

Health Flash: Important Type 2 Diabetes News

(NAPSA)—Despite current treatment, nearly half of the 21.2 million American adults living with type 2 diabetes struggle to get their blood sugar under control.¹ Type 2 diabetes is a disease that prevents the body from properly using insulin, a hormone that helps convert sugar, starches and other nutrients into energy.² Because it is often associated with a sedentary lifestyle, most physicians recommend incorporating a healthy, balanced diet as well as exercise into your daily routine before the addition of prescribed medicine.³ However, for some people with type 2 diabetes, diet, exercise and their current prescription treatment may not be enough.

Now, there's a new treatment

option that can be used either alone or along with several commonly prescribed anti-diabetic medicines such as metformin, the sulfonylurea glyburide, or a thiazolidine such as pioglitazone or rosiglitazone. The FDA recently approved ONGLYZA™ (saxagliptin), a once-daily prescription medicine that, along with diet and exercise, can be used to help treat type 2 diabetes in adults. ONGLYZA has not been studied with insulin. ONGLYZA should not be used to treat people with type 1 diabetes or to treat diabetic ketoacidosis, which is dangerously high levels of certain acids, known as ketones, in the blood or urine.

“For those adult patients with type 2 diabetes who remain uncon-

trolled on their current treatment, physicians may suggest adding a second oral anti-diabetic medicine, such as ONGLYZA, to help improve their blood sugar control. However, individual results may vary,” said Dr. Robert Henry, Professor of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, University of California San Diego.

ONGLYZA enhances the body's natural ability to control blood sugar. It works by affecting the action of natural hormones in the body called incretins. These hormones decrease blood sugar by increasing the body's use of sugar, mainly through increasing the production of insulin in the pancreas, and by reducing the liver's production of sugar.

Important Safety Information about ONGLYZA

When ONGLYZA is used with certain other diabetes medicines to treat high blood sugar, such as a sulfonylurea, low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) may occur. Patients should follow their healthcare provider's instructions for treating low blood sugar.

If patients have allergic (hypersensitivity) reactions, such as rash, hives, and swelling of the face, lips, and throat, they should stop taking ONGLYZA and call their healthcare provider right away.

When ONGLYZA is used with a thiazolidinedione, such as pioglitazone or rosiglitazone, to treat high blood sugar, peripheral edema (fluid retention) may become worse. If patients have symptoms of peripheral edema, such as swelling of hands, feet, or ankles, they should call their healthcare provider.

The most common side effects with ONGLYZA include upper respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection, and headache.

The healthcare provider should test patients' blood to measure how well their kidneys work. Patients may need a lower dose of ONGLYZA if their kidneys are not working well.

Patients should tell their healthcare provider if they start or stop taking other medications, including antibiotics, antifungals or HIV/AIDS medications, as their healthcare provider may need to change the dose of ONGLYZA.

Patients should tell their healthcare provider if they are pregnant or breast-feeding, or plan to become pregnant or breast-feed.

Patients should talk to their healthcare provider for more information about ONGLYZA and type 2 diabetes.

The full Prescribing Information about ONGLYZA, including Patient Information, is available at www.ONGLYZA.com or by calling 1-800-ONGLYZA.

Please see accompanying US Full Prescribing Information at the following link: http://packageinserts.bms.com/pi/pi_onglyza.pdf.

(C) 2009 Bristol-Myers Squibb

ONGLYZA is a trademark of Bristol-Myers Squibb

¹ Ong et al. *Prevalence, Treatment, and Control of Diagnosed Diabetes in the U.S. National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 1999-2004*. *Ann. Epidemiol.* 2008; 18:222-229.

² American Diabetes Association. *All about Diabetes*. <http://www.diabetes.org/diabetes-basics/type-2/>; accessed December 17, 2009

³ National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse. *Diabetes Overview*. <http://diabetes.niddk.nih.gov/dm/pubs/overview/index.htm#types; Type 2 Diabetes section>; accessed December 17, 2009