Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Inc. to Present Data on Aptiom® (eslicarbazepine acetate) at 67th American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting

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Phase 3 data evaluate use of APTIOM as a potential monotherapy treatment for partial-onset seizures

MARLBOROUGH, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Sunovion) will present five research posters at the 67th American Academy of Neurology (AAN) Annual Meeting (April 18-22, Washington, D.C.) by adding findings from two pooled Phase 3 studies (Studies 093-045 and 093-046) evaluating the safety and efficacy of APTIOM® (eslicarbazepine acetate) as a potential monotherapy treatment of partial-onset seizures. Sunovion’s supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) for the use of APTIOM as a monotherapy for partial-onset seizures is currently under review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

"Epilepsy is a significant medical illness. It affects approximately two million people in the U.S., and there is a clear unmet medical need for effective treatments," said Fred Grossman, D.O., FAPA, Head, Global Clinical Development and Medical Affairs at Sunovion. "Data from our monotherapy clinical trials build upon the established efficacy and safety of APTIOM adjunctive treatment and may provide a potential new option for patients with epilepsy who could benefit from monotherapy."

APTIOM is approved for use as adjunctive treatment of partial-onset seizures. APTIOM was launched in the United States on April 7, 2014. APTIOM is not approved for use as monotherapy for partial-onset seizures.

APTIOM Poster Presentations

Poster 1,250 – Eslicarbazepine Acetate (ESL) Monotherapy in Adults with Partial-Onset Seizures (POS): an Analysis of Pooled Data from Two Phase 2 Studies, with Use of a Historical Control
Authors: Ladislav Pavez, Jacqueline French, Michael Sperling, Mercedes Jacobson, Halong Cheng, David Blum

An analysis of two pooled Phase 3 clinical trials evaluating eslicarbazepine acetate as monotherapy showed that exit rates for eslicarbazepine acetate as monotherapy (1,600 mg/day) were superior to a historical control. The two identically designed Phase 3 trials investigated conversion from additive therapy (1-3 concomitant antiepileptic drugs [AEDs]) to monotherapy with eslicarbazepine acetate. The primary endpoint for both studies was the proportion of patients meeting pre-defined exit criteria (signifying worsening seizure control) compared to a historical control. Treatment was considered effective if the upper limit of the 95% confidence interval (CI) for the exit rate was lower than a prespecified threshold based on historical controls. The pooled estimated exit rates for eslicarbazepine acetate 20.6% (95% CI: 15.6-26.8%) for the 1,600 mg/day dose and 30.8% (95% CI: 23.0-45.9%) for the 1,200 mg/day dose, lower than historical thresholds of 63.3% (for a single study) and 72.2% (for two independent studies). Eslicarbazepine acetate was also well-tolerated as monotherapy, with only headache occurring in ≥5% of both dose groups. Data from these trials, including Study 093-045, the first AED trial of its kind conducted in an exclusively North American population, was included in Sunovion’s sNDA submission for APTIOM as monotherapy treatment.

Poster 1,233 – Abuse Potential of Antiepileptic Drugs: a Review Using the VigiBase™ Pharmacovigilance Database
Authors: Barry Gidal, David Blum

Findings from a review of VigiBase™, a searchable World Health Organization (WHO) Global Individual Case Safety Report database, showed that potentially abuse-related adverse events (AEs) were reported more frequently for lacosamide and pregabalin than for eslicarbazepine acetate, oxcarbazepine or carbamazepine. The review identified incidence rates per 100 patient-years for potentially abuse-related AEs including euphoric mood, hallucinosis, drug dependence, drug abuse and withdrawal. APTIOM is not classified as a controlled substance by the FDA.

Poster 1,234 – Changes in Quality of Life (QoL) and Depressive Symptoms in a Long-term Open-label Extension (OLE) of Eslicarbazepine Acetate (ESL) Monotherapy Studies in Adults with Refractory Partial-Onset Seizures (POS)
Authors: Frank Gilham, Halong Cheng, David Blum

Findings from an analysis of three pooled Phase 3 studies (Studies 301, 302 and 304) showed that the incidence of falls, fractures and injuries was low (<10%). The overall incidence of falls, fractures and injuries was similar for the eslicarbazepine acetate 400 mg, 800 mg and 1,200 mg/day groups (5.1%, 9.4% and 5.1%) and for the placebo group (6.1%) and the placebo group (6.1%) and the incidence did not increase with eslicarbazepine acetate dose. Falls, confusions and head injuries were reported most frequently (≥2%) in this category of treatment-emergent AEs.

Authors: Soujanya Sunkanam, Luanh Phan, Valshali Chudasama, Elisabeth Ludwig, David Blum, J.R. Redley-Kelly

Findings from two pooled Phase 3 studies (Studies 093-045 and 093-046) evaluating eslicarbazepine acetate as monotherapy showed that exit rates for eslicarbazepine acetate as monotherapy (1,600 mg/day) were superior to a historical control. The two identically designed Phase 3 trials investigated conversion from additive therapy (1-3 concomitant antiepileptic drugs [AEDs]) to monotherapy with eslicarbazepine acetate. The primary endpoint for both studies was the proportion of patients meeting pre-defined exit criteria (signifying worsening seizure control) compared to a historical control. Treatment was considered effective if the upper limit of the 95% confidence interval (CI) for the exit rate was lower than a prespecified threshold based on historical controls. The pooled estimated exit rates for eslicarbazepine acetate 20.6% (95% CI: 15.6-26.8%) for the 1,600 mg/day dose and 30.8% (95% CI: 23.0-45.9%) for the 1,200 mg/day dose, lower than historical thresholds of 63.3% (for a single study) and 72.2% (for two independent studies). Eslicarbazepine acetate was also well-tolerated as monotherapy, with only headache occurring in ≥5% of both dose groups. Data from these trials, including Study 093-045, the first AED trial of its kind conducted in an exclusively North American population, was included in Sunovion’s sNDA submission for APTIOM as monotherapy treatment.

About Partial-Onset Seizures

Epilepsy is characterized by abnormal firing of impulses from nerve cells in the brain.3 In partial-onset seizures, these busts of electrical activity are initially focused in specific areas of the brain, but may become more widespread, with symptoms varying according to the affected areas.2,3 The unpredictable nature of seizures can have a significant impact on those with epilepsy, affecting a number of areas in daily living, including education, employment, driving and recreation. Reducing the frequency of seizures can greatly lessen the burden of epilepsy.4 With approximately one-third of people living with epilepsy still unable to control seizures, there continues to be a need for new therapies.5

About Aptom® (eslicarbazepine acetate)
APTIOm, a voltage-gated sodium channel inhibitor, is a prescription medicine approved for use as adjunctive treatment of partial-onset seizures, and is available in four tablet strengths (200 mg, 400 mg, 600 mg, and 800 mg), which can be taken whole or crushed, with or without food. APTIOM is not classified as a controlled substance by the FDA.

The initial research and development of eslicarbazepine acetate was performed by BIAL-Portela & Ca, S.A. (BIAL), a privately held Portuguese pharmaceutical company. Subsequently, Sunovion acquired the rights under an exclusive license to further develop and commercialize eslicarbazepine acetate in the United States and Canadian markets from BIAL. BIAL gained approval for eslicarbazepine acetate from the European Commission on April 21, 2009 as adjunctive therapy in adult patients with partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalization.

Please see Important Safety Information below.

INDICATION:
APTOM® (eslicarbazepine acetate) is a prescription medicine used with other medicines to treat partial-onset seizures.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

Do not take APTIOM if you are allergic to eslicarbazepine acetate, any of the other ingredients in APTIOM, or oxcarbazepine.

Suicidal behavior and ideation: APTIOM may cause suicidal thoughts or actions, depression, or mood problems. Call your doctor right away if you experience these or any other effects or reactions: thoughts about suicide or dying; attempting to commit suicide; new or worse depression, anxiety, or irritability; feeling agitated or restless; panic attacks; trouble sleeping (insomnia); acting aggressive, being angry or violent; acting on dangerous impulses; an extreme increase in activity and talking (mania); or other unusual changes in behavior or mood.

Allergic reactions: APTIOM may cause serious skin rash or other serious allergic reactions that may affect organs or other parts of your body like the liver or blood cells. You may or may not have a rash with these types of reactions. Call your doctor right away if you experience any of the following symptoms: swelling of the face, eyes, lips, or tongue; trouble swallowing or breathing; hives; fever, swollen glands, or sore throat that do not go away or come and go; painful sores in the mouth or around your eyes; yellowing of the skin or eyes; unusual bruising or bleeding; severe fatigue or weakness; severe muscle pain; or frequent infections or infections that do not go away.

Low salt (sodium) levels in the blood: APTIOM may cause the level of sodium in your blood to be low. Symptoms may include nausea, tiredness, lack of energy, irritability, confusion, muscle weakness or muscle spasms, or more frequent or more severe seizures.

Nervous system problems: APTIOM may cause problems that can affect your nervous system, including dizziness, sleepiness, vision problems, trouble concentrating, and difficulties with coordination and balance. APTIOM may slow your thinking or motor skills. Do not drive or operate heavy machinery until you know how APTIOM affects you.

Liver problems: APTIOM may cause problems that can affect your liver. Symptoms of liver problems include yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes, nausea or vomiting, loss of
About Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Sunovion)
Sunovion is a leading pharmaceutical company dedicated to discovering, developing and commercializing therapeutic products that advance the science of medicine in the Psychiatry, Neurology and Respiratory disease areas to improve the lives of patients and their families.


About Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma Co., Ltd.
Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma is a top-ten listed pharmaceutical company in Japan. Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma aims to produce innovative pharmaceutical products in the Psychiatry & Neurology area and the Oncology area, which have been designated as the focus therapeutic areas. Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma is based on the merger in 2005 between Dainippon Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. and Sumitomo Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd. Today, Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma has about 7,000 employees worldwide. Additional information about Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma is available through its corporate website at www.ds-pharma.com.

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References


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