IPAR

Public Assessment Report for a
Medicinal Product for Human Use

Scientific Discussion

Caspofungin 70mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion
Caspofungin
PA1989/001/002

The Public Assessment Report reflects the scientific conclusion reached by the Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) at the end of the evaluation process and provides a summary of the grounds for approval of a marketing authorisation for a specific medicinal product for human use. It is made available by the HPRA for information to the public, after deletion of commercially sensitive information. The legal basis for its creation and availability is contained in Article 21 of Directive 2001/83/EC, as amended. It is a concise document which highlights the main parts of the documentation submitted by the applicant and the scientific evaluation carried out by the HPRA leading to the approval of the medicinal product for marketing in Ireland.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Based on the review of the data on quality, safety and efficacy, the HPRA has granted a marketing authorisation for Caspofungin 50mg & 70 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion from Demo S.A., on 15th June 2016 for:

- Treatment of invasive candidiasis in adult or paediatric patients.
- Treatment of invasive aspergillosis in adult or paediatric patients who are refractory to or intolerant of amphotericin B, lipid formulations of amphotericin B and/or itraconazole. Refractoriness is defined as progression of infection or failure to improve after a minimum of 7 days of prior therapeutic doses of effective antifungal therapy.
- Empirical therapy for presumed fungal infections (such as *Candida* or *Aspergillus*) in febrile, neutropaenic adult or paediatric patients.

The original decentralised procedure was submitted in September 2014 under Article 10 (1) of Directive 2001/83/EC, as amended, claiming essential similarity with the innovator product Cancidas 50 mg and 70 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion (EU/1/01/196/001), with the UK as reference member state (RMS) and Ireland, Germany, Cyprus and Greece as concerned member states (CMS) in the procedure UK/H/5692/001-002/DC. The product has been authorised in Ireland since 15th June 2016.

The RMS was transferred from the UK to Ireland on 23rd July 2019. The current procedure number is IE/H/0697/001-002/DC.

The MAH submitted applications under a mutual recognition repeat use procedure with Ireland as the reference member state an Italy, Spain, Poland, Romania, Check Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Norway and Netherlands as the concerned member states. Procedure IE/H/0697/001/E/001 ended positively on 24th October 2024.

Caspofungin 50mg & 70 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion is subject to prescription only.

The Summary of Product Characteristics for (SmPC) for this medicinal product is available on the HPRA's website at www.hpra.ie

Name of the product	Caspofungin 50mg & 70 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion
Name(s) of the active substance(s) (INN)	Caspofungin
Pharmacotherapeutic classification (ATC code)	
Pharmaceutical form and strength(s)	50mg & 70 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion
Marketing Authorisation Number(s) in Ireland (PA)	PA1989/001/001-002
Marketing Authorisation Holder	Demo S.A
MRP/DCP No.	IE/H/0697/001-002/E/001
Reference Member State	IE
Concerned Member State	CZ DK ES FI HU IT NL NO PL RO SE SK DE, CY, EL

II. QUALITY ASPECTS

II.1. Introduction

This application is for Caspofungin 50mg & 70 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion.

II.2 Drug substance

The active substance is Caspofungin is an established active substance, and is manufactured in accordance with the principles of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)

The active substance specification is considered adequate to control the quality and meets current pharmacopoeial requirements. Batch analytical data demonstrating compliance with this specification has been provided.

II.3 Medicinal product

P.1 Composition

The drug product is Caspofungin Actavis 50 mg Powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion and Caspofungin Actavis 70 mg Powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion.

Each vial of Caspofungin Actavis 50 mg Powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion contains caspofungin acetate equivalent to 50 mg caspofungin.
Each vial of Caspofungin Actavis 70 mg Powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion contains caspofungin acetate equivalent to 70 mg caspofungin.

The excipients in the medicinal product are listed in section 6.1 of the SmPC.
A visual description of the product is included in section 3 of the SmPC.

P.2 Pharmaceutical Development

The product is an established pharmaceutical form and its development is adequately described in accordance with the relevant European guidelines.

P.3 Manufacture of the Product

The product is manufactured in accordance with the principles of good manufacturing practice (GMP) at suitably qualified manufacturing sites.

The manufacturing process has been validated according to relevant European/ICH guidelines and the process is considered to be sufficiently validated.

P.4 Control of Other Substances (Excipients/*Ancillary Substances*)

All ingredients comply with their respective Ph. Eur. monographs.

P.5 Control of Finished Product

The Finished Product Specification is based on the pharmacopoeial monograph for parenteral products, and the tests and control limits are considered appropriate for this type of product.

The analytical methods used are described in sufficient detail and are supported by validation data.

Batch analytical data for a number of batches from the proposed production site(s) have been provided, and demonstrate the ability of the manufacturer to produce batches of finished product of consistent quality.

P.6 Packaging material

The approved packaging for this product is described in section 6.5 of the SmPC.

Evidence has been provided that the packaging complies with Ph. Eur./EU legislation requirements.

P.7 Stability of the Finished Product

Stability data on the finished product in the proposed packaging have been provided in accordance with EU guidelines and support the shelf-life and storage conditions listed in sections 6.3 and 6.4 of the SmPC.

II.4 Discussion on Chemical, Pharmaceutical and Biological Aspects

The important quality characteristics of the product are well-defined and controlled. Satisfactory chemical and pharmaceutical documentation has been provided, assuring consistent quality of Caspofungin Actavis 50 mg & 70 mg Powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion.

III. NON-CLINICAL ASPECTS

III.1 Introduction

The pharmacodynamic, pharmacokinetic and toxicological properties of caspofungin acetate are well known. No new non-clinical data have been submitted for these applications and none are required.

The applicant has provided an overview based on published literature. The non-clinical overview has been written by an appropriately qualified person and is satisfactory, providing an appropriate review of the product's pharmacology and toxicology.

III.2 Pharmacology

No new pharmacology data are required for these applications and none have been submitted.

III.3 Pharmacokinetics

No new pharmacokinetic data are required for these applications and none have been submitted.

III.4 Toxicology

No new toxicology data are required for these applications and none have been submitted.

III.5 Ecotoxicity/environmental risk assessment

As these products are intended for generic substitution of products that are already marketed, no increase in environmental exposure to caspofungin acetate is anticipated. Thus the absence of an ERA is accepted.

III.6 Discussion on the non-clinical aspects

It is recommended that Marketing Authorisations are granted for Caspofungin Actavis 50 mg & 70 mg Powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion.

IV. CLINICAL ASPECTS

IV.1 Introduction

No new efficacy or safety studies have been performed and none are required for this type of application. A comprehensive review of the published literature has been provided by the applicant, citing the well-established clinical pharmacology, efficacy and safety of caspofungin acetate. The applicant's clinical overview has been written by an appropriately qualified person and is considered acceptable.

IV.2 Pharmacokinetics

A bioequivalence study was not submitted as the products meet the criteria regarding parenteral solutions specified in the Notes for Guidance on the Investigation of Bioavailability and Bioequivalence (CPMP/EWP/QWP/1401/98 Rev. 1/ Corr **). The test products are aqueous solutions at the time of administration and contain an active substance in the same concentration as the reference products.

IV.3 Pharmacodynamics

No new pharmacodynamic data were submitted and none are required for applications of this type.

IV.4 Clinical Efficacy

No new data on efficacy have been submitted and none are required for applications of this type.

IV.5 Clinical Safety

No new data on safety have been submitted and none are required for applications of this type.

IV.6 Discussion on the clinical aspects

It is recommended that Marketing Authorisations are granted for Caspofungin Actavis 50 mg & 70 mg Powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion.

V. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

The quality of the products is acceptable, and no new non-clinical or clinical safety concerns have been identified. The data supplied support the claim that the applicant's products and the reference products are interchangeable. Extensive clinical experience with caspofungin acetate is considered to have demonstrated the therapeutic value of the compound. The benefit-risk assessment is therefore considered to be positive.