



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

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Committee for medicinal products for human use (CHMP)

Summary of opinion¹ (initial authorisation)

Capecitabine SUN

Capecitabine

On 21 March 2013 the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion, recommending the granting of a marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Capecitabine SUN, 150mg and 500mg film-coated tablets, intended for the treatment of colon, colorectal, gastric and breast cancer. The applicant for this medicinal product is Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Europe B.V.. They may request a re-examination of any CHMP opinion, provided they notify the European Medicines Agency in writing of their intention within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

The active substance of Capecitabine SUN is Capecitabine, an antineoplastic agent and more specifically an antimetabolite/pyrimidine analogue (L01BC06) which is an orally administered precursor of the well-known cytotoxic moiety 5-fluorouracil (5-FU).

Capecitabine SUN is a generic of Xeloda, which has been authorised in the EU since 2 February 2001. Studies have demonstrated the satisfactory quality of Capecitabine SUN, and its bioequivalence with the reference product Xeloda. A question and answer document on generic medicines can be found [here](#).

A pharmacovigilance plan for Capecitabine SUN will be implemented as part of the marketing authorisation.

The approved indication is:

“Capecitabine is indicated for the adjuvant treatment of patients following surgery of stage III (Dukes’ stage C) colon cancer.

Capecitabine is indicated for the treatment of metastatic colorectal cancer.

Capecitabine is indicated for first-line treatment of advanced gastric cancer in combination with a platinum based regimen.

¹ Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the commission decision, which will normally be issued 67 days from adoption of the opinion.



Capecitabine in combination with docetaxel is indicated for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer after failure of cytotoxic chemotherapy. Previous therapy should have included an anthracycline. Capecitabine is also indicated as monotherapy for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer after failure of taxanes and an anthracycline containing chemotherapy regimen or for whom further anthracycline therapy is not indicated.”

It is proposed that Capecitabine SUN be prescribed by physicians experienced in the utilisation of antineoplastic agents.

Detailed recommendations for the use of this product will be described in the summary of product characteristics (SmPC), which will be published in the European public assessment report (EPAR), and will be available in all official European Union languages after the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.

The CHMP, on the basis of quality, safety and efficacy data submitted, considers there to be a favourable benefit to risk balance for Capecitabine SUN and therefore recommends the granting of the marketing authorisation.

Medicinal product no longer authorised