RECORD

Lenalidomide approved and 3 more treatments for cancer

New drugs approved by Anvisa extend options to treat different types of cancer. Products are lenalidomide, durvalumab, olaratumab and the netupitanto associated with palonosetron.

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Four new drugs were approved on Tuesday (26/12) by Anvisa. The products are unprecedented in the country and expand the variety for the treatment of different types of cancer.

The new drugs are lenalidomide, durvalumab, olaratumab and the netupitanto associated with palonosetron. The products will reach the market according to the schedule of each manufacturer.

Check out the new treatments for cancer approved by Anvisa, indications and characteristics.

Revlimid® (Lenalidomide)

The drug is indicated in combination with dexamethasone for the treatment of patients with refractory or relapsed multiple myeloma who have received at least one prior treatment. Lenalidomide is also indicated for patients with transfusion-dependent anemia due to myelodysplastic syndrome.

Revlimid was registered as a capsule in the concentrations of 2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg and 25mg. The product will be manufactured by Celgene International, located in Switzerland. The owner of the registration in Brazil is Celgene Brasil Produtos Farmacêuticos Ltda.

Special control

Before registering lenalidomide, Anvisa defined specific rules for its control, since this medicine can cause serious congenital malformation. That is, the use can lead to the birth of malformed babies and also to the death of the newborns. These effects are teratogenic.

Lenalidomide is included in special control (http://portal.anvisa.gov.br/web/guest/noticias?p_p_id=101_INSTANCE_FXrpx9qY7FbU&p_p_col_id=column-2&p_p_col_pos=1&p_p_col_count=2&_101_INSTANCE_FXrpx9qY7FbU_groupId=219201&_101_INSTANCE_FXrpx9qY7FbU_urlTitle=lenalidc e-incluida-em-controle-especial&_101_INSTANCE_FXrpx9qY7FbU_struts_action=%2Fasset_publisher%2Fview_content&_101_INSTANCE_FXrpx9qY7FbU_assetEn

Akynzeo (netupitanto + palonosetron)

The netupitanto + palonosetron was registered under the trade name Akynzeo. This new drug is indicated for the prevention of acute or late nausea and vomiting in patients undergoing chemotherapy.

Nausea and vomiting are common side effects that make it difficult to treat cancer. Among the problems are nutritional deficiency, anxiety and depression, drug dose reduction and even treatment discontinuation. Therefore, the elimination of nausea and vomiting during chemotherapy treatments is fundamental so that the patient has a better chance of cure.

Indication of Akynzeo

Prevention of acute or late nausea and vomiting associated with highly emetogenic antineoplastic chemotherapy based on cisplatin or associated with moderately emetogenic antineoplastic chemotherapy.

The product will be manufactured by the company Helsinn Birex Pharmaceuticals Ltda, located in Damastown, Ireland, and the holder of the registration of the medicine in Brazil is the company Mundipharma Brasil Produtos Médicos e Farmacêuticos LTDA.

Imfinzi (durvalumabe)

Durvalumab has been approved with indication for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma who have had disease progression during or after platinum-based chemotherapy. The product is also indicated for patients who had disease progression within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant therapy with platinum-containing chemotherapy.

Imfinzi was registered with the new biological product by the pharmaceutical laboratory Astrazeneca do Brasil Ltda.

How durvalumab works

O medicamento é um imunoterápico constituído por anticorpo monoclonal humano (mAb) que se liga ao PD-L1 e bloqueia sua interação com o PD-1 nas células T e CD80 nas células imunes. Tal mecanismo antagoniza o efeito inibitório de PD-L1 nas células T humanas primárias, resultando na proliferação restaurada e liberação da interferona gama. A expressão de PD-L1 é uma resposta adaptativa que ajuda os tumores a evitar a detecção e eliminação pelo sistema imunológico, visto que a ligação de PD-L1 ao PD-1 nas células T ativadas libera um sinal inibitório às células T, protegendo assim o tumor da eliminação imunológica. PD-L1 também pode inibir as células T através da ligação ao CD80.

Lartruvo (olaratumabe)

Este também é um produto biológico novo indicado para pacientes com sarcoma de tecido mole avançado, que não podem fazer radioterapia ou passar por cirurgia e que não foram previamente tratados com antraciclínicos.

O produto foi registrado pela Eli Lilly do Brasil Ltda.

Como funciona o olaratumabe

O medicamento é um anticorpo monoclonal que reconhece e liga-se especificamente a uma proteína conhecida como receptor-a do fator de crescimento derivado das plaquetas (PDGFR-a). O PDGFR-a encontra-se em grandes quantidades em algumas células cancerígenas, nas quais estimula o crescimento e divisão das células. Quando olaratumabe se liga ao PDGFR-a, pode impedir o crescimento e a sobrevivência das células cancerígenas.

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