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Recently Approved Generic Drugs

August 2021	September 2021	October 2021
Buprenorphine buccal film (Belbuca®)	Paroxetine oral suspension (Paxil®)	Oxymetazoline cream (Rhofade®)
Ibuprofen and Famotidine tablets (Duexis®)	Eliglustat capsules (Cerdelga®)	Carglumic acid tablets for oral suspension (Carbaglu®)
Glycopyrrolate oral solution (Cuvposa®)	Vortioxetine tablets (Trintellix®)	Lenalidomide capsules (Revlimid®)
Difluprednate ophthalmic emulsion (Durezol®)	Brimonidine topical gel (Mirvaso®)	Everolimus tablets (Zortress®)
Enalapril oral solution (Epaned®)	Zolmitriptan nasal spray (Zomig®)	
Varenicline tablets (Chantix®)		
Sunitinib capsules (Sutent®)		
Tofacitinib ER tablets (Xeljanz® XR)		
Linagliptin and metformin tablets (Jentadueto®)		
Linagliptin tablets (Tradjenta®)		

Kansas Drug Utilization Review NEWSLETTER

Issue: Quarter 4 2021

Welcome to the quarterly edition of the *Kansas Drug Utilization Review Newsletter*, published by Health Information Designs, LLC . This newsletter is part of a continuing effort to keep the Medicaid provider community informed of important changes in the Kansas Medical Assistance Program (KMAP).

2018 FDA Drug Safety Communication on Opioid Cough and Cold Medicines

This update builds on an article published in the Spring 2017 Kansas Drug Utilization Review Newsletter. The previous article outlined the recommendations in the "FDA Drug Safety Communication: FDA restricts use of prescription codeine pain and cough medicines and tramadol pain medicines in children; recommends against use in breastfeeding women," which was issued on April 20, 2017. The FDA has since made additional recommendations, which are reviewed below.

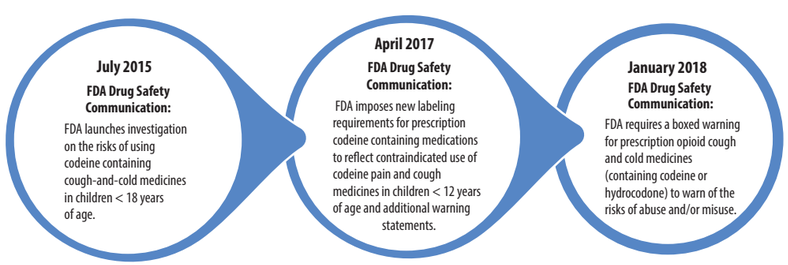
In January 2018, the FDA announced additional labeling requirements for prescription opioid-containing cough and cold medications (CCM). Products formulated with codeine or hydrocodone are limited for use in patients 18 years and older because the risks outweigh the benefits in populations younger than 18 years. In addition, information about the risks of misuse, abuse, addiction, overdose, death and slowed/difficulty breathing must be added to the Boxed Warning on the prescribing information.[1]

The agency's announcement in 2018, builds on a series of related FDA drug safety communications addressing the safety profile and abuse potential of select opioid containing CCM (see Figure 1).

What Can Be Recommended for Cough in Pediatric Patients?

The current CHEST consensus states that there is a lack of efficacy and potential morbidity/mortality when using OTC medications in young children.[4-5] It was also found that preparations containing a combination of an antihistamine and dextromethorphan were associated with adverse events and that using antihistamines alone to relieve

Figure 1: Timeline of Regulatory Activity for Opioid-Containing Cough and Cold Agents[1-3]



Kansas Department of Health and Environment Website Information

KanCare and Medicaid - Pharmacy
www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/

Important Phone Numbers

KMAP PA Phone: 800-933-6593
KMAP PA Fax: 800-913-2229

Aetna PA Pharmacy
Phone: 855-221-5656
Fax: 844-807-8453

Aetna PA Medical
Phone: 855-221-5656
Fax: 855-225-4102

Sunflower PA Pharmacy
Phone: 877-397-9526
Fax: 866-399-0929

Sunflower PA Medical
Phone: 877-644-4623
Fax: 888-453-4756

UHC PA Pharmacy
Phone: 800-310-6826
Fax: 866-940-7328

UHC PA Medical
Phone: 866-604-3267
Fax: 866-946-6474

cough may have little or no effect. In addition, children with chronic cough after acute viral bronchiolitis are not recommended to use asthma medications for cough unless other evidence of asthma is present.[4]

Parents and caregivers are advised that most colds are self-limiting, lasting 1 to 3 weeks, and will improve without medication. However, about 10% of cases the cough will last 20 to 25 days.[4] The FDA has published the following recommendations for non-drug strategies for parents and caregivers when treating cough in infants and children.[6]

- Cool mist humidifier
- Saline nose drops or sprays
- Nasal suctioning
- Acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- Hydration

Children that do require treatment of cough have alternative medications available. Most OTC cough and cold medications are FDA approved for use in children ages 4 and up[6], however, the current CHEST recommendation is that OTC cough and cold medicines should not be prescribed until they have shown to make cough less severe and resolve sooner.[5] Benzonatate is not mentioned in the guideline recommendations for children but is approved to treat cough in patients ages 10 and older.[7]

References

1. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (2018, January 11). Drug Safety Communication: FDA requires labeling changes for prescription opioid cough and cold medicines to limit their use to adults 18 years and older. [Drug Safety Communication].
2. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (2015, July 1). Drug Safety Communication: FDA evaluating the potential risks of using codeine cough-and-cold medicines in children. [Drug Safety Communication].
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4. Chang AB, Oppenheimer JJ, Irwin RS, et al. Managing Chronic Cough as a Symptom in Children and Management Algorithms: CHEST Guideline and Expert Panel Report. CHEST 2020;158(1):303-329.
5. Malesker MA, Callahan-Lyon P, Ireland B, et al. Pharmacologic and Nonpharmacologic Treatment for Acute Cough Associated With the Common Cold. CHEST Expert Panel Report. CHEST 2017;152(5):1021-1037.
6. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Consumer Updates: Should You Give Kids Medicine for Coughs and Colds? [Consumer Updates].
7. Tessalon (benzonatate) [package insert]. Madison, NJ: Pfizer Inc.; December 2015.

Cyltezo® Granted Interchangeable Biosimilar Status

On October 15, 2021, the FDA approved Boehringer Ingelheim's supplemental application to designate Cyltezo® (adalimumab-abdm) as the first interchangeable biosimilar of Humira® (adalimumab).[1] This is only the second product in the United States to be designated as an interchangeable biosimilar by the FDA. The first was Semglee® which was approved in July 2021.

Biosimilar and Generic Drug Market Access

Despite the recent approval, Cyltezo® is not expected to launch and become commercially available in the U.S. until July 1, 2023. This is due to the settlement terms of a patent litigation case between Boehringer Ingelheim and AbbVie, the manufacturer of Humira®.[2-3] Other Humira® biosimilar manufacturers face delayed market entries staggered throughout 2023 for similar reasons.[4-9] See Table 1 for details about current, approved biosimilar products and their anticipated launch dates.

These instances of lag time between an FDA approval and when a drug is launched are not unprecedented. They serve as an important reminder that both are key stages in the drug product lifecycle but are distinct events and are subject to occur on different timelines.

Similar cases of approved drug products with delayed launches have also been observed in the traditional brand/generic drug market. The drug Gilenya® (fingolimod), manufactured by Novartis, is one such case. Multiple generic manufacturers filed abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs) to get approval to market generic fingolimod[10], but their entry into the market has been delayed. Novartis has multiple ongoing litigations that potentially continues their exclusivity until December 2027.[11]

New Molecular Entities and Market Access

Another instance of delayed market entry is Xeglyze® (abametapir), a novel product for the treatment of head lice, which was approved in July 2020.[12] The manufacturer, Dr. Reddy's, purchased the rights to Xeglyze® from Hatchtech, and subsequently received FDA approval. In the company's most recent financial report, Dr. Reddy's has stated that they have not set a launch date because they have determined there was a decrease in market potential.[13]

For more information on interchangeable biologics and biosimilars see the 2021 Q3 edition of the Kansas Drug Utilization Review Newsletter.

Table 1: Humira® biosimilars (approved)[3-9]

Biosimilar Adalimumab	Manufacturer	Strength	Approval Status	Approved Date	Potential Launch Date
Amjevita	Amgen	50mg/ml	Approved	2016	January 31, 2023
Hadlima	Samsung Bioepis	50mg/ml	Approved	2019	June 30, 2023
Cyltezo‡	Boehringer Ingelheim	50mg/ml	Approved	2017	July 1, 2023
Abrilada^	Pfizer	50mg/ml	Approved	2019	November 20, 2023
Hulio	Mylan/Biocon	50mg/ml	Approved	2020	July 31, 2023
Hyrimoz	Sandoz	50mg/ml	Approved	2018	September 30, 2023
Yusimry	Coherus	50mg/ml	Approved	2021	July 1, 2023

‡Interchangeable ^Seeking interchangeability

References

1. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (2021, October 18). FDA Approves Cyltezo, the First Interchangeable Biosimilar to Humira. [Press Release].
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3. AbbVie. (2019, May 14). AbbVie Resolves Humira (adalimumab) U.S. Patent Litigation with Boehringer Ingelheim. [Press Release].
4. AbbVie. (2018, November 30). AbbVie Announces Humira® (adalimumab) Global Patent License with Pfizer. [Press Release].
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9. Coherus. (2021, December 20). Coherus Announces U.S. FDA Approval of YUSIMRY™ (adalimumab-aqvh). [Press Release].
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11. Novartis. (2020, August 17). Novartis announces US District Court for the District of Delaware upholds validity of Gilenya® (fingolimod) dosage regimen patent. [Press Release].
12. Dr. Reddy's. (2020, July 27). Dr. Reddy's Laboratories received approval of XEGLYZE™ (abametapir) lotion, 0.74%, in the U.S. [Press Release].
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