

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all of the information needed to use EVEROLIMUS TABLETS safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for EVEROLIMUS TABLETS.

EVEROLIMUS tablets, for oral use

Initial U.S. Approval: 2009

WARNING: MALIGNANCIES AND SERIOUS INFECTIONS, KIDNEY GRAFT THROMBOSIS, NEPHROTOXICITY, AND MORTALITY IN HEART TRANSPLANTATION

See Full Prescribing Information for Complete Blood Warning.

- Only physicians experienced in immunosuppressive therapy and management of transplant patients should use everolimus. (5.1)
- Increased susceptibility to infection and the possible development of malignancies may result from immunosuppression. (5.2, 5.3)
- Increased incidence of kidney graft thrombosis. (5.4)
- Reduced doses of cyclosporine are required for use in combination with everolimus in order to reduce nephrotoxicity. (2.4, 2.5, 5.6, 12.7, 12.8)
- Increased mortality in a heart transplant clinical trial. Use in heart transplantation is not recommended. (5.7)

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

- Everolimus is a mTOR inhibitor immunosuppressant indicated for the prophylaxis of organ rejection in adult patients.
- Kidney Transplant: at low-moderate immunologic risk. Use in combination with basiliximab, cyclosporine (reduced doses) and corticosteroids. (1,1)
- Liver Transplant: Administer no earlier than 30 days post-transplant. Use in combination with tacrolimus (reduced doses) and corticosteroids. (1,2, 5.5)

Limitations of Use (1.3)

Safety and efficacy has not been established in the following:

- Kidney transplant patients at high immunologic risk. (1.3)
- Recipients of transplanted organs other than kidney or liver. (1.3, 5.7)
- Pediatric patients (less than18 years). (1.3)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Kidney Transplantation: starting oral dose of 0.75 mg twice daily as soon as possible after transplantation. (2,1)
- Liver Transplantation: starting oral dose of 1 mg twice daily starting 30 days after transplantation. (2,2)
- Monitor everolimus Concentrations: Adjust maintenance dose to achieve trough concentrations within the 3-8 ng/mL target range using LC/MS/MS assay method. (2,1, 2.2, 2.3)
- Administer consistently with or without food the same time daily with cyclosporine or tacrolimus. (2.6, 12.3)
- Mild hepatic impairment: Reduce initial dose by one-third (2.7, 12.8)
- Moderate or Severe Hepatic Impairment: Reduce initial dose by one-half. (2.7, 12.6)

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Everolimus tablets are available as 0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 0.75 mg and 1 mg tablets. (3)

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WARNING: MALIGNANCIES AND SERIOUS INFECTIONS, KIDNEY GRAFT THROMBOSIS, NEPHROTOXICITY, AND MORTALITY IN HEART TRANSPLANTATION

Only physicians experienced in immunosuppressive therapy and management of transplant patients should prescribe Everolimus Tablets. Patients receiving the drug should be managed in facilities equipped and staffed with adequate laboratory and supportive medical resources. The physician responsible for maintenance therapy should have complete information regarding the following for the patient. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.1))

- Increased susceptibility to infection and the possible development of malignancies such as lymphoma and skin cancer may result from immunosuppression. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.2 and 5.3))

Kidney Graft Thrombosis

An increased risk of kidney arterial and venous thrombosis, resulting in graft loss, was reported, mostly within the first 30 days post-transplantation. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.4))

Nephrotoxicity

Increased nephrotoxicity can occur with use of standard doses of cyclosporine in combination with Everolimus. Therefore reduced doses of cyclosporine should be used in combination with Everolimus in order to reduce renal dysfunction. It is important to monitor the cyclosporine and everolimus whole blood trough concentrations. (See Dosage and Administration (2.4, 2.5), Warnings and Precautions (5.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.7, 12.8))

Mortality in Heart Transplantation

Increased mortality was observed with serious infections, within the first three months post-transplantation was observed in a clinical trial of de novo heart transplant patients receiving immunosuppressive regimens with or without induction therapy. Use in heart transplantation is not recommended. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.7))

1. INDICATIONS AND USAGE

1.1 Prophylaxis of Organ Rejection in Kidney Transplantation
Everolimus tablets are indicated for the prophylaxis of organ rejection in adult patients at low-moderate immunologic risk receiving a kidney transplant. (See Clinical Studies (14.1)) Everolimus is to be administered in combination with basiliximab and cyclosporine with reduced doses of cyclosporine and with corticosteroids. Therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) of everolimus and cyclosporine is recommended for all patients receiving these products. (See Dosage and Administration (2.2, 2.3))

1.2 Prophylaxis of Organ Rejection in Liver Transplantation
Everolimus is indicated for the prophylaxis of allograft rejection in adult patients receiving a liver transplant. Everolimus is to be administered no earlier than 30 days post-transplant in combination with reduced doses of tacrolimus and with corticosteroids (See Warnings and Precautions (5.5)) and Clinical Studies (14.2)). TDM of everolimus and tacrolimus is recommended for all patients receiving these products. (See Dosage and Administration (2.3, 2.5))

1.3 Limitations of Use

The safety and efficacy of everolimus has not been established in the following populations:

- Kidney transplant patients at high immunologic risk. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.7))
- Recipients of transplanted organs other than kidney and liver. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.7))
- Pediatric patients (less than 18 years).

2. DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Patients receiving everolimus may require dose adjustments based on everolimus blood concentrations achieved, tolerability, individual responses, change in concomitant medications and the clinical situation. Optimally, dose adjustments of everolimus should be based on trough concentrations obtained 1-5 days after a previous dosing change. Dose adjustment is required if the trough concentration is below 3 ng/mL. The total daily dose of everolimus should be doubled using the available tablet strengths (0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 0.75 mg and 1 mg). Dose adjustment is also required if the trough concentration is greater than 8 ng/mL on 2 consecutive measures or if the everolimus dose is decreased by 0.25 mg twice daily (See Dosage and Administration (2.3)). Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)

2.1 Dosage in Adult Kidney Transplant Patients

An initial everolimus dose of 0.75 mg orally twice daily (1.5 mg per day) is recommended for adult kidney transplant patients in combination with reduced dose cyclosporine, administered as soon as possible after transplantation. (See Dosage and Administration (2.3, 2.4), Clinical Studies (14.1, 14.2))

Oral prednisone should be initiated once oral medication is tolerated. Steroid doses may be further tapered on an individualized basis depending on the clinical status of patient and function of graft.

2.2 Dosage in Adult Liver Transplant Patients
Start everolimus at least 30 days post-transplant. An initial dose of 1 mg orally twice daily (2 mg per day) is recommended for adult liver transplant patients in combination with reduced dose tacrolimus. (See Dosage and Administration (2.3, 2.5), Clinical Studies (14.2))

Steroid doses may be further tapered on an individualized basis depending on the clinical status of patient and function of graft.

2.3 Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) – Everolimus
Routine everolimus whole blood therapeutic drug concentration monitoring is recommended for all patients. The recommended everolimus therapeutic range is 3 to 8 ng/mL. (See Clinical Pharmacology (12.7)). Caution attention should be made to clinical signs and symptoms, tissue biopsies, and laboratory parameters. It is important to monitor everolimus blood concentrations, in patients with hepatic impairment, during concomitant administration of CYP3A4 inducers or inhibitors, when switching cyclosporine formulations and/or when cyclosporine dosing is reduced according to recommended target concentrations (See Clinical Pharmacology (12.7, 12.8)).

There is an interaction of cyclosporine on everolimus, and consequently, everolimus concentrations may decrease if cyclosporine exposure is reduced. There is little to no pharmacokinetic interaction of tacrolimus on everolimus, and thus, everolimus concentrations do not decrease if the tacrolimus exposure is reduced. (See Drug Interactions (7.2))

The everolimus recommended therapeutic range of 3 to 8 ng/mL is based on an LC/MS/MS assay method. Currently in clinical practice, everolimus whole blood trough concentrations may be measured by chromatographic or immunoassay methodologies. Because the measured everolimus whole blood trough concentrations depend on the assay used, individual patient sample concentration values from different assays may not be comparable. Consideration should be made when making knowledge of the specific assay used. Therefore, communication should be maintained with the laboratory performing the assay.

2.4 Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) – Cyclosporine in Kidney Transplant Patients
Both cyclosporine doses and the target range for whole blood trough concentrations should be reduced, when given in a regimen with everolimus, in order to minimize the risk of nephrotoxicity (See Warnings and Precautions (5.6), Drug Interactions (7.2), Clinical Pharmacology (12.8)).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Hypersensitivity to everolimus, sirolimus, or to components of the drug product. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Angioedema [increased risk with concomitant angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors]: Monitor for symptoms and treat promptly. (5.8)
- Delayed Wound Healing/Fluid Accumulation: Monitor symptoms; treat promptly to minimize complications. (5.9)
- Intestinal Lung Disease/Non-Infectious Pneumonitis: Monitor for symptoms or radiologic changes; manage by dose reduction or discontinuation until symptoms resolve; consider use of corticosteroids. (5.10)
- Hyperlipidemia (elevations of serum cholesterol and triglycerides): Monitor and consider anti-lipid therapy. (5.11)
- Proteinuria (increased risk with higher trough concentrations): Monitor urine protein. (5.12)
- Polymya Virus Infections (activation of latent viral infections: BK-virus associated nephropathy): Consider reducing immunosuppression. (5.13)
- TMA/TTP/HUS (concomitant use with cyclosporine may increase risk): Monitor for hematological changes or renal dysfunction. (5.14)
- New Onset Diabetes After Transplantation: Monitor serum glucose. (5.16)
- Male Infertility: Azoospermia or oligospermia may occur. (5.18, 13.1)
- Immunizations: Avoid live vaccines. (5.19)
- Embryo-Fetal Toxicity: Advise females of reproductive potential of the potential risk to a fetus and to use effective contraception during treatment with everolimus and for 8 weeks after final dose (5.17, 6.1, 8.3)

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Safety and efficacy has not been established in the following:

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Kidney Graft Thrombosis
An increased risk of kidney arterial and venous thrombosis, resulting in graft loss, was reported, mostly within the first 30 days post-transplantation. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.4))

Nephrotoxicity
Increased nephrotoxicity can occur with use of standard doses of cyclosporine in combination with Everolimus. Therefore reduced doses of cyclosporine should be used in combination with Everolimus in order to reduce renal dysfunction. It is important to monitor the cyclosporine and everolimus whole blood trough concentrations. (See Dosage and Administration (2.4, 2.5), Warnings and Precautions (5.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.7, 12.8))

Mortality in Heart Transplantation
Increased mortality was observed with serious infections, within the first three months post-transplantation was observed in a clinical trial of de novo heart transplant patients receiving immunosuppressive regimens with or without induction therapy. Use in heart transplantation is not recommended. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.7))

1.1 Prophylaxis of Organ Rejection in Kidney Transplantation
Everolimus tablets are indicated for the prophylaxis of organ rejection in adult patients at low-moderate immunologic risk receiving a kidney transplant. (See Clinical Studies (14.1)) Everolimus is to be administered in combination with basiliximab and cyclosporine with reduced doses of cyclosporine and with corticosteroids. Therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) of everolimus and cyclosporine is recommended for all patients receiving these products. (See Dosage and Administration (2.2, 2.3))

1.2 Prophylaxis of Organ Rejection in Liver Transplantation
Everolimus is indicated for the prophylaxis of allograft rejection in adult patients receiving a liver transplant. Everolimus is to be administered no earlier than 30 days post-transplant in combination with reduced doses of tacrolimus and with corticosteroids (See Warnings and Precautions (5.5)) and Clinical Studies (14.2)). TDM of everolimus and tacrolimus is recommended for all patients receiving these products. (See Dosage and Administration (2.3, 2.5))

1.3 Limitations of Use
The safety and efficacy of everolimus has not been established in the following populations:

- Kidney transplant patients at high immunologic risk. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.7))
- Recipients of transplanted organs other than kidney and liver. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.7))
- Pediatric patients (less than 18 years).

2. DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
Patients receiving everolimus may require dose adjustments based on everolimus blood concentrations achieved, tolerability, individual responses, change in concomitant medications and the clinical situation. Optimally, dose adjustments of everolimus should be based on trough concentrations obtained 1-5 days after a previous dosing change. Dose adjustment is required if the trough concentration is below 3 ng/mL. The total daily dose of everolimus should be doubled using the available tablet strengths (0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 0.75 mg and 1 mg). Dose adjustment is also required if the trough concentration is greater than 8 ng/mL on 2 consecutive measures or if the everolimus dose is decreased by 0.25 mg twice daily (See Dosage and Administration (2.3)). Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)

2.1 Dosage in Adult Kidney Transplant Patients
An initial everolimus dose of 0.75 mg orally twice daily (1.5 mg per day) is recommended for adult kidney transplant patients in combination with reduced dose cyclosporine, administered as soon as possible after transplantation. (See Dosage and Administration (2.3, 2.4), Clinical Studies (14.1, 14.2))

Oral prednisone should be initiated once oral medication is tolerated. Steroid doses may be further tapered on an individualized basis depending on the clinical status of patient and function of graft.

2.2 Dosage in Adult Liver Transplant Patients
Start everolimus at least 30 days post-transplant. An initial dose of 1 mg orally twice daily (2 mg per day) is recommended for adult liver transplant patients in combination with reduced dose tacrolimus. (See Dosage and Administration (2.3, 2.5), Clinical Studies (14.2))

Steroid doses may be further tapered on an individualized basis depending on the clinical status of patient and function of graft.

2.3 Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) – Everolimus
Routine everolimus whole blood therapeutic drug concentration monitoring is recommended for all patients. The recommended everolimus therapeutic range is 3 to 8 ng/mL. (See Clinical Pharmacology (12.7)). Caution attention should be made to clinical signs and symptoms, tissue biopsies, and laboratory parameters. It is important to monitor everolimus blood concentrations, in patients with hepatic impairment, during concomitant administration of CYP3A4 inducers or inhibitors, when switching cyclosporine formulations and/or when cyclosporine dosing is reduced according to recommended target concentrations (See Clinical Pharmacology (12.7, 12.8)).

There is an interaction of cyclosporine on everolimus, and consequently, everolimus concentrations may decrease if cyclosporine exposure is reduced. There is little to no pharmacokinetic interaction of tacrolimus on everolimus, and thus, everolimus concentrations do not decrease if the tacrolimus exposure is reduced. (See Drug Interactions (7.2))

The everolimus recommended therapeutic range of 3 to 8 ng/mL is based on an LC/MS/MS assay method. Currently in clinical practice, everolimus whole blood trough concentrations may be measured by chromatographic or immunoassay methodologies. Because the measured everolimus whole blood trough concentrations depend on the assay used, individual patient sample concentration values from different assays may not be comparable. Consideration should be made when making knowledge of the specific assay used. Therefore, communication should be maintained with the laboratory performing the assay.

2.4 Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) – Cyclosporine in Kidney Transplant Patients
Both cyclosporine doses and the target range for whole blood trough concentrations should be reduced, when given in a regimen with everolimus, in order to minimize the risk of nephrotoxicity (See Warnings and Precautions (5.6), Drug Interactions (7.2), Clinical Pharmacology (12.8)).

Antimicrobial agents: Pneumocystis jirovecii (carini) pneumonia and prophylaxis for cytomegalovirus (CMV) is recommended in transplant recipients.

5.5 Hepatic Artery Thrombosis

An increased risk of kidney arterial and venous thrombosis, resulting in graft loss, has been reported, usually within the first 30 days post-transplantation (See Blood Warning).

5.5 Hepatic Artery Thrombosis
mTOR inhibitors are associated with an increase in hepatic artery thrombosis (HAT). Reported cases mostly have occurred within the first 30 days post-transplant and most also lead to graft loss or death. Therefore, everolimus should not be administered earlier than 30 days after liver transplant.

5.6 Everolimus and Calcineurin Inhibitor-Induced Nephrotoxicity
In kidney transplant recipients, Everolimus with standard dose cyclosporine increases the risk of nephrotoxicity resulting in a lower glomerular filtration rate. Reduced doses of cyclosporine are required for use in combination with everolimus in order to reduce renal dysfunction (See Blood Warning, Indications and Usage (1.1), Clinical Pharmacology (12.8)).

In liver transplant recipients, everolimus has not been studied with standard dose tacrolimus. Reduced doses of tacrolimus should be used in combination with everolimus in order to minimize the potential risk of nephrotoxicity. (See Indications and Usage (1.2), Clinical Pharmacology (12.9)).

Renal function should be monitored during the administration of Everolimus tablets. Consider switching to other immunosuppressive therapies if renal function does not improve after dose adjustments or if the dysfunction is thought to be drug related. Caution should be exercised when using other drugs which are known to impair renal function.

5.7 Heart Transplantation
In a clinical trial of de novo heart transplant patients, everolimus in an immunosuppressive regimen with or without induction therapy, resulted in an increased mortality after associated with serious infections within the first three months post-transplantation compared to the control regimen. Use of everolimus in heart transplantation is not recommended.

5.8 Angioedema
Everolimus has been associated with the development of angioedema. The concomitant use of everolimus with other drugs known to cause angioedema, such as angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors may increase the risk of developing angioedema.

5.9 Wound Healing and Fluid Accumulation
Everolimus increases the risk of delayed wound healing and increases the occurrence of wound-related complications like wound dehiscence, wound infection, incisional hernia, lymphocele and seroma. These wound-related complications may require more surgical intervention. Generalized fluid accumulation, including peripheral edema (e.g., lymphoedema) and other types of localized fluid collection, such as pericardial and pleural effusions and ascites have also been reported.

5.10 Intestinal Lung Disease (ILD)/Non-Infectious Pneumonitis
A diagnosis of intestinal lung disease (ILD) should be considered in patients presenting with symptoms consistent with infectious pneumonia but not responding to antibiotic therapy and in whom infections, neoplastic and other non-drug causes have been ruled-out through appropriate investigations. Cases of ILD, implying lung interparenchymal inflammation (pneumonitis) and/or fibrosis of non-infectious etiology, some reported with pulmonary hypertension (including pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)) as a secondary event, have occurred in patients receiving rapamycin and their derivatives, including everolimus. Most cases generally resolve on drug interruption with or without glucocorticoid therapy. However, fatal cases have also occurred.

5.11 Hyperlipidemia
Increased serum cholesterol and triglycerides, requiring the need for anti-lipid therapy, have been reported to occur following initiation of everolimus and the risk of hyperlipidemia is increased with higher everolimus whole blood trough concentrations. (See Adverse Reactions (6.2)) Use of anti-lipid therapy may not normalize lipid levels in patients receiving everolimus.

Any patient who is administered everolimus should be monitored for hyperlipidemia. If detected, interventions, such as diet, exercise, and lipid-lowering agents should be initiated as outlined by the National Cholesterol Education Program guidelines. The benefit should be balanced in patients with established hyperlipidemia before initiating an immunosuppressive regimen containing everolimus. Similarly, the risk/benefit of continued everolimus therapy should be re-evaluated in patients with severe refractory hyperlipidemia. Everolimus has not been studied in patients with baseline cholesterol levels greater than 350 mg/dL.

5.12 Proteinuria
The use of everolimus in transplant patients has been associated with increased proteinuria. The risk of proteinuria increased with higher everolimus whole blood trough concentrations. Patients receiving everolimus should be monitored for proteinuria. (See Adverse Reactions (6.2))

5.13 Polymya Virus Infections
Patients receiving immunosuppressants, including Everolimus, are at increased risk for opportunistic infections; including polymya virus infections. Polymya virus infections in transplant patients may have serious, and sometimes fatal, outcomes. These include polymya virus associated nephropathy (PVAN), mostly due to BK virus infection, and JC virus associated progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML). PVAN has been observed in patients receiving immunosuppressants, including everolimus. PVAN is associated with serious outcomes including deteriorating renal function and kidney graft loss. (See Adverse Reactions (6.2)) Patient monitoring may help detect patients at risk for PVAN. Reductions in immunosuppression should be considered for patients who develop evidence of PVAN or PML. Physicians should also consider the risk that reduced immunosuppression represents to the functioning allograft.

5.14 Interaction with Strong Inhibitors and Inducers of CYP3A4
Coadministration of everolimus with strong CYP3A4-inhibitors (e.g., ketoconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole, clarithromycin, telithromycin, ritonavir, boceprevir, telaprevir) and strong CYP3A4 inducers (e.g., rifampin, rifabutin) is not recommended without close monitoring of everolimus whole blood trough concentrations. (See Drug Interactions (7.2))

5.15 Embryo-Fetal Toxicity
Based on animal studies and the mechanism of action (See Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)), Everolimus may cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. In animal studies, everolimus caused embryo-fetal toxicity when administered during the period of organogenesis at maternal exposures that were equal to or less than human exposures at the recommended lowest starting dose. Advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus. Advise female patients of reproductive potential to avoid becoming pregnant and to use effective contraception while using everolimus and for 8 weeks after ending treatment. (See Use in Specific Populations (8.1, 8.3))

5.16 New Onset Diabetes After Transplant
Everolimus has been shown to increase the risk of new onset diabetes mellitus after transplant. Blood glucose concentrations should be monitored closely in patients using everolimus.

5.17 Embryo-Fetal Toxicity
Based on animal studies and the mechanism of action (See Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)), Everolimus may cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. In animal studies, everolimus caused embryo-fetal toxicity when administered during the period of organogenesis at maternal exposures that were equal to or less than human exposures at the recommended lowest starting dose. Advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus. Advise female patients of reproductive potential to avoid becoming pregnant and to use effective contraception while using everolimus and for 8 weeks after ending treatment. (See Use in Specific Populations (8.1, 8.3))

5.18 Male Infertility
The data described below reflect exposure to everolimus starting 30 days after transplantation in an open-label, randomized trial of liver transplant patients. Seven hundred and nineteen (719) patients who fulfilled the inclusion/exclusion criteria (See Clinical Studies (14.2)) were randomized into one of the three treatment groups of the study. During the first 30 days prior to randomization patients received tacrolimus and corticosteroids, with or without mycophenolate mofetil (about 70% to 80% received MMF). No induction antibody was administered. At randomization, MMF was discontinued and patients were randomized to everolimus initial dose of 1 mg twice per day (2 mg daily) and adjusted to protocol specified target trough concentrations of 3 to 8 ng/mL with reduced exposure to tacrolimus (protocol specified target trough 3 to 5 ng/mL) (N=245) (See Clinical Pharmacology (12.7, 12.8)) or to a control group of standard exposure tacrolimus (protocol specified target trough 8 to 12 ng/mL up to Month 4 post-transplant, then 6 to 10 ng/mL, Month 4 through Month 12 post-transplant) (N=241). A third treatment group was discontinued prematurely (See Clinical Studies (14.2)) and is not described in this section.

The population was between 18 and 70 years old, more than 50% were male (mean age was 54 years in the everolimus group, 55 years in the tacrolimus control group); 74% were male in both everolimus and control groups, respectively, and a majority were Caucasian (66% everolimus group, 60% control group). Demographic characteristics were comparable between treatment groups. The most frequent diseases leading to transplantation were balanced between groups. The most frequent causes of end-stage liver disease (ESLD) were alcoholic cirrhosis, hepatitis C, and hepatocellular carcinoma and were balanced between groups.

5.19 Immunizations
The use of live vaccines should be avoided during treatment with everolimus, and examples include (not limited to) the following: intranasal influenza, measles, mumps, rubella, and polio; BCG, yellow fever, varicella, and VZV/tetoid vaccines.

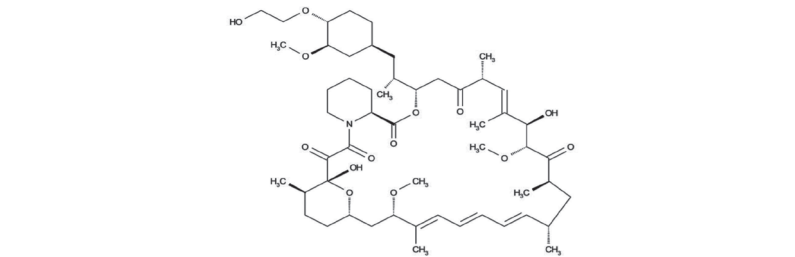
1 OVERDOSES

Reported experience with overdoses in humans is very limited. There is a single case of an accidental ingestion of 1.5 mg everolimus in a 2-year-old child where no adverse reactions were observed. Single doses up to 25 mg have been administered to transplant patients with acceptable adverse tolerability. Single doses up to 70 mg (without cyclosporine) have been given with acceptable adverse tolerability. General supportive measures should be followed in the event of an overdose. Everolimus is not considered dialyzable to any relevant degree (less than 10% of everolimus removed within 6 hours of hemodialysis). In animal studies, everolimus showed a low acute toxic potential. No lethality or severe toxicity was observed after single oral doses of 2000 mg/kg (mlt test) in either mice or rats.

11 DESCRIPTION

Everolimus is a macrolide immunosuppressant. The chemical name of everolimus is [(1R, 8S, 12S, 15R, 16R, 18R, 19R, 21R, 23S, 24S, 26E, 28E, 30S, 32S), 1, 18-dihydroxy-12-[(1R,21S,24S,35R,40R)-4-(2-hydroxyethoxy)-3-methoxyethoxy]-1-methyl-14,15-dioxabicyclo[15.17.1.21.21, 23, 25, 35-hexamethylene-11, 36-oxa-4-aza-bicyclo[30.3.1.0^{14,15}] heptatriaconta-16,24,26,28-tetraene-2, 3,10,14,20-pentaoxane].

The molecular formula is C₅₃H₈₄NO₁₃ and the molecular weight is 958.25. The structural formula is:



Everolimus tablets are supplied as tablets for oral administration containing 0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 0.75 mg and 1 mg of everolimus together with butylated hydroxytoluene, lactose monohydrate, hypromellose, lactose anhydrous, croscopolvidone and magnesium stearate as inactive ingredients.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Everolimus inhibits antigenic and interleukin (IL-2 and IL-15) stimulated activation and proliferation of T and B lymphocytes.

In cells, everolimus binds to a cytoplasmic protein, the FK506 Binding Protein-12 (FKBP-12), to form an immunosuppressive complex (everolimus- FKBP-12) that binds to and inhibits the mammalian Target Of Rapamycin (mTOR), a key regulatory kinase. In the presence of everolimus phosphorylation of p70 S6 ribosomal protein kinase (p70S6), a substrate of mTOR, is inhibited. Consequently, phosphorylation of the ribosomal S6 protein and subsequent protein synthesis and cell proliferation are inhibited. The everolimus- FKBP-12 complex has no effect on calcineurin activity.

In rats and nonhuman primate models, everolimus effectively reduces kidney allograft rejection resulting in prolonged graft survival.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Everolimus pharmacokinetics have been characterized after oral administration of single and multiple doses to adult kidney transplant patients.

Healthy, healthy-impaired patients and healthy subjects.

Absorption

After oral dosing, peak everolimus concentrations occur 1 to 2 hours post dose. Over the dose range of 0.5 mg to 2 mg twice daily, everolimus C_{max} and AUC are dose proportional in transplant patients at steady-state.

Food Effect: In 24 healthy subjects, a high-fat breakfast (44.5 g fat) reduced everolimus C_{max} by 60%, delayed T_{max} by a median 1.3 hours, and reduced AUC by 15% compared with a fasting administration. To minimize variability, everolimus should be taken consistently with or without food. (See Dosage and Administration (2.1))

Distribution

The blood-to-plasma ratio of everolimus is concentration dependent ranging from 17% to 73% over the range of 5 ng/mL to 5000 ng/mL. Plasma protein binding is approximately 74% in healthy subjects and in patients with moderate hepatic impairment. The apparent distribution volume associated with the terminal phase (V_Z/V_D) from a single-dose pharmacokinetic study in maintenance kidney transplant patients is 342 ± 107 L (range 128 to 589 L).

Elimination

Everolimus is a substrate of CYP3A4 and P-gp. Following oral administration, everolimus is the main circulating component in human blood. Six main metabolites of everolimus have been detected in human blood, including three monohydroxylated metabolites, two hydroxylated products, and a phosphatidylcholine conjugate of everolimus. These metabolites were also identified in animal species used in toxicity studies, and showed approximately 100-times less activity than everolimus itself.

Excretion

After a single dose of radiolabeled everolimus was given to transplant patients receiving cyclosporine, the majority (80%) of radioactivity was recovered from the feces and a minor amount (5%) was excreted in urine. Parent drug was not detected in urine and feces.

Pharmacokinetics in Kidney Transplant Patients

Steady-state is reached by Day 4 with an accumulation in blood concentrations of 2- to 3-fold compared with the everolimus after the first dose. Table 4 below provides a summary of the steady-state pharmacokinetic parameters.

C _{max}	T _{max}	AUC	CL _{CR} ^a	V _D F ^b	Half-life (t _{1/2})
11.1 ± 4.8 ng/mL	1-2 h	75 ± 31 ng/mL	8.8 L/h	110 L	30 ± 11 h

^a population pharmacokinetic analysis

The half-life estimates from 12 maintenance renal transplant patients who received single doses of everolimus at 0.75 mg or 2.5 mg with their maintenance cyclosporine regimen indicate that the pharmacokinetics of everolimus are linear over the clinically-relevant dose range. Results indicate the half-life of everolimus in maintenance renal transplant patients receiving single doses of 0.75 mg or 2.5 mg everolimus during steady-state cyclosporine treatment was 30 ± 11 hours (range 19 to 53 hours).

12.5 Drug-Drug Interactions

Everolimus is known to be a substrate for both cytochrome CYP3A4 and P-gp. The pharmacokinetic interaction between everolimus and concomitantly administered drugs is discussed below. Drug interactions have not been conducted with drugs other than those described below. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.14) and Drug Interactions (7))

Cyclosporine (CYP3A4-P-gp Inhibitor and CYP3A4 Substrate): Everolimus should be taken concomitantly with cyclosporine in kidney transplant patients. Everolimus concentrations may decrease when doses of cyclosporine are reduced, unless the everolimus dose is increased (See Dosage and Administration (2.1), Drug Interactions (7.1))

Ethrythromycin (Moderate CYP3A4 Inhibitor): Multiple-dose administration of 500 mg erythromycin 3 times daily for 5 days to 16 healthy volunteers significantly increased everolimus C_{max}, AUC, and half-life by 2.5-fold, 4.4-fold, and 39%, respectively, when coadministered with 2 mg everolimus. It is recommended that single doses of everolimus be reduced, unless the everolimus dose is increased (See Dosage and Administration (2.1), Drug Interactions (7.3))

Verapamil (CYP3A4 Inhibitor and P-gp Substrate): Multiple-dose administration of 80 mg verapamil 3 times daily for 5 days to 16 healthy volunteers significantly increased everolimus C_{max}, AUC, and half-life by 2.5-fold, 4.4-fold, and 39%, respectively, when coadministered with 2 mg everolimus. Verapamil is not considered a moderate, everolimus blood concentrations should be monitored and a dose adjustment made as necessary. (See Drug Interactions (7.3))

Atorvastatin (CYP3A4 Substrate) and Pravastatin (P-gp Substrate): Following administration of a single dose of 2 mg everolimus to 12 healthy subjects, the concomitant administration of a single oral dose of atorvastatin 20 mg or pravastatin 20 mg only slightly decreased everolimus C_{max} and AUC by 5% and 10%, respectively. There was no apparent change in the mean T_{max} or median half-life. In the same study, the concomitant everolimus dose slightly increased the mean C_{max} of atorvastatin by 11% and slightly decreased the AUC by 7%. The concomitant everolimus dose decreased the mean C_{max} and AUC of pravastatin by 10% and 5%, respectively. No dose adjustments are needed for concomitant administration of everolimus and atorvastatin or pravastatin. (See Drug Interactions (7.16))

Midazolam (CYP3A4 Substrate): In 25 healthy male subjects, coadministration of a single dose of midazolam 4 mg oral solution with steady-state everolimus (10 mg daily dose for 5 days) resulted in a 25% increase in midazolam C_{max} and a 30% increase in midazolam AUC; whereas, the terminal half-life of midazolam and the metabolic AUC-ratio (1-hydroxymidazolam/midazolam) were not affected. (See Drug Interactions (7.9))

Rifampin (Strong CYP3A4 and P-gp Inducer): Pre-treatment of 12 healthy subjects with multiple-dose rifampin (600 mg once-daily for 5 days) followed by a single dose of 4 mg everolimus increased everolimus clearance nearly 3-fold, and decreased C_{max} by 58% and AUC by 63%. Concomitant therapy with rifampin is not recommended. (See Drug Interactions (7.8))

12.6 Specific Populations

Hepatic Impairment

Relative to the AUC of everolimus in subjects with normal hepatic function, the average AUC in 6 patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A) was 1.6-fold higher following administration of a 10 mg single-dose. In 2 independently studied groups of 8 and 9 patients with moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class B), the average AUC was 2.4-fold and 3.5-fold higher following administration of a 2 mg or a 10 mg single-dose, respectively, and in 6 patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class C) the average AUC was 3.6-fold higher following administration of a 10 mg single-dose. For patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh B or C), the dose should be reduced by approximately one-third of the normally recommended daily dose. For patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh B or C), the initial daily dose should be reduced to approximately one-half of the normally recommended daily dose. Further dose adjustments are needed for concomitant administration of everolimus and atorvastatin or pravastatin, as measured by an LC/MS/MS assay, is not within the target trough concentration range of 3 to 8 ng/mL. (See Dosage and Administration (2.7))

Renal Impairment

No pharmacokinetic studies in patients with renal impairment were conducted. Post-transplant renal function (creatinine clearance range 11 to 107 mL/min) did not affect the pharmacokinetics of everolimus; therefore, no dosage adjustments are needed in patients with renal impairment.

Geriatrics

A limited reduction in everolimus oral CL of 0.33% per year was estimated in adults (age range studied was 18 to 70 years). There is no evidence to suggest that elderly patients will require a different dosage recommendation from younger adult patients.

Race

Based on analysis of population pharmacokinetics, oral clearance (CL_F) is, on average, 20% higher in patients with African ancestry.

12.7 Everolimus Whole Blood Concentrations Observed in Kidney and Liver Transplant Patients

Everolimus in Kidney Transplantation
Based on exposure-efficacy and exposure-safety analyses of clinical trials and using an LC/MS/MS assay method, kidney transplant patients achieving everolimus whole blood trough concentrations greater than or equal to 3 ng/mL have been found to have a lower incidence of treated biopsy-proven acute rejection compared with patients whose trough concentrations were below 3 ng/mL. Patients who attained everolimus trough concentrations within the range of 6 to 12 ng/mL, had similar efficacy and more adverse reactions than patients who attained lower trough concentrations between 3 to 8 ng/mL. (See Warnings and Precautions (5.14))

In the kidney clinical trial [See Clinical Studies (14.1)], everolimus whole blood trough concentrations were measured at Days 3, 7, and 14 and Months 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 12. The proportion of patients receiving 0.75 mg twice daily everolimus treatment regimen who had everolimus whole blood trough concentrations within the protocol specified target range of 3 to 8 ng/mL, at Days 3, 7, and 14, were 55%, 71% and 69%, respectively. Approximately 80% of patients had everolimus whole blood trough concentrations within the 3 to 8 ng/mL target range by Month 1 and remained stable within range through Month 12 post-transplant. The median everolimus trough concentration for the 0.75 mg twice daily treatment group was between 3 and 8 ng/mL, throughout the study duration.

Everolimus in Liver Transplantation
In the liver clinical trial [See Clinical Studies (14.2)] everolimus dosing was initiated after 30 days following transplantation. Whole blood trough everolimus concentrations were measured within 5 days after first dose, followed by weekly intervals for 3 to 4 weeks, and then monthly thereafter. Approximately 49%, 37%, and 18% of patients, respectively, were below 3 ng/mL, at 1, 2, and 4 weeks after initiation of everolimus dosing. The majority of patients (approximately 70% to 80%) had everolimus trough blood concentrations within the target range of 3 to 8 ng/mL, from Month 2 through Month 24 post-transplant.

12.8 Cyclosporine Concentrations Observed in Kidney Transplant Patients
In the kidney transplant clinical trial [See Clinical Studies (14.1)], the target cyclosporine whole blood trough concentration for the everolimus treatment arm of 0.75 mg twice daily were 100 to 200 ng/mL, through Month 1 post-transplant, 75 to 150 ng/mL, at Months 2 and 3 post-transplant, 50 to 100 ng/mL, at Month 4 post-transplant, and 25 to 50 ng/mL, from Month 6 through Month 12 post-transplant. Table 5 below provides a summary of the observed cyclosporine whole blood trough concentrations during the study.

Treatment group	Visit	N	Target (ng/mL)	Median	10 th Percentile	90 th Percentile
Everolimus 0.75 mg twice daily	Day 3	242	100-200	172	46	388
	Day 7	265	100-200	185	75	337
	Day 14	243	100-200	182	97	309
	Month 1	245	100-200	161	75	274
	Month 2	232	75-150	140	84	213
	Month 3	220	75-150	111	68	187
	Month 4	208	50-100	99	56	156
	Month 6	200	25-50	75	43	142
	Month 7	199	25-50	59	36	117
	Month 9	194	25-50	49	28	91
	Month 12	196	25-50	46	25	100

12.9 Tacrolimus Concentrations in Liver Transplant
In the liver transplant clinical trial [See Clinical Studies (14.2)], the target tacrolimus whole blood trough concentrations were greater than or equal to 8 ng/mL, in the first 30 days post-transplant. The protocol required that patients had a tacrolimus trough concentration of at least 8 ng/mL in the week prior to initiation of everolimus. Everolimus was initiated after 30 days post-transplant. At that time, the target tacrolimus trough concentrations were reduced to 3 to 5 ng/mL. Table 6 below provides a summary of the tacrolimus whole blood trough concentrations observed during the study through Month 24 post-transplant.

Treatment group	Visit	N	Target (ng/mL)	Median	10 th Percentile	90 th Percentile	
Everolimus 1 mg twice daily (initiated at Month 1)	Pre-dose group	Week 4	234	3-5	9.5	5.8	14.6
	Week 5	219	3-5	8.1	4.5	13.8	
		Week 6	233	3-5	7.0	4.1	12.0
	Month 2	219	3-5	5.6	3.4	10.3	
		Month 3	218	3-5	5.2	3.1	9.7
	Month 4	196	3-5	4.9	2.9	7.7	
		Month 5	195	3-5	4.8	2.7	7.3
	Month 6	200	3-5	4.6	3.0	7.5	
		Month 9	186	3-5	4.4	2.9	8.0
	Month 12	175	3-5	4.3	2.6	7.3	
		Month 24	109	3-5	3.8	2.3	5.5

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Everolimus was not carcinogenic in mice or rats when administered daily by oral gavage for 2 years at doses up to 0.9 mg/kg, the highest doses tested. In these studies, AUCs in mice were higher (at least 20 times) than those in humans receiving 0.75 mg twice daily, and AUCs in rats were in the same range as those in humans receiving 0.75 mg twice daily.

Everolimus was not mutagenic in the bacterial reverse mutation, the mouse lymphoma thymidine kinase assay, or the chromosome aberration assay using V79 Chinese hamster cells, or in vivo following two daily doses of 500 mg/kg in the mouse micronucleus assay.

In a 13-week male fertility oral gavage study in rats, testicular morphology was affected at 0.5 mg/kg and above, and sperm motility, sperm head count and plasma testosterone concentrations were diminished at 5 mg/kg which caused a decrease in male fertility. There was evidence of reversibility of these findings in animals examined after 13 weeks post-dosing. The 0.5 mg/kg dose in male rats resulted in AUCs in the range of clinical exposure, and the 5 mg/kg dose resulted in AUCs approximately 5 times the AUCs in humans receiving 0.75 mg twice daily.

Oral doses of everolimus in female rats greater or equal to 0.1 mg/kg (approximately 0.13-fold the estimated AUC_{0-24h} in patients receiving the starting dose 0.75 mg twice daily) resulted in increased incidence of pre-implantation loss.

13.2 Animal Toxicology and/or Pharmacology

In an oral neonatal and juvenile development study in rats, oral administration of everolimus from postnatal Day 7 to 70 produced dose-related delayed attainment of developmental landmarks, including delayed eye-opening, delayed development in males and females, and increased lactate time during the learning and memory phases were observed at doses as low as 0.15 mg/kg/day. Exposures in the rat at these doses were equal to or less than those observed in adult human transplant patients.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Prevention of Organ Rejection after Kidney Transplantation

A 24-month, multi-national, open-label, randomized (1:1) trial was conducted comparing two concentration-controlled everolimus regimens of 1.5 mg per day starting dose (targeting 3 to 8 ng/mL, using an LC/MS/MS assay method and 3 mg per day starting dose (targeting 6 to 12 ng/mL, using an LC/MS/MS assay method) with reduced exposure cyclosporine and corticosteroids, to 1.44 g per day of mycophenolic acid with standard exposure cyclosporine and corticosteroids. The mean cyclosporine starting dose was 5.2, 5.0 and 5.7 mg/kg body weight/day in the everolimus 1.5 mg, 3 mg and 1 mg mycophenolic acid groups, respectively. The cyclosporine dose in the everolimus group was then adjusted to the blood trough concentration ranges indicated in Table 5, whereas in the mycophenolic acid group the target ranges were 200 to 300 ng/mL, starting Day 5, 200 to 300 ng/mL, and 100 to 250 ng/mL, from Month 2 to Month 12.

All patients received basiliximab induction therapy. The study population consisted of 18 to 70 year old male and female low to moderate risk renal transplant recipients undergoing their first transplant. Low to moderate immunologic risk was defined in the study as an ABO blood type compatible first organ or tissue transplant recipient with anti-human leukocyte antigen (HLA) Class I panel reactive antibody (PRA) less than 20% by a complement dependent cytotoxicity-based assay, or less than 50% by a flow cytometry or ELISA-based assay, and with a negative T-cell cross match. Eight hundred thirty-three patients were randomized to the everolimus 1.5 mg per day group, 279 to the everolimus 3 mg per day group and 277 to the mycophenolic acid 1.44 g per day group. The study was conducted at 87 renal transplant centers across Europe, South Africa, North and South America, and Asia-Pacific. There were no major baseline differences between treatment groups with respect to demographic characteristics. The majority of transplant recipients in all groups (70% to 76%) had more than three HLA mismatches; mean percentage of panel reactive antibodies ranged from 1% to 2%. The rate of premature treatment discontinuation at 12 months was 30% and 22% in the everolimus 1.5 mg and control groups, respectively. (p<0.03). Father's sex test and was more prominent between groups among female patients. Results at 12 months indicated that everolimus 1.5 mg per day is comparable to control with respect to efficacy failure, defined as treated biopsy-proven acute rejection*, graft loss, death or loss to follow-up. The percentage of patients experiencing this endpoint and each individual variable in the everolimus and control groups is shown in Table 7.

	Everolimus 1.5 mg per day With reduced exposure C _{SA} N=277 n (%)	Mycophenolic Acid 1.44 g per day With standard exposure C _{SA} N=277 n (%)
Efficacy Endpoints^a		
Efficacy Failure Endpoint ^b	70 (25.3)	67 (24.2)
Treated Biopsy Proven Acute Rejection ^c	45 (16.2)	47 (17.0)
Death	7 (2.5)	6 (2.2)
Graft Loss	12 (4.3)	9 (3.2)
Loss to Follow-up	12 (4.3)	9 (3.2)
Graft Loss or Death or Loss to Follow-up ^d	32 (11.6)	26 (9.4)
Graft Loss or Death	18 (6.5)	15 (5.4)
Loss to Follow-up ^e	14 (5.1)	11 (4.0)
^a Treated biopsy-proven acute rejection (BPAR) was defined as a histologically confirmed acute rejection with a biopsy graded as IA, IB, IIA, IB, or II according to 1997 Banff criteria that were treated with anti-rejection medication.		
^b The difference in rates (everolimus–mycophenolic acid) with 95% CI for primary efficacy failure endpoint is 1.1% (6.1%, 8.3%), and for the graft loss, death or loss to follow-up endpoint is 2.2% (2.9%, 7.3%).		
^c Includes treated BPAR, graft loss, death or loss to follow-up by Month 12 where loss to follow-up represents patient who did not experience treated BPAR, graft loss or death and whose last contact date is prior to 12 month visit.		
^d Loss to follow-up for Graft Loss, Death, or Loss to Follow-up represents patient who did not experience death or graft loss and whose last contact date is prior to 12 month visit.		

The estimated mean glomerular filtration rate (using the MDRD equation) for everolimus 1.5 mg (target trough concentrations 3 to 8 ng/mL) and mycophenolic acid groups were comparable at Month 12 in the ITT population (Table 8).

Month 12 GFR (MDRD)	Everolimus 1.5 mg per day with reduced exposure C _{SA} N=276	Mycophenolic Acid 1.44 g per day with standard exposure C _{SA} N=277
Mean (SD)**	54.6 (21.7)	52.3 (26.5)
Median (Range)	55.0 (0-140.9)	50.1 (0-366.4)

* Analysis based on using a subject's last observation carried forward for missing data at 12 months due to death or loss to follow-up data; a value of zero is used for subjects who experienced a graft loss.

** SD=standard deviation

Two earlier studies compared fixed doses of everolimus 1.5 mg per day and 3 mg per day, without TM, combined with standard exposure cyclosporine and corticosteroids to mycophenolate mofetil 2 g per day and corticosteroids. Antilymphocyte antibody 2-dose was prohibited in both studies. Both were multicenter, double-blind for first 12 months, randomized trials (1:1) of 588 and 585 de novo renal transplant patients, respectively. The 12-month analysis of GFR showed increased rates of renal impairment in both the everolimus groups compared to the mycophenolate mofetil group in both studies. Therefore, reduced exposure cyclosporine should be used in combination with everolimus in order to avoid renal dysfunction and everolimus trough concentrations should be adjusted using TM to maintain trough concentrations between 3 to 8 ng/mL. (See Dosed Warning, Dosage and Administration (2.4), Warnings and Precautions (5.6)).

14.2 Prevention of Organ Rejection after Liver Transplantation

A 24-month, multinational, open-label, randomized (1:1:1) trial was conducted in liver transplant patients starting 30 days post-transplant, using the first 30 days, after transplant and prior to randomization, patients received tacrolimus and corticosteroids, with or without mycophenolate mofetil. No induction antibody was administered. Approximately 70% to 80% of patients received at least one dose of mycophenolate mofetil at a median total daily dose of 1.5 g during the first 30 days. For eligibility, patients had to have a tacrolimus trough concentration of at least 8 ng/mL, in the week prior to randomization.

At randomization, mycophenolate mofetil was discontinued and patients were randomized to one of two everolimus treatment groups (initial dose of 1 mg twice per day (2 mg daily) and adjusted to target trough concentrations using an LC/MS/MS assay of 3 to 8 ng/mL), with either reduced exposure of tacrolimus (target trough of 3 to 5 ng/mL) or tacrolimus of 3 to 5 ng/mL) or tacrolimus elimination. In the tacrolimus elimination group, at Month 4 post-transplant, once the everolimus trough concentrations were within the target range of 6 to 10 ng/mL, reduced exposure tacrolimus was eliminated. The everolimus with tacrolimus elimination group was discontinued early due to higher incidence of acute rejection. In the control group, patients received standard exposure tacrolimus (target trough whole blood concentrations of 8 to 12 ng/mL, tapered to 6 to 10 ng/mL, by month 4 post-transplant). All patients received corticosteroids during the trial.

The study population consisted of 18 to 70 year old male and female liver transplant recipients undergoing their first transplant, mean age was approximately 54 years, more than 70% of patients were male, and the majority of patients were Caucasian, with approximately 89% of patients in treatment group completing the study. Key stratification parameters of HCV status (31 to 32% HCV positive across groups) and renal function (mean baseline eGFR range 79 to 83 mL/min/1.73 m²) were also balanced between groups.

A total of 1147 patients were enrolled into the run-in period of this trial. At 30 days post-transplant a total 719 patients, who were eligible according to study inclusion/exclusion criteria, were randomized into one of three treatment groups: everolimus with reduced exposure tacrolimus (N=245), everolimus with tacrolimus elimination (N=245), or standard dose/exposure tacrolimus (tacrolimus control), (N=243). The study was conducted at 89 liver transplant centers across Europe, including the United Kingdom and Ireland, North and South America, and Australia.

Key exclusion criteria were recipients of multiple solid organ transplants, history of malignancy (except hepatocellular carcinoma within Milan criteria), human immunodeficiency virus, and any surgical or medical condition which significantly alter the absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion of study drug.

There were no major baseline differences between treatment groups with regard to recipient or donor disease characteristics. Mean MELD scores at time of transplantation, cold ischemic times (CTI), and ABO matching were similar across groups. Overall the treatment groups were comparable with respect to the key determinants of liver transplantation.

The tacrolimus elimination group was stopped prematurely due to a higher incidence of acute rejection and adverse reactions leading to treatment discontinuation reported during the elimination phase of tacrolimus. Therefore, a treatment regimen of everolimus with tacrolimus elimination is not recommended.

Results up to 24 months are presented indicating that everolimus with reduced exposure tacrolimus is comparable to standard exposure tacrolimus with respect to efficacy failure, defined as treated biopsy-proven acute rejection, graft loss, death or loss to follow-up throughout 12 to 24 months of treatment. The percentage of patients experiencing this endpoint and each individual variable in the everolimus and control groups for each time interval is shown in Table 9.