12 hours to 4 mg/kg every 12 hours produces an approximately 2.5-fold increase in exposure (Table 12).

Table 12:

Geometric Mean (%CV) Plasma Voriconazole Pharmacokinetic Parameters in Adults Receiving Different Dosing Regimens

	6 mg/kg IV (loading dose)	3 mg/kg IV every 12 hours	4 mg/kg IV every 12 hours	400 mg Oral (loading dose)	200 mg Oral every 12 hours	300 mg Oral every 12 hours
N	35	23	40	17	48	16
AUC$_{\tau}$ (µg·h/mL)	13.9 (52)	13.7 (53)	33.9 (54)	9.31 (38)	12.4 (78)	34.0 (53)
C$_{max}$ (µg/mL)	3.13 (20)	3.03 (25)	4.77 (36)	2.30 (19)	2.31 (48)	4.74 (35)
C$_{min}$ (µg/mL)	--	0.46 (97)	1.73 (74)	--	0.46 (120)	1.63 (79)

Note: Parameters were estimated based on non-compartmental analysis from 5 pharmacokinetic studies.
AUC$_{\tau}$ = area under the curve over 12 hour dosing interval, C$_{max}$ = maximum plasma concentration, C$_{min}$ = minimum plasma concentration, CV = coefficient of variation

When the recommended intravenous loading dose regimen is administered to healthy subjects, plasma concentrations close to steady state are achieved within the first 24 hours of dosing (e.g., 6 mg/kg IV every 12 hours on day 1 followed by 3 mg/kg IV every 12 hours). Without the loading dose, accumulation occurs during twice daily multiple dosing with steady state plasma voriconazole concentrations being achieved by day 6 in the majority of subjects.

Absorption

The pharmacokinetic properties of voriconazole are similar following administration by the intravenous and oral routes. Based on a population pharmacokinetic analysis of pooled data in healthy subjects (N=129), the oral bioavailability of voriconazole is estimated to be 96% (CV 13%). Bioequivalence was established between the 200 mg tablet and the 40 mg/mL oral suspension when administered as a 400 mg every 12 hours loading dose followed by a 200 mg every 12 hours maintenance dose.

Maximum plasma concentrations (C$_{max}$) are achieved 1-2 hours after dosing. When multiple doses of voriconazole are administered with high-fat meals, the mean C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ are reduced by 34% and 24%, respectively when administered as a tablet and by 58% and 37% respectively when administered as the oral suspension *[see Dosage and Administration (2)]*.

In healthy subjects, the absorption of voriconazole is not affected by coadministration of oral ranitidine, cimetidine, or omeprazole, drugs that are known to increase gastric pH.

Distribution

The volume of distribution at steady state for voriconazole is estimated to be 4.6 L/kg, suggesting extensive distribution into tissues. Plasma protein binding is estimated to be 58% and was shown to be independent of plasma concentrations achieved following single and multiple oral doses of 200 mg or 300 mg (approximate range: 0.9-15 µg/mL). Varying degrees of hepatic and renal impairment do not affect the protein binding of voriconazole.

Elimination

Metabolism

In vitro studies showed that voriconazole is metabolized by the human hepatic cytochrome P450 enzymes, CYP2C19, CYP2C9 and CYP3A4 *[see Drug Interactions (7)]*.

In vivo studies indicated that CYP2C19 is significantly involved in the metabolism of voriconazole. This enzyme exhibits genetic polymorphism *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.5)]*.

The major metabolite of voriconazole is the N-oxide, which accounts for 72% of the circulating radiolabelled metabolites in plasma. Since this metabolite has minimal antifungal activity, it does not contribute to the overall efficacy of voriconazole.

Excretion

Voriconazole is eliminated via hepatic metabolism with less than 2% of the dose excreted unchanged in the urine. After administration of a single radiolabelled dose of either oral or IV voriconazole, produced by multiple oral or IV dosing, approximately 80% to 83% of the radioactivity is recovered in the urine. The majority (>94%) of the total radioactivity is excreted in the first 96 hours after both oral and intravenous dosing.

As a result of non-linear pharmacokinetics, the terminal half-life of voriconazole is dose dependent and therefore not useful in predicting the accumulation or elimination of voriconazole.

Specific Populations

Male and Female Patients

In a multiple oral dose study, the mean C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ for healthy young females were 83% and 113% higher, respectively, than in healthy young males (18-45 years), after tablet dosing. In the same study, no significant differences in the mean C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ were observed between healthy elderly males and healthy elderly females (>65 years). In a similar study, after dosing with the oral suspension, the mean AUC for healthy young females was 44% higher than in healthy young males whereas the mean C$_{max}$ was comparable between genders. The steady state trough voriconazole concentrations (C$_{min}$) seen in females were 100% and 91% higher than in males receiving the tablet and oral suspension, respectively.

In the clinical program, no dosage adjustment was made on the basis of gender. The safety profile and plasma concentrations observed in male and female subjects were similar. Therefore, no dosage adjustment based on gender is necessary.

Geriatric Patients

In an oral multiple dose study the mean C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ in healthy elderly males (≥65 years) were 61% and 86% higher, respectively, than in young males (18-45 years). No significant differences in the mean C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ were observed between healthy elderly females (≥65 years) and healthy young females (18-45 years).

In the clinical program, no dosage adjustment was made on the basis of age. An analysis of pharmacokinetic data obtained from 552 patients from 10 voriconazole clinical trials showed that the median voriconazole plasma concentrations in the elderly patients (>65 years) were approximately 80% to 90% higher than those in the younger patients (≤65 years) after either IV or oral administration. However, the safety profile of voriconazole in young and elderly subjects was similar and, therefore, no dosage adjustment is necessary for the elderly *[see Use in Special Populations (8.5)]*.

Pediatric Patients

Voriconazole exposures in the majority of pediatric patients aged 12 to less than 17 years were comparable to those in adults receiving the same dosing regimens. However, lower voriconazole exposure was observed in some pediatric patients aged 12 to less than 17 years with low body weight compared to adults *[see Dosage and Administration (2.4)]*.

Additional pediatric use information is approved for PF PRISM C.V.'s VFEND (voriconazole). However, due to PF PRISM C.V.'s marketing exclusivity rights, this drug product is not labeled with that information.

Patients with Hepatic Impairment

After a single oral dose (200 mg) of voriconazole in 8 patients with mild (Child-Pugh Class A) and 4 patients with moderate (Child- Pugh Class B) hepatic impairment, the mean systemic exposure (AUC) was 3.2-fold higher than in age and weight matched controls with normal hepatic function. There was no difference in mean peak plasma concentrations (C$_{max}$) between the groups. When only the patients with mild (Child-Pugh Class A) hepatic impairment were compared to controls, there was still a 2.3-fold increase in the mean AUC in the group with hepatic impairment compared to controls.

In an oral multiple dose study, AUC$_{\tau}$ was similar in 6 subjects with moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class B) given a lower maintenance dose of 100 mg twice daily compared to 6 subjects with normal hepatic function given the standard 200 mg twice daily maintenance dose. The mean peak plasma concentrations (C$_{max}$) were 20% lower in the hepatically impaired group. No pharmacokinetic data are available for patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis (Child-Pugh Class C) *[see Dosage and Administration (2.5)]*.

Patients with Renal Impairment

In a single oral dose (200 mg) study in 24 subjects with normal renal function and mild to severe renal impairment, systemic exposure (AUC) and peak plasma concentration (C$_{max}$) of voriconazole were not significantly affected by renal impairment. Therefore, no adjustment is necessary for oral dosing in patients with mild to severe renal impairment.

In a multiple dose study of IV voriconazole (6 mg/kg IV loading dose x 2, then 3 mg/kg IV x 5.5 days) in 7 patients with moderate renal dysfunction (creatinine clearance 30-50 mL/min), the systemic exposure (AUC) and peak plasma concentrations (C$_{max}$) were not significantly different from those in 6 subjects with normal renal function.

However, in patients with moderate renal dysfunction (creatinine clearance 30-50 mL/min), accumulation of the intravenous vehicle, SBECD, occurs. The mean systemic exposure (AUC) and peak plasma concentrations (C$_{max}$) of SBECD were increased 4-fold and almost 50%, respectively, in the moderately impaired group compared to the normal control group.

A pharmacokinetic study in subjects with renal failure undergoing hemodialysis showed that voriconazole is dialyzed with clearance of 121 mL/min. The intravenous vehicle, SBECD, is hemodialyzed with clearance of 55 mL/min. A 4-hour hemodialysis session does not remove a sufficient amount of voriconazole to warrant dose adjustment *[see Dosage and Administration (2.6)]*.

Patients at Risk of Aspergillosis

The observed voriconazole pharmacokinetics in patients at risk of aspergillosis (mainly patients with malignant neoplasms of lymphatic or hematopoietic tissue) were similar to healthy subjects.

Drug Interaction Studies

Effects of Other Drugs on Voriconazole

Voriconazole is metabolized by the human hepatic cytochrome P450 enzymes CYP2C19, CYP2C9, and CYP3A4. Results of *in vitro* metabolism studies indicate that the affinity of voriconazole is highest for CYP2C19, followed by CYP2C9, and is appreciably lower for CYP3A4. Inhibitors or inducers of these three enzymes may increase or decrease voriconazole systemic exposure (plasma concentrations), respectively.

The systemic exposure to voriconazole is significantly reduced or is expected to be reduced by the concomitant administration of the following agents and their use is contraindicated:

Rifampin (potent CYP450 inducer)–Rifampin (600 mg once daily) decreased the steady state C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ of voriconazole (200 mg every 12 hours x 7 days) by an average of 93% and 96%, respectively, in healthy subjects. Doubling the dose of voriconazole did not restore adequate exposure to voriconazole during coadministration with rifampin. **Coadministration of voriconazole and rifampin is contraindicated** *[see Contraindications (4) and Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*.

Ritonavir (potent CYP450 inducer; CYP3A4 inhibitor and substrate)–The effect of the coadministration of voriconazole and ritonavir (400 mg and 100 mg were administered in two separate studies, both dose- dependent (400 mg every 12 hours x 14 days) by an average of 50% and 70%, respectively, in healthy subjects. Oral voriconazole (400 mg every 12 hours for 1 day, then 200 mg every 12 hours for 6 days) by an average of 66% and 82%, respectively, in healthy subjects. Low-dose ritonavir (100 mg every 12 hours for 9 days) decreased the steady state C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ of oral voriconazole (400 mg every 12 hours for 1 day, then 200 mg every 12 hours for 8 days) by an average of 24% and 39%, respectively, in healthy subjects. Although repeat oral administration of voriconazole, did not have a significant effect on steady state C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ of high-dose ritonavir in healthy subjects, steady state C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ of low- dose ritonavir increased slightly by 24% and 14% respectively, when administered concomitantly with oral voriconazole in healthy subjects. **Coadministration of voriconazole and high-dose ritonavir (400 mg every 12 hours) is contraindicated. Coadministration of voriconazole and low-dose ritonavir (100 mg every 12 hours) should be avoided, unless an assessment of the benefit/risk to the patient justifies the use of voriconazole** *[see Contraindications (4) and Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*.

St. John's Wort (CYP450 inducer; P-gp inducer)–In an independent published study in healthy volunteers who were given multiple oral doses of St. John's Wort (300 mg LI 160 extract three times daily for 15 days) followed by a single 400 mg oral dose of voriconazole, a 59% decrease in mean voriconazole AUC$_{0-\infty}$ was observed. In contrast, coadministration of single oral doses of St. John's Wort and voriconazole had no appreciable effect on voriconazole AUC$_{0-\tau}$. Because long-term use of St. John's Wort could lead to reduced voriconazole exposure, **concomitant use of voriconazole with St. John's Wort is contraindicated** *[see Contraindications (4)]*.

Carbamazepine and long-acting barbiturates (potent CYP450 inducers)–Although not studied *in vitro* or *in vivo*, carbamazepine and long-acting barbiturates (e.g., phenobarbital) are expected to significantly decrease the plasma concentrations of voriconazole. **Coadministration of voriconazole with carbamazepine or long-acting barbiturates is contraindicated** *[see Contraindications (4) and Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*.

Significant drug interactions that may require voriconazole dosage adjustment, or frequent monitoring of voriconazole-related adverse events/ toxicity:

Fluconazole (CYP2C9, CYP2C19 and CYP3A4 inhibitor): Concurrent administration of oral voriconazole (400 mg every 12 hours for 1 day, then 200 mg every 12 hours for 2.5 days) and oral fluconazole (400 mg on day 1, then 200 mg every 24 hours for 4 days) in healthy male subjects resulted in an increase in C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ of voriconazole by an average of 57% (90% CI: 20%, 107%) and 79% (90% CI: 40%, 128%), respectively. In a follow-on clinical study involving 8 healthy male subjects, the steady state voriconazole dosing and/or frequency of voriconazole and fluconazole did not diminish or eliminate this effect. Consistently female subjects at steady state increased the C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ of ethinyl estradiol by an average of 36% (90% CI: 28%, 45%) and 61% (90% CI: 50%, 72%), respectively, when co-administered with oral voriconazole (5 mg QD for 10 days). The last dose of fluconazole *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*.

AUC$_{\tau}$ increased by an average of 14% (90% CI: 3%, 27%) and 46% (90% CI: 32%, 61%), respectively. Monitoring for adverse events related to oral contraceptives, in addition to those for voriconazole, is recommended during coadministration *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*.

No significant pharmacokinetic interaction was seen and no dosage adjustment of these drugs is recommended:

Indinavir (CYP3A4 inhibitor and substrate)–Repeat dose administration of indinavir (800 mg TID for 10 days) had no significant effect on voriconazole C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ following repeat dose administration (400 mg every 12 hours for 17 days) in healthy subjects.

Repeat dose administration of voriconazole (200 mg every 12 hours for 7 days) did not have a significant effect on steady state C$_{max}$ and AUC$_{\tau}$ of indinavir following repeat dose administration (800 mg TID for 7 days) in healthy subjects.

Other Two-Way Interactions Expected to be Significant Based on *In vitro* and *In Vivo* Findings:

Other HIV Protease Inhibitors (CYP3A4 substrates and inhibitors)–*In vitro* studies (human liver microsomes) suggest that voriconazole may inhibit the metabolism of other HIV protease inhibitors. In these studies (human liver microsomes), amprenavir and nelfinavir were shown to demonstrate the most potential of voriconazole may be inhibited by HIV protease inhibitors (e.g., saquinavir and amprenavir). Patients should be frequently monitored for drug toxicity during coadministration with voriconazole and HIV protease inhibitors *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*.

Other Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NNRTIs) (CYP3A4 substrates, inhibitors or CYP450 inducers)–*In vitro* studies (human liver microsomes) show that the metabolism of voriconazole may be inhibited by a NNRTI (e.g., delavirdine). The findings of a clinical voriconazole-efavirenz drug interaction, described in the following section, suggest that the metabolism of voriconazole may also be induced by a NNRTI. Therefore, concomitant voriconazole may inhibit the metabolism of a NNRTI *[see Drug Interactions (7) and Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]*. Patients should be frequently monitored for drug toxicity during coadministration of voriconazole and other NNRTIs (e.g., nevirapine and delavirdine) *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*. Dose adjustments are required when voriconazole is co-administered with efavirenz *[see Drug Interactions (7) and Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]*.

12.4 Microbiology

Mechanism of Action

Voriconazole is an azole antifungal drug. The primary mode of action of voriconazole is the inhibition of fungal cytochrome P-450- mediated 14 alpha-lanosterol demethylation, an essential step in fungal ergosterol biosynthesis. The inability to demethylate at the alpha-methyl sterols correlates with the subsequent loss of ergosterol in the fungal cell wall and may be responsible for the antifungal activity of voriconazole.

Resistance

A potential for development of resistance to voriconazole is well known. The mechanisms of resistance may include mutations in the gene ERG11 (encodes for the target enzyme, lanosterol 14-α-demethylase), upregulation of genes encoding the ATP-binding cassette efflux transporters i.e., Candida drug resistance (CDR) pumps and reduced access of the drug to the target, or some combination of those mechanisms. The frequency of drug resistance development for fungi typically ranges from 10^{-3} to 10^{-6}.

Fungal isolates exhibiting reduced susceptibility to fluconazole or itraconazole may also show reduced susceptibility to voriconazole, suggesting cross-resistance can occur among these azoles. The relevance of cross-resistance and clinical outcome has not been fully characterized. *Candida krusei* organisms showed azole cross-resistance and may require alternative antifungal therapy.

Antimicrobial Activity

Voriconazole has been shown to be active against most isolates of the following microorganisms, **both *in vitro* and in clinical infections.**

Aspergillus fumigatus
Aspergillus flavus
Aspergillus nidulans
Aspergillus terreus
Candida albicans
Candida glabrata (in clinical studies, the voriconazole MIC$_{90}$ was 4 µg/mL)*
Candida krusei
Candida parapsilosis
Candida tropicalis
Fusarium spp. including *Fusarium solani*
Scedosporium apiospermum

* In clinical studies, voriconazole MIC$_{90}$ for *C. glabrata* baseline isolates was 4 µg/mL, 13/50 (26%) *C. glabrata* baseline isolates were resistant (MIC ≥4 µg/mL) to voriconazole. However, based on 1094 isolates tested in surveillance studies the MIC$_{90}$ was 1 µg/mL.

The following data are available, **but their clinical significance is unknown.** At least 90 percent of the following fungi exhibit an *in vitro* minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) less than or equal to the susceptible breakpoint for voriconazole against isolates of similar genus or organism group. However, the effectiveness of voriconazole in treating clinical infections due to these fungi has not been established in adequate and well-controlled clinical trials.

Candida lusitaniae
Candida guilliermondii

Susceptibility Testing

For specific information regarding susceptibility test interpretive criteria and associated test methods and quality control standards recognized by FDA for this drug, please see: https://www.fda.gov/STIC.

12.5 Pharmacogenomics

CYP2C19 significantly is involved in the metabolism of voriconazole, exhibits genetic polymorphism. Approximately 15-20% of Asian populations may be expected to be poor metabolizers. For Caucasians and Blacks, the prevalence of poor metabolizers is 3-5%. Studies conducted in Caucasian and Japanese healthy subjects have shown that in poor metabolizers, on average, 4-fold higher voriconazole exposure (AUC$_{\tau}$) may be observed, as compared to extensive metabolizer counterparts. Subjects who are heterozygous extensive metabolizers have, on average, 2-fold higher voriconazole exposure than homozygous extensive metabolizer counterparts *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]*.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Two-year carcinogenicity studies were conducted in rats and mice. Rats were given oral doses of 6, 18 or 50 mg/kg/day voriconazole, or 0.2, 0.6, or 1.6 times the RMD on a mg/m^2 basis. Hepatocellular adenomas were detected in females at 50 mg/kg and hepatocellular carcinomas were found in males at 6 and 50 mg/kg. Mice were given oral doses of 10, 30 or 100 mg/kg voriconazole, or 0.1, 0.4, or 1.4 times the RMD on a mg/m^2 basis. In mice, hepatocellular adenomas were detected in males and females and hepatocellular carcinomas were detected in males at 1.4 times the RMD of voriconazole.

Voriconazole demonstrated genotoxic activity (mostly chromosomal aberrations in rat bone marrow) in human lymphocytes cultures, but was not genotoxic in the Ames assay, CHO HGPRT assay, the mouse micronucleus assay or the *in vivo* DNA repair test (Unscheduled DNA Synthesis assay).

Voriconazole was not carcinogenic in rats at doses up to 2 times the RMD on a mg/m^2 basis. Voriconazole was shown to be effective against the following additional fungal pathogens:

Scedosporium apiospermum - Successful response to voriconazole therapy was seen in 15 of 24 patients (63%). Three of these patients relapsed within 4 weeks, including 1 patient with pulmonary, skin and eye infections, 1 patient with cerebral disease, and 1 patient with skin infection. Ten patients had evidence of cerebral disease and 9 of these had successful response to voriconazole therapy, including 4 patients who received voriconazole as salvage therapy after failure of amphotericin B therapy. Seven patients had evidence of central nervous system disease, including 3 patients who received voriconazole as salvage therapy after failure of amphotericin B therapy. Eight patients had evidence of pulmonary disease and 7 of these had successful response to voriconazole therapy. Seven patients had evidence of osteomyelitis and 5 of these had successful response to voriconazole therapy. Four patients had evidence of endocarditis and 3 of these had successful response to voriconazole therapy. Two patients had evidence of mycetoma and 1 of these had successful response to voriconazole therapy. Two patients had evidence of keratitis and 1 of these had successful response to voriconazole therapy. Two patients had evidence of sinusitis and 1 of these had successful response to voriconazole therapy. One patient had evidence of osteomyelitis and had successful response to voriconazole therapy. One patient had evidence of peritonitis and had successful response to voriconazole therapy. One patient had evidence of pericarditis and had successful response to voriconazole therapy. One patient had evidence of arthritis and had successful response to voriconazole therapy. One patient had evidence of pneumonia and had successful response to voriconazole therapy. One patient had evidence of pneumonia and had successful response to voriconazole therapy. One patient had evidence of pneumonia