

Valby, 21 December 2018

European launch of Rexulti® (brexpiprazole) commences in Switzerland

The launch in Switzerland is the first introduction of Rexulti®/Rxulti® (brexpiprazole) to European patients.

H. Lundbeck A/S (Lundbeck) is launching Rexulti® (brexpiprazole) for the treatment of adult patients with schizophrenia in Switzerland from 1 January 2019. The launch is the first in a sequence that will see the treatment made available in other European countries during 2019 and 2020.

“We are delighted to be able to offer patients in Europe a new treatment of schizophrenia, which is a disease with big unmet medical needs. Introducing brexpiprazole in Switzerland is the first step in introducing brexpiprazole to other European countries and more countries globally,” says Jacob Tolstrup, Executive Vice President, Commercial Operations, Lundbeck.

In Switzerland brexpiprazole will be branded as Rexulti, while it will be branded as Rxulti® in countries within the European Union.

Currently brexpiprazole is approved and on the market in the United States, Australia, Canada, Saudi Arabia, and Japan.

About Rxulti/Rexulti (brexpiprazole)

Brexpiprazole was discovered by Otsuka and is being co-developed by Otsuka and Lundbeck. The mechanism of action for brexpiprazole is not fully understood. However, the efficacy of brexpiprazole may be mediated through a combination of partial agonist activity at serotonin 5-HT_{1A} and dopamine D2 receptors, and antagonist activity at serotonin 5-HT_{2A} receptors. Brexpiprazole exhibits high affinity (sub-nanomolar) for these receptors as well as for noradrenaline alpha1B/2C receptors.

About schizophrenia

Schizophrenia is caused by an imbalance in the neurotransmitters facilitating the communication between neurons in the brain, leading to the perception (seeing, hearing, thinking) of things that are not real. The factors that create this imbalance are not fully understood.

Schizophrenia is a common form of severe mental illness that carries a notable ‘stigma’ and is often misunderstood. People with schizophrenia experience disturbed thoughts, emotions and behavior, and they find it difficult to judge reality.¹ This can have a major impact on the life of the individual and his/her family.

The World Health Organization estimates that over 21 million people suffer from schizophrenia, making it one of the top 20 causes of disability worldwide.ⁱⁱ Schizophrenia affects people regardless of race, culture and social class. It typically starts in early adulthood (from age 20)ⁱⁱⁱ but it can develop at any age. Schizophrenia affects both men and women, although men tend to develop the condition slightly earlier in life.^{iv}

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About Lundbeck

H. Lundbeck A/S (LUN.CO, LUN DC, HLUYY) is a global pharmaceutical company specialized in psychiatric and neurological disorders. For more than 70 years, we have been at the forefront of research within neuroscience. Our key areas of focus are depression, schizophrenia, Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease.

An estimated 700 million people worldwide are living with psychiatric and neurological disorders and far too many suffer due to inadequate treatment, discrimination, a reduced number of working days, early retirement and other unnecessary consequences. Every day, we strive for improved treatment and a better life for people living with psychiatric and neurological disorders – we call this Progress in Mind.

Read more at www.lundbeck.com/global/about-us/progress-in-mind.

Our approximately 5,000 employees in more than 50 countries are engaged in the entire value chain throughout research, development, production, marketing and sales. Our pipeline consists of several late-stage development programmes and our products are available in more than 100 countries. Our research centre is based in Denmark and our production facilities are located in Denmark, France and Italy. Lundbeck generated revenue of DKK 17.2 billion in 2017 (EUR 2.3 billion; USD 2.6 billion).

For additional information, we encourage you to visit our corporate site www.lundbeck.com and connect with us on Twitter at @Lundbeck.

ⁱ American Psychiatric Association. Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, 5th edition (DSM-5). Washington, D.C.: American Psychiatric Association; 2013.

ⁱⁱ World Health Organization. Schizophrenia fact sheet, 2016. Available at <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs397/en/>. Accessed May 2018.

ⁱⁱⁱ Tsuang MT, Faraone SV. Schizophrenia. Second edition. Oxford University Press Inc., New York: 2005.

^{iv} Ochoa S, Usall J, Cobo J, Labad X, Kulkarni J. Gender differences in schizophrenia and first-episode psychosis: a comprehensive literature review. Schizophr Res Treatment. 2012;2012:916198.