PRODUCT MONOGRAPH

[Pr]GLEEVEC®

imatinib mesylate Tablets

imatinib 100 mg and 400 mg Tablets

Protein kinase inhibitor

GLEEVEC®, indicated for

- **the adjuvant treatment of adult patients who are at intermediate to high risk of relapse following complete resection of Kit (CD117) positive GIST.**

has been issued marketing authorization with conditions, pending the results of studies to verify its clinical benefit. Patients should be advised of the conditional nature of the authorization.

GLEEVEC® has been issued non-conditional approval for the indications of:

- **Adult patients with newly diagnosed, Philadelphia-chromosome-positive, chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in chronic phase.**
- **Pediatric patients with newly diagnosed, Philadelphia-chromosome-positive, chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in chronic phase.**
- **Adult patients with Philadelphia chromosome-positive CML in blast crisis, accelerated phase or chronic phase (after failure of interferon-alpha therapy).**
- **For use as a single agent for induction phase therapy in adult patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia (Ph+ALL).**
- **Adult patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL as monotherapy.**
- **Adult patients with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases (MDS/MPD) associated with platelet-derived growth factor receptor (PDGFR) gene re-arrangements.**
- **Adult patients with aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD[1]) without the D816V c-Kit mutation. If c-Kit mutational status in patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD[1] is not known or unavailable, treatment with GLEEVEC® may be considered if there is no satisfactory response to other therapies.**
- **Adult patients with advanced hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) with FIP1L1-PDGFRα rearrangement.**
- **Adult patients with unresectable, recurrent and/or metastatic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP).**
- **Adult patients with Kit (CD117) positive unresectable and/or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST).**

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Date of Revision:
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CONTROL No.: 177730

This product has been approved under the Notice of Compliance with Conditions (NOC/c) policy for one or all of its indicated uses.

What is a Notice of Compliance with Conditions (NOC/c)?

An NOC/c is a form of market approval granted to a product on the basis of **promising** evidence of clinical effectiveness following review of the submission by Health Canada.

Products approved under Health Canada's NOC/c policy are intended for the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of a serious, life-threatening or severely debilitating illness. They have demonstrated promising benefit, are of high quality and possess an acceptable safety profile based on a benefit/risk assessment. In addition, they either respond to a serious unmet medical need in Canada or have demonstrated a significant improvement in the benefit/risk profile over existing therapies. Health Canada has provided access to this product on the condition that sponsors carry out additional clinical trials to verify the anticipated benefit within an agreed upon time frame.

What will be different about this Product Monograph?

The following Product Monograph will contain boxed text at the beginning of each major section clearly stating the nature of the market authorization. Sections for which NOC/c status holds particular significance will be identified in the left margin by the symbol NOC/c. These sections may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Indications and Clinical Uses;
- Action;
- Warnings and Precautions;
- Adverse Reactions;
- Dosage and Administration; and
- Clinical Trials.

Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting and Re-Issuance of the Product Monograph

Health care providers are encouraged to report Adverse Drug Reactions associated with normal use of these and all drug products to Health Canada's Health Product Safety Information Division at 1-866-234-2345. The Product Monograph will be re-issued in the event of serious safety concerns previously unidentified or at such time as the sponsor provides the additional data in support of the product's clinical benefit. Once the latter has occurred, and in accordance with the NOC/c policy, the conditions associated with market authorization will be removed.

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PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

GLEEVEC®, indicated for

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- adult patients with aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD[1]) without the D816V c-Kit mutation. If c-Kit mutational status in patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD[1] is not known or unavailable, treatment with GLEEVEC® may be considered if there is no satisfactory response to other therapies.
- adult patients with advanced hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) with FIP1L1-PDGFRα rearrangement.
- adult patients with unresectable, recurrent and/or metastatic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP).
- adult patients with Kit (CD117) positive unresectable and/or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumours (GIST).

SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION

Route of Administration	Pharmaceutical Form/Strength	Clinically Relevant Nonmedicinal Ingredients
oral	Tablets 100 mg and 400 mg	Coating : ferric oxide (red), ferric oxide (yellow). *For a complete listing see Dosage Forms, Composition section*.

INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE

NOC

- GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with newly diagnosed, Philadelphia chromosome-positive, chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in chronic phase.

Clinical effectiveness in newly diagnosed CML was based on progression-free survival, hematologic and cytogenetic response rates (surrogate endpoints) that are reasonably likely to predict clinical benefit in a long-term randomized controlled study.

NOC

- GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) is indicated for the treatment of pediatric patients with newly diagnosed, Philadelphia chromosome-positive, chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in chronic phase.

Clinical effectiveness in newly diagnosed CML, was based on hematologic and cytogenetic response rates (surrogate endpoints) in a short-term uncontrolled study in which the majority of patients withdrew from protocol therapy to undergo hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

NOC

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in blast crisis or accelerated phase, or in chronic phase after failure of interferon- alpha therapy.

Clinical effectiveness in Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia in blast crisis, accelerated phase or chronic phase (after failure of interferon-alpha therapy) was based on hematologic and cytogenetic response rates (surrogate endpoints), which have shown to be sustained for at least two years.

NOC

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for use as a single agent for induction phase therapy in adult patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia (Ph+ALL).

Clinical effectiveness for use as a single agent for induction phase therapy in adult patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia (Ph+ALL) was based on hematologic response rates (surrogate endpoints).

NOC • GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL as monotherapy.

Clinical effectiveness in adult patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL as monotherapy was based on hematologic and cytogenetic response rates (surrogate endpoints).

NOC • GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases (MDS/MPD) associated with platelet-derived growth factor receptor (PDGFR) gene re-arrangements.

Clinical effectiveness in adult patients with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases (MDS/MPD) associated with platelet-derived growth factor receptor (PDGFR) gene re-arrangements was based on hematologic and cytogenetic response rates (surrogate endpoints).

NOC • GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD[1]) without the D816V c-Kit mutation. If c-Kit mutational status in patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD[1] is not known or unavailable, treatment with GLEEVEC® may be considered if there is no satisfactorily response to other therapies.

Clinical effectiveness in adult patients with aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD[1]) without the D816V c-Kit mutation and in adult patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD[1] where c-Kit mutational status is not known or unavailable, and if there is no satisfactory response to other therapies was based on hematologic response rates (surrogate endpoints).

[1] ASM: Aggressive systemic mastocytosis; SM-AHNMD: Systemic mastocytosis with an associated clonal hematological non-mast-cell disorder.

NOC • GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with advanced hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) with FIP1L1-PDGFRα rearrangement.

Clinical effectiveness in adult patients with advanced hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) with FIP1L1-PDGFRα rearrangement was based on hematologic and cytogenetic response rates (surrogate endpoints).

NOC • GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with unresectable, recurrent and/or metastatic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP).

Clinical effectiveness in adult patients with unresectable, recurrent and/or metastatic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP) was based on objective response rate (surrogate endpoints).

NOC

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with Kit (CD117) positive unresectable and/or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST).

Clinical effectiveness in gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST) was based on objective response rates (surrogate endpoints) that are reasonably likely to predict clinical benefit. There are no controlled trials demonstrating clinical benefit such as improvement in disease-related symptoms or increased survival.

NOC/c

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients who are at intermediate to high risk of relapse following complete resection of Kit (CD117) positive GIST.

Clinical effectiveness in the adjuvant GIST indication was based on recurrence free survival after one year of adjuvant therapy. The optimal treatment duration with GLEEVEC® is not known. Overall survival data are not available.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) is contraindicated in patients with hypersensitivity to imatinib or to any other component of GLEEVEC®.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Serious Warnings and Precautions

- Severe congestive heart failure (CHF) and reduction of left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) have been observed (see "Cardiovascular" section under WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS).
- Rhabdomyolysis has been rarely observed. (See "Adverse Reactions from Post-Marketing reports" section under ADVERSE REACTIONS).
- Severe hemorrhages may occur (See "Hemorrhage" section under WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS).
- Fluid retention may occur (See "Fluid Retention" section under WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS).

- Liver failure (in some cases, fatal) may occur (See "Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic" section under WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS).

- Gastrointestinal perforation (in some cases, fatal) may occur (See "Gastrointestinal" section under WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS).

GLEEVEC® should only be administered under the supervision of a physician experienced with the use of chemotherapy and with treatment of hematological malignancies and/or malignant sarcomas including gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs) and dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP).

General

Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Reports of motor vehicle accidents have been received in patients receiving GLEEVEC®. Caution should be recommended when driving a car or operating machinery (see Adverse Reactions from Post-Marketing reports section and Drug-Lifestyle Interactions section).

Tumour Lysis Syndrome (TLS): Tumor lysis syndrome has occurred in patients taking GLEEVEC®, including fatal cases (see "Adverse Reactions from Post-marketing Reports"). Patients at increased risk for TLS include those with tumours having a high proliferative rate (e.g. CML-blast crisis), concomitant chemotherapy or radiotherapy or having a solid tumour of large size (bulky disease), decreased kidney function or elevated lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) at baseline. Preventative measures, including correction of clinically significant dehydration and treatment of high uric acid levels, should be considered for patients at increased risk of developing TLS (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION and Monitoring and Laboratory Tests).

Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

A 2-year preclinical carcinogenicity study conducted in rats demonstrated renal adenomas/carcinomas, urinary bladder and urethra papillomas, papillomas/carcinomas of the preputial and clitoral gland, adenocarcinomas of the small intestine, adenomas of the parathyroid glands, benign and malignant tumors of the adrenal medulla and papillomas/carcinomas of the nonglandular stomach (See TOXICOLOGY).

Long-term, non-neoplastic histological changes identified in the preclinical carcinogenicity study in rats include cardiomyopathy.

The relevance of these findings in the rat carcinogenicity study for humans is not known. An analysis of the clinical safety data from clinical trials and spontaneous adverse event reports did not provide evidence of an increased overall incidence of malignancies in patients treated with imatinib mesylate compared to that of the general population.

However, adverse events in cancer patients are significantly under reported and a large proportion of patients treated with GLEEVEC® have had limited follow-up thus not permitting a final analysis of the potential for an increased incidence of a secondary malignancy in patients treated with GLEEVEC®.

Cardiovascular

Severe congestive heart failure (CHF) and reduction of left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) have been reported in patients taking GLEEVEC®. Although several of these patients had pre-existing conditions including hypertension, diabetes and prior coronary artery disease, they were subsequently diagnosed with CHF. Patients with known cardiac disease or risk factors for cardiac failure should be monitored carefully and those with symptoms or signs consistent with CHF should be evaluated and treated. In patients with history of cardiac disease or in elderly patients, a baseline evaluation of LVEF is recommended prior to initiation of GLEEVEC® therapy.

In patients with hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) with occult or known infiltration of HES cells within the myocardium, isolated cases of cardiogenic shock/left ventricular dysfunction believed to be associated with HES cell degranulation upon initiation of GLEEVEC® therapy, have been reported. The condition was reported to be reversible with the administration of systemic steroids, circulatory support measures and temporarily withholding GLEEVEC®. Myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases (MDS/MPD) and systemic mastocytosis (SM) might be associated with high eosinophil levels. Performance of an echocardiogram and determination of serum troponin should therefore be considered in patients with HES/CEL and in patients with MDS/MPD or ASM and SM-AHNMD associated with high eosinophil levels. These patients with HES/CEL or ASM, SM-AHNMD and MDS/MPD must be also on 1-to 2 mg/kg of prednisone equivalent oral steroids for one to two weeks, initiated at least 2 days prior to beginning GLEEVEC® therapy.

Endocrine and Metabolism

Clinical cases of hypothyroidism have been reported in thyroidectomy patients undergoing levothyroxine replacement during treatment with GLEEVEC®. Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone levels should be closely monitored in such patients.

Fluid Retention and edema

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) is often associated with edema and occasionally serious fluid retention (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS Tables 1 and 2**). All Grades of fluid retention/edema were reported in up to 61.7% for newly diagnosed CML patients, up to 76.2% for other CML patients across all clinical trials, and up to 80.3% for GIST patients. Patients should be weighed and monitored regularly for signs and symptoms of fluid retention as fluid retention can occur after months of treatment. An unexpected rapid weight gain should be carefully investigated and appropriate treatment provided. The probability of edema was increased with higher imatinib dose. Severe superficial edema was reported in 1.5% of newly diagnosed CML patients taking GLEEVEC® and in 2.1% to 5.8% of other adult CML patients taking GLEEVEC®**.** In addition, other severe fluid retention events (e.g., pleural effusion, pericardial effusion, pulmonary edema, and ascites) were reported in 1.3% of newly diagnosed CML patients taking GLEEVEC® and in 1.7% to 6.2% of other adult CML patients taking GLEEVEC®**.**

Gastrointestinal

*Hemorrhage: See "**Hemorrhage**" below.*
GLEEVEC® is sometimes associated with GI irritation. GLEEVEC® should be taken with food and a large glass of water to minimize this problem. There have been rare reports, including fatalities, of gastrointestinal perforation.

Hematologic

Hematologic Toxicity: Treatment with GLEEVEC® is often associated with neutropenia or thrombocytopenia (See ADVERSE REACTIONS, Tables 8 to 11). Complete blood counts should be performed weekly for the first month, biweekly for the second month, and periodically thereafter as clinically indicated (for example every 2-3 months). The occurrence of these cytopenias is dependent on the stage of disease and is more frequent in patients with accelerated phase CML or blast crisis than in patients with chronic phase CML. In pediatric CML patients the most frequent toxicities observed were Grade 3 or 4 cytopenias involving neutropenia (31%), thrombocytopenia (16%) and anemia (14%). These generally occur within the first several months of therapy (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

An increased rate of opportunistic infections was observed in a monkey study with chronic imatinib treatment. In a 39-week monkey study, treatment with imatinib resulted in worsening of normally suppressed malarial infections in these animals. Lymphopenia was observed in animals (as in humans, where all grades of lymphopenia were observed in 0.3% patients).

Hemorrhage

All Grades of hemorrhage were reported in up to 28.9% for newly diagnosed CML patients, up to 53% for other CML patients across all clinical trials, and up to 29.9% for GIST patients.

In the newly diagnosed CML trial, 1.8% of patients had Grades3/4 hemorrhage. In the unresectable and/or metastatic malignant GIST clinical trial (B2222) eight patients (5.4%, five patients in the 600 mg dose group and three patients in the 400 mg dose group) were reported to have had gastrointestinal (GI) bleeds or intra-tumoral bleeds. Four patients with intra-tumoral bleeds had either intra-abdominal or intra-hepatic, depending on the anatomical location of the tumor lesions. One patient, who had a history of GI bleeding prior to the study, died due to gastrointestinal bleeding.

In addition, gastric antral vascular ectasia (GAVE), a rare cause of GI hemorrhage, has been reported in post-marketing experience in patients with CML, GIST, ALL and other diseases. Patients should therefore be monitored for gastrointestinal symptoms at the start of and during therapy with GLEEVEC®. When needed, GLEEVEC® discontinuation may be considered. Time to GAVE diagnosis was commonly reported at about 1 year of exposure but was variable (6 days to 7 years) after starting treatment with GLEEVEC® (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Subdural hematomas have been reported in association with imatinib administration in patients with other contributing factors, including older age (e.g., age greater than 50-55 years); thrombocytopenia due to the underlying malignancy or concomitant administration of multi-agent chemotherapy; concomitant administration of medications that increase bleeding risk; and prior lumbar puncture or head trauma. In clinical trials, the incidence of subdural hematoma has ranged from 0 to 2.4%.

This risk of bleeding should be evaluated carefully in all patients. Caution should be exercised with the concomitant use of antiplatelet agents or warfarin, especially in patients who are thrombocytopenic. Platelet counts and prothrombin time should be measured on a regular basis when imatinib is used concurrently with anticoagulants, prostacyclins, or other medications that increase bleeding risk. Patients who experience head trauma or have unexplained neurological symptoms should be evaluated for subdural hematoma. In view of a potential interaction between GLEEVEC® and warfarin leading to increased exposure to warfarin, patients who require anticoagulation with warfarin should be monitored especially closely when GLEEVEC® dose adjustments are necessary (see DRUG INTERACTIONS).

Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic

Liver failure: There have been cases of cytolytic and cholestatic hepatitis and hepatic failure; in some cases the outcome was fatal. One patient, who was taking acetaminophen regularly for fever along with GLEEVEC®, died of acute liver failure (See DRUG INTERACTIONS).

Hepatotoxicity: Hepatotoxicity, occasionally severe, may occur with GLEEVEC® (see ADVERSE REACTIONS Tables 1, 2 and 5). Liver function (transaminases, bilirubin, and alkaline phosphatase) should be monitored before initiation of treatment and monthly or as clinically indicated. Laboratory abnormalities should be managed with interruption and/or dose reduction of the treatment with GLEEVEC®. (See sections ADVERSE REACTIONS and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Patients with hepatic impairment should be closely monitored. Although pharmacokinetic analysis results showed there is considerable inter-subject variation, the mean exposure to imatinib did not differ significantly between patients with mild and moderate liver dysfunction (as measured by dose normalized AUC) and patients with normal liver function. Patients with severe liver dysfunction demonstrated increased exposure to imatinib and its active metabolite CGP 74588. Liver function monitoring remains crucial as no long term toxicity and tolerability have been established (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).
In GIST patients with liver metastases, exposure to GLEEVEC® may be higher than in CML patients, due to impaired liver function (See ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Hepatotoxicity has been observed in patients treated with GLEEVEC®. All Grades of liver toxicity (including liver failure) were reported in up to 11.6% for newly diagnosed CML patients, up to 12% for other CML patients across all clinical trials, and up to 12.2% for unresectable and/or metastatic malignant GIST patients.

Toxicities From Long-Term Use: It is important to consider potential toxicities suggested by animal studies, specifically, *liver kidney and cardiac toxicity, and immunosuppression*. Liver toxicity was observed in rats, dogs and cynomolgus monkeys in repeated dose studies. Most

severe toxicity was noted in dogs and included elevated liver enzymes, hepatocellular necrosis, bile duct necrosis, and bile duct hyperplasia.

Renal

Renal toxicity was observed in monkeys treated for 2 weeks, with focal mineralization and dilation of the renal tubules and tubular nephrosis. Increased BUN and creatinine were observed in several of these animals.

GLEEVEC® and its metabolites are not excreted via the kidney to a significant extent. Creatinine clearance (CrCL) is known to decrease with age, and age did not significantly affect imatinib kinetics.

In patients with impaired renal function, GLEEVEC® plasma exposure is higher (1.5- to 2-fold increase) than in patients with normal renal function, probably due to an elevated plasma level of alpha-acid glycoprotein (AGP), a GLEEVEC®-binding protein, in patients with renal dysfunction. As well, there is a significant correlation in the incidence of serious adverse events with decreased renal function (p=0.0096). Patients with mild or moderate renal impairment should be treated with caution (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Since the effect of GLEEVEC® treatment on patients with severe renal dysfunction or on dialysis has not been sufficiently assessed, recommendations on the treatment of these patients with GLEEVEC® cannot be made. Patients with history of renal failure should be monitored carefully, and any patient with signs or symptoms consistent with renal failure should be evaluated and treated.

Respiratory

Pulmonary events: Rare cases of pulmonary fibrosis and interstitial pneumonitis have been reported in patients who have received GLEEVEC®. However, no definitive relationship has been established between the occurrence of these pulmonary events and treatment with GLEEVEC®.

Skin

Skin and Mucosa: Although rare, **Erythema multiforme** (EM), Toxic epidermal Necrolysis (TEN) and **Stevens Johnson** syndrome (SJS) have been reported in patients who have received GLEEVEC®. Skin biopsies in some cases of exfoliative skin rash associated with GLEEVEC® use have shown a mixed cellular infiltrate characteristic of a toxic drug reaction. Severe cases of exfoliative rash may require treatment interruption or discontinuation.

Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS), a potentially life-threatening syndrome including fever, severe skin eruption, lymphadenopathy, hematologic abnormalities (eosinophilia or atypical lymphocytes), and internal organ involvement, has also been reported in GLEEVEC-treated patients. DRESS regressed when GLEEVEC® was discontinued, and in all cases where the drug was re-introduced, DRESS recurred. If DRESS occurs, GLEEVEC should be interrupted, and permanent discontinuation should be considered.

Special Populations:

Female patient of Childbearing Potential:

Women of childbearing potential must be advised to use highly effective birth control during treatment. Highly effective contraception is a method of birth control which results in a low failure rate (i.e. less than 1% per year) when used consistently and correctly. (See Pregnant Women).

Women of child bearing potential should have a negative serum or urine pregnancy test with a sensitivity of at least 25 mIU/ml within 1 week prior to beginning therapy.

Pregnant Women:

Teratogenicity has been observed in rat studies (See TOXICOLOGY). There are no clinical trials on the use of GLEEVEC® in pregnant women. There have been post-market reports of spontaneous abortions and infant congenital anomalies from women who have taken GLEEVEC®.

GLEEVEC® should not be administered to pregnant women. Patients should advise their physician if they are pregnant. If it is used during pregnancy the patient should be apprised of the potential risk to the fetus.

Nursing Women:

In animals, imatinib and/or its metabolites were extensively excreted in milk. Both imatinib and its active metabolite can be distributed into human milk. There are two known cases of imatinib exposure during lactation. Their analysis shows the following results: the milk: plasma ratio was determined to be 0.5 for imatinib and 0.9 for the metabolite. Since the effects of exposure of the infant to imatinib are potentially serious, women taking GLEEVEC® should not breast feed.

Men:

Stem cell factor and c-Kit genes are known to be important for germ cell development. Human studies on male patients receiving GLEEVEC® and its effect on male fertility and spermatogenesis have not been performed. However, clinical evidence of profound oligospermia with GLEEVEC® use has been reported in the literature as has clinical evidence for maintained male fertility. There is also pre-clinical evidence of impaired spermatogenesis without a reduction in fertility (See TOXICOLOGY). Therefore, physicians should advise and counsel their male patients as appropriate.

Pediatrics:

There is no experience with the use of GLEEVEC® in pediatric patients with CML under 2 years of age. There is very limited to no experience with the use of GLEEVEC® in children in other indications.

There have been case reports and series demonstrating growth retardation in children and pre-adolescents receiving GLEEVEC®. No prospective studies have been carried out in this regard and the long term effects of prolonged treatment with GLEEVEC® on growth in children are unknown. In a juvenile toxicology study, transitory decreases in crown to rump length were observed (between days 17 and 52 post-partum) in rats administered approximately 2X the highest recommended human pediatric dose of 340 mg/m^2. At this dose, shortened tibia and femur lengths were non-reversible in female rats while a trend towards reversibility was seen in male rats (see TOXICOLOGY, Juvenile Developmental Toxicology). Another study demonstrated that rats administered imatinib resulted in premature growth plate closure (see *Vandyke et al*.). Therefore, close monitoring of growth in children under GLEEVEC® treatment is highly recommended.

Geriatrics:

In the CML phase II studies, approximately 20% of patients were older than 65 years. The efficacy of GLEEVEC® was similar in all age groups studied.

In the adjuvant GIST study, 221 patients (31%) were older than 65 years. No difference was observed in the safety profile in patients older than 65 years as compared to younger patients. The efficacy of GLEEVEC® was similar in patients older than 65 years and younger patients.

Monitoring and Laboratory tests:

Patients with known cardiac disease or risk factors for cardiac failure should be monitored carefully and those with symptoms or signs consistent with CHF should be evaluated and treated. In patients with history of cardiac disease or in elderly patients, a baseline evaluation of LVEF is recommended prior to initiation of GLEEVEC® therapy (see Cardiovascular).

For patients receiving GLEEVEC®, complete blood counts should be performed weekly for the first month, biweekly for the second month, and periodically thereafter as clinically indicated (for example every 2-3 months) (see Hematologic and DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION).

Liver function (transaminases, bilirubin, and alkaline phosphatase) should be monitored before initiation of treatment and monthly or as clinically indicated (see Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic and DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION).

Patients should be weighed and monitored regularly for signs and symptoms of fluid retention as fluid retention can occur after months of treatment with GLEEVEC® (see Fluid Retention and edema).

Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone (TSH) levels should be closely monitored in thyroidectomy patients undergoing levothyroxine replacement during treatment with GLEEVEC® (see Endocrine and Metabolism).

Signs and symptoms consistent with tumour lysis syndrome (e.g., hyperuricemia, hyperkalemia, hypocalcemia, hyperphosphatemia, acute renal failure, elevated LDH, high fevers) should be monitored at baseline and during initial treatment with GLEEVEC® (see Tumour Lysis Syndrome (TLS) and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Close monitoring of growth in children under GLEEVEC® treatment is highly recommended (see Special Populations, Pediatrics).

During treatment with GLEEVEC® serum electrolytes should be regularly monitored for possible hypophosphatemia, hyperkalemia, and hyponatremia in all patients as well as glucose, blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and creatinine. In addition, in pediatric patients, serum calcium and albumin should also be regularly monitored. Grades 3/4 hypophosphatemia have been observed in 16.5% (15% Grade 3 and 1.5% Grade 4) of patients in a phase I dose finding study 03001 (N=143) and a phase II study 0102 (N=260) of chronic myeloid leukemia in blast crisis.

In patients with CML, regular response monitoring, particularly when therapy is modified, is essential to detect early signs of loss of response so that appropriate actions can be taken to avoid disease progression. A loss of response can occur at any time, but is more likely when imatinib treatment is modified (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Women of child bearing potential should have a negative serum or urine pregnancy test with a sensitivity of at least 25 mIU/ml within 1 week prior to beginning therapy (see Special Populations).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adverse Drug Reaction Overview

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) was generally well tolerated across all studies in CML and GIST. Complications of advanced malignancies and co-administered medications make causality of adverse events difficult to assess in single arm studies. The majority of GLEEVEC®-treated patients experienced adverse events at some time.

Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions

Chronic Myeloid Leukemia

GLEEVEC® was generally well tolerated with chronic oral daily dosing in patients with CML including pediatric patients. The majority of patients experienced adverse events at some point in time, however, most events were of mild to moderate Grade. In adult clinical trials, drug discontinuation for drug-related adverse events was observed in 2.4% of newly diagnosed patients, in 5 % of patients in chronic phase, 8% in accelerated phase and 9% in blast crisis.

The most frequently reported drug-related adverse events were fluid retention (superficial edema and other fluid retention events), nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle cramps, fatigue and rash (Refer to Table 1 and 2 for newly diagnosed CML and other CML patients, respectively). Superficial edemas were a common finding in all studies described primarily as periorbital edemas or lower limb edemas. However, these edemas were rarely severe and may be managed with diuretics, other supportive measures, or by reducing the dose of GLEEVEC®. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

Other adverse events such as pleural effusion, ascites, pulmonary edema and rapid weight gain with or without superficial edema may be collectively described as "other fluid retention events". These events were usually managed by withholding GLEEVEC® treatment temporarily and/or with diuretics and/or other appropriate supportive care measures. However, a few of these events may be serious or life threatening and several patients with blast crisis died with a complex clinical history of pleural effusion, congestive heart failure and renal failure. The following tables list the adverse experiences which occurred in ≥ 10% of patients in the clinical trials, regardless of relationship to therapy.

Table 1 Adverse experiences Regardless of Relationship to Study Drug reported in newly diagnosed CML (≥10% of all patients)[1]

Adverse event (preferred term)	All Grades		CTC Grades 3/4	
	GLEEVEC® N=551 (%)	IFN+Ara-C N=533 (%)	GLEEVEC® N=551 (%)	IFN+Ara-C N=533 (%)
Any event	**99.1**	**99.6**	**57.2**	**77.3**
Gastrointestinal disorders				
Nausea	49.5	61.5	1.3	5.1
Diarrhea	45.4	43.3	3.3	3.2
Abdominal pain	36.5	25.9	4.2	3.9
Vomiting	22.5	27.8	2.0	3.4
Dyspepsia	18.9	8.3	0	0.8
Constipation	11.4	14.4	0.7	0.2
Dry mouth	2.9	10.9	0	0.2
General disorders and administration site conditions				
Fluid retention	61.7	11.1	2.5	0.9
- Superficial edema	59.9	9.6	1.5	0.4
- Other fluid retention events	6.9	1.9	1.3	0.6
Fatigue	38.8	67.0	1.8	25.1
Pyrexia	17.8	42.6	0.9	3.0
Rigors	9.3	34.0	0.2	0.8
Asthenia	8.0	16.9	0.2	3.8
Influenza like illness	7.3	15.9	0	0.9
Mucosal inflammation	1.1	10.3	0	3.2
Hepatobiliary disorders				
Liver toxicity (including liver failure)	11.6	17.3	4.0	5.1
Infections and infestations				
Nasopharyngitis	30.5	8.8	0	0.4
Upper respiratory tract infection	21.2	8.4	0.2	0.4
Influenza	13.8	6.2	0.2	0.2
Sinusitis	11.4	6.0	0.2	0.2
Investigations				
Weight increased	15.6	2.6	2.0	0.4
Weight decreased	5.1	17.3	0.4	1.3
Metabolic and nutritional disorders				
Anorexia	7.1	31.7	0	2.4
Musculoskeletal. & connective tissue disorders				
Muscle cramps	49.2	11.8	2.2	0.2
Musculoskeletal pain	47.0	44.8	5.4	8.6
Joint pain	31.4	38.1	2.5	7.7
Myalgia	24.1	38.8	1.5	8.3
Bone pain	11.3	15.6	1.6	3.4
Nervous system disorders				
Headache	37.0	43.3	0.5	3.8
Dizziness	19.4	24.4	0.9	3.8
Psychiatric disorders				

Depression	14.9	35.8	0.5	13.1
Insomnia	14.7	18.6	0	2.3
Anxiety	9.6	11.8	0.5	2.6
Respiratory disorders				
Cough	20.0	23.1	0.2	0.6
Pharyngolaryngeal pain	18.1	11.4	0.2	0
Dyspnea	9.3	14.4	1.8	1.7
Skin and subcutaneous disorders				
Rash and related terms	40.1	26.1	2.9	2.4
Night sweats	9.8	15.8	0.2	0.4
Pruritus	9.8	11.8	0.2	0.2
Sweating increased	5.8	14.8	0.2	0.4
Alopecia	4.9	22.3	0	0.6
Vascular disorders				
Hemorrhage	28.9	21.2	1.8	1.7
- GI hemorrhages	1.6	1.1	0.5	0.2
- CNS hemorrhages	0.2	0.4	0	0.4

(1) All adverse events occurring in ≥10% of patients are listed regardless of suspected relationship to treatment.

Table 2 Adverse Experiences Regardless of Relationship to Study Drug Reported in Other CML Clinical Trials (≥10% of All patients in any trial)[1]

System Affected	Myeloid blast crisis N=260 (%)		Accelerated phase N=235 (%)		Chronic phase IFN failure N=532 (%)	
	All Grades	CTC Grades 3/4	All Grades	CTC Grades 3/4	All Grades	CTC Grades 3/4
Gastrointestinal disorders						
Nausea	71	5	73	5	63	3
Vomiting	54	4	58	3	36	2
Diarrhea	43	4	57	5	48	3
Abdominal pain[¥]	30	6	33	4	32	1
Constipation	16	2	16	0.9	9	0.4
Dyspepsia	12	0	22	0	27	0
General disorders and administration site conditions						
Fluid retention[¥]	72	11	76	6	69	4
- Superficial edemas[¥]	66	6	74	3	67	2
- Other fluid retention events[2 ¥]	22	6	15	4	7	2
Pyrexia	41	7	41	8	21	2
Fatigue	30	4	46	4	48	1
Asthenia	18	5	21	5	15	0.2
Rigors	10	0	12	0.4	10	0
Chest pain	7	2	10	0.4	11	0.8
Hepatobiliary disorders						
Liver toxicity (including liver failure)	10	5	12	6	6	3
Infections and infestations						
Nasopharyngitis	10	0	17	0	22	0.2
Pneumonia NOS	13	7	10	7	4	1
Upper respiratory tract infection NOS	3	0	12	0.4	19	0
Sinusitis NOS	4	0.4	11	0.4	9	0.4
Influenza	0.8	0.4	6	0	11	0.2
Investigations						
Weight increase	5	1	17	5	32	7
Metabolic and nutritional disorders						
Anorexia	14	2	17	2	7	0
Hypokalemia	13	4	9	2	6	0.8
Musculoskeletal. & connective tissue disorders						
Musculoskeletal pain [¥]	42	9	49	9	38	2
Muscle cramps [¥]	28	1	47	0.4	62	2
Joint pain (Arthralgia)[¥]	25	5	34	6	40	1
Myalgia	9	0	24	2	27	0.2
Nervous system disorders						
Headache	27	5	32	2	36	0.6
Dizziness	12	0.4	13	0	16	0.2
Psychiatric disorders						
Insomnia	10	0	14	0	14	0.2
Anxiety	8	0.8	12	0	8	0.4

Respiratory disorders						
Dyspnea NOS	15	4	21	7	12	0.9
Cough	14	0.8	27	0.9	20	0
Pharyngitis	10	0	12	0	15	0
Skin and subcutaneous disorders						
Rash and related terms[¥]	36	5	47	5	47	3
Night sweats	13	0.8	17	1	14	0.2
Pruritis	8	1	14	0.9	14	0.8
Vascular disorders						
Hemorrhages[¥]	53	19	49	11	30	2
- CNS hemorrhages[¥]	9	7	3	3	2	1
- GI hemorrhages[¥]	8	4	6	5	2	0.4

[¥] **Grouped events**

(1) All adverse events occurring in ≥10% of patients are listed regardless of suspected relationship to treatment

(2) Other fluid retention events include pleural effusion, ascites, pulmonary edema, pericardial effusion, anasarca, edema aggravated, and fluid retention not otherwise specified.

Adverse Reactions in the Pediatric Population

The overall safety profile of GLEEVEC® treatment in 93 pediatric patients was similar to that observed in studies with adult patients. Nausea, vomiting were the most commonly reported individual adverse events with an incidence similar to that seen in adult patients. Although most patients experienced adverse events at some time during the studies, the incidence of Grade 3/4 adverse events was low.

Significantly higher frequencies of hypocalcemia (23.5 vs 1.1%), hyperglycemia (19.6 vs 2.9%), hypoglycemia (21.6 vs 1.5%), hypophosphatemia (19.6 vs 3.3%), hypoalbuminemia (13.7 vs 0.2%) and hyponatremia (13.7 vs 0.2%) were observed in pediatric patients compared to adult patients.

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia:

The adverse reactions were similar for Ph+ ALL as for CML. The most frequently reported non-hematologic drug-related adverse events were fluid retention (superficial edema and other fluid retention events), nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle cramps, fatigue and rash. Superficial edemas were a common finding in all studies described primarily as periorbital edemas or lower limb edemas. However, these edemas were rarely severe and may be managed with diuretics, other supportive measures, or by reducing the dose of GLEEVEC® (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Myelodysplastic/Myeloproliferative Diseases:

Adverse events, regardless of relationship to study drug, that were reported in at least 10% of the patients treated with GLEEVEC® for MDS/MPD in Trial B2225, are shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Adverse Experiences Regardless of Relationship to Study Drug Reported (more than one patient) in MDS/MPD Patients in Trial B2225 (≥10% all patients) all Grades

Preferred term	N=7 n (%)
Nausea	4 (57.1)
Diarrhea	3 (42.9)
Anemia	2 (28.6)
Fatigue	2 (28.6)
Muscle cramp	3 (42.9)
Arthralgia	2 (28.6)
Periorbital edema	2 (28.6)

Aggressive sub-types of Systemic Mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD)

All ASM patients experienced at least one adverse event at some time. The most frequently reported adverse events were diarrhea, nausea, ascites, muscle cramps, dyspnea, fatigue, peripheral edema, anemia, pruritis, rash and lower respiratory tract infection. None of the 5 patients in Study B2225 with ASM discontinued GLEEVEC® due to drug-related adverse events or abnormal laboratory values.

Hypereosinophilic Syndrome and Chronic Eosinophilic Leukemia

The overall safety profile in this HES/CEL small patient population does not seem different from the known safety profile of GLEEVEC® observed in other larger populations of hematologic malignancies, such as CML. However, in patients with HES and cardiac involvement, isolated cases of cardiogenic shock/left ventricular dysfunction have been associated with the initiation of GLEEVEC® therapy. The condition was reported to be reversible with the administration of systemic steroids, circulatory support measures and temporarily withholding GLEEVEC® (see WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS). All patients experienced at least one adverse event, the most common being gastrointestinal, cutaneous and musculoskeletal disorders. Hematologic abnormalities were also frequent, with instances of CTC Grade 3 leukopenia, neutropenia, lymphopenia and anemia.

Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans

Adverse events, regardless of relationship to study drug, that were reported in at least 10% of the 12 patients treated with GLEEVEC® for DFSP in Trial B2225 are shown in Table 4.

Table 4 Adverse Experiences Regardless of Relationship to Study Drug Reported in DFSP Patients in Trial B2225 (≥10% all patients) all Grades

Preferred term	N=12 n (%)
Nausea	5 (41.7)
Diarrhea	3 (25.0)
Vomiting	3 (25.0)
Periorbital edema	4 (33.3)
Face edema	2 (16.7)
Rash	3 (25.0)
Fatigue	5 (41.7)
Edema peripheral	4 (33.3)
Pyrexia	2 (16.7)
Eye edema	4 (33.3)
Lacrimation increased	3 (25.0)
Dyspnea exertional	2 (16.7)
Anemia	3 (25.0)
Rhinitis	2 (16.7)
Anorexia	2 (16.7)

Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors

Unresectable and/or Metastatic Malignant GIST

GLEEVEC® was generally well tolerated in patients with unresectable and/or metastatic malignant GIST. Most events were of mild to moderate severity. Drug was discontinued for adverse events in 7 (4.7%) patients in both treatment groups. The most frequently reported adverse events were edema, nausea, diarrhea, abdominal pain, muscle cramps, fatigue and rash.

Adverse events, regardless of relationship to study drug, that were reported in at least 10% of the patients treated with GLEEVEC® are shown in Table 5. No major differences were seen in the incidence or severity of adverse events between the 400 mg or 600 mg dose groups.

Table 5 Adverse Experiences Regardless of Relationship to Study Drug Reported in the Unresectable and/or Metastatic Malignant GIST (B2222) trial (≥10%) of all patients[(1)]

	All doses (n=147) 600 mg n=73	
	All Grades (%)	**Grades 3/4** (%)
Preferred Term		
Blood and lymphatic system disorders		
Anemia	19.7	5.4
Eye disorders		
Lacrimation increased	17.0	0
Gastrointestinal disorders		
Nausea	68.7	4.8
Diarrhea	64.6	4.8
Abdominal pain	57.1	8.8
Vomiting	36.7	4.1
Flatulence	32.0	0
Dyspepsia	15.0	0
Constipation	10.2	0.7
General disorders and administration site conditions		
Any Fluid retention	80.3	9.5
Superficial edema	78.9	5.4
Other fluid retention events [(2)]	13.6	5.4
Fatigue	50.3	1.4
Pyrexia	20.4	1.4
Other hemorrage	24.5	2.7
Hepatobiliary disorders		
Liver Toxicity	12.2	6.8
Infections and infestations		
Nasopharyngitis	23.8	0
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	15.6	0
Musculoskeletal. & connective tissue disorders		
Muscle cramps	52.4	0
Musculoskeletal pain	33.3	3.4
Back pain	24.5	0
Join Pain	12.9	0.7
Nervous system disorders		
Headache	36.1	0
Dizziness	11.6	0
Peaces abnormal		
Loose Stools	10.9	0
Psychiatric disorders		
Insomnia	18.4	0.7
Anxiety	8.8	0
Respiratory disorders		
Pharyngolaryngeal Pain	9.5	0
Skin and subcutaneous disorders		
Rash and related terms	45.6	3.4
Surgical and medical procedures		
Operation	10.2	4.8
Vascular disorders		
Any Hemorrhage	29.9	8.2
Upper G-I tract bleeding/perforation	4.1	3.4
Tumor Hemorrhage	2.7	2.7

[(1)] All adverse events occurring in ≥10% of patients are listed regardless of suspected relationship to treatment.
[(2)] Other fluid retention events included pleural effusion and ascites.

Adjuvant Treatment of GIST

The majority of both GLEEVEC® and placebo treated patients experienced at least one adverse reaction at some time. The most frequently reported adverse reactions were similar to those reported in other clinical studies in other patient populations and include diarrhea, fatigue, nausea, edema, decreased hemoglobin, rash, vomiting and abdominal pain. No new adverse reactions were reported in the adjuvant GIST treatment setting that had not been previously reported in other patient populations including patients with unresectable and/or malignant metastatic GIST. Drug was discontinued for adverse reactions in 57 patients (17%) and 11 patients (3%) of the GLEEVEC® and placebo treated patients respectively. Edema, gastrointestinal disturbances (nausea, vomiting, abdominal distension and diarrhea), fatigue, low hemoglobin and rash were the most frequently reported adverse reactions at the time of discontinuation.

Adverse reactions, regardless of relationship to study drug, that were reported in at least 5% of the patients treated with GLEEVEC® are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Adverse Reactions Regardless of Relationship to Study Drug Reported in the Adjuvant GIST Trial (≥5% of GLEEVEC® Treated Patients)

	All CTC Grades		CTC Grade 3 and above	
	GLEEVEC® (n=337)	Placebo (n=345)	GLEEVEC® (n=337)	Placebo (n=345)
Preferred Term	**%**	**%**	**%**	**%**
Blood and lymphatic system disorders				
Leukopenia	5.0	2.6	0.3	0
Eye disorders				
Lacrimation Increased	9.8	3.8	0	0
Vision Blurred	5.0	2.3	0	0
Gastrointestinal disorders				
Diarrhea	59.3	29.3	3.0	1.4
Nausea	53.1	27.8	2.4	1.2
Vomiting	25.5	13.9	2.4	0.6
Abdominal Pain	21.1	22.3	3.0	1.4
Dyspepsia	17.2	13.0	0.9	0
Constipation	12.8	17.7	0	0.3
Abdominal Distension	7.4	6.4	0.3	0.3
Flatulence	8.9	9.6	0	0
Abdominal Pain Upper	6.2	6.4	0.3	0
Stomatitis	5.0	1.7	0.6	0
General disorders and administration site conditions				
Fatigue	57.0	40.9	2.1	1.2
Peripheral Edema	26.7	14.8	0.3	0
Facial Edema	6.8	1.2	0.3	0
Hepatobiliary disorders				
Liver enzymes (ALT) Increased	16.6	13.0	2.7	0
Liver Enzymes (AST) Increased	12.2	7.5	2.1	0

Investigations				
Hemoglobin Decreased	46.9	27.0	0.6	0
Weight Increased	16.9	11.6	0.3	0
Neutrophil Count Decreased	16.0	6.1	3.3	0.9
White Blood Cell Count Decreased	14.5	4.3	0.6	0.3
Blood Creatinine Increased	11.6	5.8	0	0.3
Weight Decreased	10.1	5.2	0	0
Blood Alkaline Phosphatase Increased	6.5	7.5	0	0
Platelet Count Decreased	5.0	3.5	0	0
Metabolic and nutritional disorders				
Anorexia	16.9	8.7	0.3	0
Hyperglycemia	9.8	11.3	0.6	1.7
Hypokalemia	7.1	2.0	0.9	0.6
Hypocalcemia	5.6	1.7	0.3	0
Musculoskeletal. & connective tissue disorders				
Muscle spasms	16.3	3.3	0	0
Myalgia	12.2	11.6	0	0.3
Arthralgia	15.1	14.5	0	0.3
Back Pain	7.4	8.1	0.6	0
Pain in Extremity	7.4	7.2	0.3	0
Nervous system disorders				
Headache	19.3	20.3	0.6	0
Dizziness	12.5	10.7	0	0.3
Insomnia	9.8	7.2	0.9	0
Depression	6.8	6.4	0.9	0.6
Dysgeusia	6.5	2.9	0	0
Neuropathy Peripheral	5.9	6.4	0	0
Respiratory disorders				
Cough	11.0	11.3	0	0
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	5.0	3.5	0	0
Skin and subcutaneous disorders				
Periorbital Edema	47.2	14.5	1.2	0
Rash (Exfoliative)	26.1	12.8	2.7	0
Pruritus	11.0	7.8	0.9	0
Alopecia	9.5	6.7	0	0
Rash	8.9	5.2	0.9	0
Dry skin	6.5	5.2	0	0

[1]All adverse reactions occurring in ≥5% of patients are listed regardless of suspected relationship to treatment.
A patient with multiple occurrences of an adverse reaction is counted only once in the adverse reaction category.

Adverse Drug Reactions in clinical studies for CML and Unresectable and/or Metastatic Malignant GIST

The following adverse reactions as applicable are ranked under headings of frequency, the most frequent first, using the following convention: *Very common (≥ 1/10); common (≥ 1/100, <1/10); uncommon (≥ 1/1000, < 1/100); rare (≥ 1/10,000, < 1/1000); very rare (< 1/10,000), including isolated reports*. Adverse reactions reported below are based on the registration studies for CML and GIST. Frequencies are determined by reported related events according to the investigator.

Cardiovascular

Common: flushing[1]

Uncommon: palpitations, cardiac failure congestive (on a patient-year basis, cardiac events including congestive heart failure were more commonly observed in patients with transformed CML than in patients with chronic CML), pulmonary edema, tachycardia, hypertension[1], hematoma[1], hypotension[1], peripheral coldness[1], Raynaud's phenomenon[1]

Rare: arrhythmia, atrial fibrillation, cardiac arrest, myocardial infarction, angina pectoris, pericardial effusion

Clinical laboratory tests (See Tables 7, 8 and 10)

Uncommon: blood CPK increased, blood LDH increased

Rare: blood amylase increased

Dermatologic

Common: pruritus, face edema, dry skin, erythema, alopecia, photosensitivity reaction

Uncommon: rash pustular, sweating increased, urticaria, increased tendency to bruise, exfoliative dermatitis, onychoclasis, folliculitis, petechie, psoriasis, bullous eruption, nail disorder, skin pigmentation changes, purpura, palmar-plantar erythrodysaesthesia syndrome

Rare: nail discolouration, vesicular rash, erythema multiforme, leucocytoclastic vasculitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP), acute febrile neutrophilic dermatosis (Sweet's syndrome)

Digestive

Common: flatulence, abdominal distension, gastroesophageal reflux, dry mouth, gastritis

Uncommon: stomatitis, mouth ulceration, eructation, malaena, oesophagitis, ascites, gastric ulcer, hematemesis, cheilitis, dysphagia, pancreatitis

Rare: colitis, ileus, inflammatory bowel disease.

General Disorders and Administration Site Conditions

Common: weakness, anasarca, chills, rigors

Uncommon: chest pain, malaise

Hematologic (See Tables 8, 9 and 11)
Common: pancytopenia, febrile neutropenia
Uncommon: thrombocythemia, lymphopenia, eosinophilia, lymphadenopathy
Rare: aplastic anemia, hemolytic anemia

Hepatobiliary disorders
Uncommon: jaundice, hepatitis, hyperbilirubinemia
Rare: hepatic failure, hepatic necrosis (some fatal cases of hepatic necrosis have been reported)

Hypersensitivity
Rare: angioedema

Infections
Uncommon: sepsis, herpes simplex, herpes zoster, sinusitis, cellulitis, influenza, urinary tract infection , gastroenteritis
Rare: fungal infection

Metabolic and nutritional
Common: anorexia, weight decreased
Uncommon: hypophosphatemia, dehydration, gout, appetite disturbances, hyperuricemia, hypercalcemia, hyperglycemia, hyponatremia
Rare: hyperkalemia, hypomagnesemia

Musculoskeletal
Common: joint swelling
Uncommon: joint and muscle stiffness
Rare: muscular weakness, arthritis

Nervous system/psychiatric
Common: paresthesia, taste disturbance, hypoesthesia
Uncommon: depression[2], libido decrease, syncope, peripheral neuropathy, somnolence, migraine, memory impairment, sciatica, restless leg syndrome, tremor
Rare: increased intracranial pressure, confusion, convulsions, optic neuritis

Neoplasm benign, malignant and unspecified (including cysts and polyps)
Uncommon: Tumor lysis syndrome

Renal
Uncommon: renal pain, renal failure acute, urinary frequency increased, hematuria

Reproductive
Uncommon: erectile dysfunction, breast enlargement, menorrhagia, menstruation irregular, sexual dysfunction, nipple pain, scrotal edema

Respiratory
Common: dyspnea, epistaxis, cough

Uncommon: pleural effusion (pleural effusion was reported more commonly in patients with GIST and in patients with transformed CML (CML-AP and CML-BC) than in patients with chronic CML), pharyngolaryngeal pain, pharyngitis

Rare: pleuritic pain, pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension, pulmonary hemorrhage

Special senses

Common: eyelid edema, lacrimation increased, conjunctival hemorrhage, conjunctivitis, dry eye, vision blurred

Uncommon: eye irritation, eye pain, orbital edema, scleral hemorrhage, retinal hemorrhage, blepharitis, macular edema, vertigo, tinnitus, hearing loss

Rare: cataract, papilledema, glaucoma

[1] Vascular disorders (flushing was most common in GIST patients and hematoma was most common in patients with GIST and transformed CML (CML-AP and CML-BC).
[2] Depression may lead to suicide ideation and/or suicide attempts.

Second malignancies in GLEEVEC®- treated patients:

Table 7 Observed and expected numbers of cases of second malignancies (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) in clinical trials

Cancer type	Person-years	Number of cases Observed	Expected[1]	SIR (95% CI)
Cancer any type	10,967.03	79	91.16	0.87 (0.69-1.08)
Prostate	6,106.54	16	18.70	0.86 (0.49-1.39)
Kidney	10,769.60	3	2.26	1.33 (0.27-3.88)
Urinary bladder	10,766.46	2	3.72	0.54 (0.06-1.94)

[1] Expected in the general population
SIR: Standardized incidence ratio

The numbers of cancers reported in the clinical trials were similar to those expected in the general population. The observed numbers of cases for all cancers, prostate cancer and urinary bladder cancer were slightly lower than those expected in the general population, while the number of observed kidney cancer cases was slightly higher (3 compared to 2.26 expected cases respectively). In all cases, the differences were not statistically significant.

Abnormal Hematologic and Clinical Chemistry Findings

Laboratory test abnormalities in CML clinical trials

Cytopenias, and particularly neutropenia and thrombocytopenia, have been a consistent finding in all studies, with the suggestion of a higher frequency at doses ≥ 750 mg (phase I study). However, the occurrence of cytopenias was also clearly dependent on the stage of the disease.

In patients with newly diagnosed CML, cytopenias were less frequent than in other CML patients (Tables 8 and 9). The frequency of Grade 3 or 4 neutropenia (ANC $<1.0x10^9$/L) and thrombocytopenia (platelet count $<50x10^9$/L) were higher in blast crisis and accelerated phase (36-48% and 32-33% for neutropenia and thrombocytopenia, respectively, Table 9) as compared to chronic phase CML (27% neutropenia and 21% thrombocytopenia). In chronic phase CML a Grade 4 neutropenia (ANC $<0.5x10^9$/L) and thrombocytopenia (platelet count $<10x10^9$/L) were observed in 9% and <1% of patients, respectively. The median duration of the neutropenic and thrombocytopenic episodes ranged usually from 2 to 3 weeks and from 3 to 4 weeks, respectively. These events can usually be managed with either a reduction of the dose or an interruption of treatment with GLEEVEC®, but can, in rare cases, lead to permanent discontinuation of treatment (see WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS for Hematologic Toxicity).

Severe elevation of transaminases or bilirubin has been seen in <5% CML patients and were usually managed with dose reduction or interruption (the median duration of these episodes was approximately one week). Treatment was discontinued permanently because of liver laboratory abnormalities in less than 1.0% of CML patients. There have been cases of hepatic necrosis and cholestatic hepatitis and hepatic failure; in some of which outcome was fatal (See DRUG INTERACTIONS).

Table 8 Newly occurring Grades 3/4 biochemical toxicities in newly diagnosed CML patients

Parameter	GLEEVEC® n=551 %		IFN + Ara-C n=533 %	
	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 3	Grade 4
Hematologic				
Leucopenia	9.3	0.5	12.9	0.8
Neutropenia*	13.1	3.6	20.8	4.5
Thrombocytopenia*	8.5	0.4	15.9	0.6
Anemia	3.3	1.1	4.1	0.2
Biochemistry				
Elevated creatinine	0	0	0.4	0
Elevated bilirubin	0.9	0.2	0.2	0
Elevated alkaline phosphatase	0.2	0	0.8	0
Elevated SGOT (AST)/ SGPT (ALT)	4.7	0.5	7.1	0.4

*p<0.001 (Difference in Grade 3 + Grade 4 abnormalities between the two treatment groups).

Table 9 Laboratory test abnormalities in other CML clinical trials

	Myeloid blast crisis n= 260 (%)		Accelerated phase n=235 (%)		Chronic phase, IFN failure n=532 (%)	
	Grade 3	**Grade 4**	**Grade 3**	**Grade 4**	**Grade 3**	**Grade 4**
Hematology parameters						
Neutropenia	16	48	23	36	27	9
Thrombocytopenia	30	33	32	13	21	<1
Anemia	42	11	34	7	6	1
Biochemistry parameters						
Elevated creatinine	1.5	0	1.3	0	0.2	0
Elevated bilirubin	3.8	0	2.1	0	0.6	0
Elevated alkaline phosphatase	4.6	0	5.5	0.4	0.2	0
Elevated SGOT (AST)	1.9	0	3	0	2.3	0
Elevated SGPT (ALT)	2.3	0.4	4.3	0	2.1	0

CTC grades: neutropenia (grade 3 ≥0.5 - 1.0 x 10^9/L), grade 4 <0.5 x 10^9/L), thrombocytopenia (grade 3 ≥10 - 50 x 10^9/L, grade 4 <10 x 10^9/L), anemia (hemoglobin ≥65 - 80 g/L, grade 4 <65 g/L), elevated creatinine (grade 3 >3-6 x upper limit normal range (ULN), grade 4 >6 x ULN), elevated bilirubin (grade 3 >3-10 x ULN, grade 4 >10 x ULN), elevated alkaline phosphatase (grade 3 > 5-20 x ULN, grade 4 >20 x ULN), elevated SGOT or SGPT (grade 3 >5-20 x ULN, grade 4 >20 x ULN).

Clinically relevant or severe abnormalities of the 12 patients treated with GLEEVEC® for DFSP in Trial B2225 are presented in Table 10.

Table 10 Laboratory Abnormalities Reported in DFSP Patients in Trial B2225

	N=12	
CTC Grades	**Grade 3**	**Grade 4**
Hematology Parameters		
- Anemia	17%	0%
- Thrombocytopenia	17%	0%
- Neutropenia	0%	8%
Biochemistry Parameters		
- Elevated Creatinine	0%	8%

CTC Grades: neutropenia (Grade 3 ≥0.5-1.0 x 10^9/L, Grade 4 <0.5 x 10^9/L), thrombocytopenia (Grade 3 ≥10 - 50 x 10^9/L, Grade 4 <10 x 10^9/L), anemia (Grade 3 ≥65-80 g/L, Grade 4 <65 g/L), elevated creatinine (Grade 3 >3-6 x upper limit normal range [ULN], Grade 4 >6 x ULN).

In unresectable and/or metastatic malignant GIST patients (study B2222), 6.8% Grade 3 or 4 SGPT (serum glutamic pyruvic transferase) elevations and 4.8% Grade 3 or 4 SGOT (serum glutamic oxaloacetic transferase) elevations were observed. Bilirubin elevation was below 3%.

Clinically relevant or severe abnormalities of routine hematologic or biochemistry laboratory values were rare ((Table 11).

Table 11 Laboratory Abnormalities in the Unresectable and/or Metastatic Malignant GIST B2222 Trial

Parameter	All doses (n=147) 400 mg n=73 600 mg n=74 n (%)		
	Baseline †	New or Worsening Highest CTC Grade During Treatment	
CTC Grading	All Grades (1-4)	Grade 3	Grade 4
Hematology parameters			
Anemia	70 (47.6)	8 (5.4)	1 (0.7)
Thrombocytopenia	7 (4.8)	1 (0.7)	0
Neutropenia	10 (6.8)	11 (7.5)	4 (2.7)
Biochemistry parameters			
Elevated creatinine	8 (5.4)	2 (1.4)	0
Reduced albumin	60 (40.8)	5 (3.4)	0
Elevated bilirubin	5 (3.4)	2 (1.4)	2 (1.4)
Elevated alkaline phosphatase	58 (39.5)	2 (1.4)	0
Elevated SGOT (AST)	32 (21.8)	5 (3.4)	2 (1.4)
Elevated SGPT (ALT)	19 (13.0)	9 (6.1)	1 (0.7)

† New or worsening of CTC Grade for any individual patient for whom data is included in the All Grade (1-4) Baseline data cannot be inferred from this table.

CTC grades: neutropenia (grade 1= 1.5-< 2.0 x 10^9 /L, grade 2=1.0 - < 1.5 x 10^9 /L, grade 3 =0.5 -< 1.0 x 10^9/L, grade 4 <0.5 x 10^9/L), thrombocytopenia (grade 1 < LLN - 75.0 x 10^9/L, grade 2=50.0 - <75.0 x 10^9 /L, grade 3=10.0 - <50.0 x 10^9/L, grade 4 <10.0 x 10^9/L), anemia (hemoglobin: grade 1< LLN - 100 g/L, grade 2= 80 - < 100 g/L, grade 3=65 - <80 g/L, grade 4 <65 g/L), elevated creatinine (grade 1 > ULN - 1.5 x ULN, grade 2 > 1.5 - 3.0 x ULN, grade 3 >3.0 - 6.0 x upper limit normal range (ULN), grade 4 >6.0 x ULN), reduced albumin (grade 1 < LLN - 30 g/L, grade 2= 20 - < 30 g/L, grade 3 < 20 g/L, grade 4 -), elevated bilirubin (grade 1 > ULN - 1.5 x ULN, grade 2 > 1.5 - 3 x ULN, grade 3 >3-10 x ULN, grade 4 >10 x ULN), elevated alkaline phosphatase (grade 1 > ULN - 2.5 x ULN, grade 2 > 2.5-5 x ULN, grade 3 >5-20 x ULN, grade 4 >20 x ULN), elevated SGOT or SGPT (grade 1 > ULN - 2.5 x ULN, grade 2 > 2.5 - 5.0 x ULN, grade 3 >5-20 x ULN, grade 4 >20 x ULN).

Adverse Reactions from Post-Marketing reports

The following types of ADRs have been reported from post-marketing experience and from additional clinical studies with GLEEVEC®. They include spontaneous case reports as well as serious ADRs from smaller or ongoing clinical studies and the expanded access programs. Because these reactions are reported from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to GLEEVEC® exposure.

Cardiovascular: thrombosis/embolism[1], pericarditis, cardiac tamponade, anaphylactic shock[1] subdural hematoma[1]

Dermatology: lichenoid keratosis, lichen planus, toxic epidermal necrolysis, drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic syndroms (DRESS)

Digestive: Ileus/intestinal obstruction, tumor hemorrhage/tumor necrosis, gastrointestinal perforation (some fatal cases of gastrointestinal perforation have been reported) Diverticulitis, gastric antral vascular ectasia (GAVE)

General: motor vehicle accidents

Hepatic: Hepatitis, Hepatotoxicity with fatal outcomes (See **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS** and **DRUG INTERACTIONS**)

Musculoskeletal: avascular necrosis/hip osteonecrosis, rhabdomyolysis/myopathy, growth retardation in children

Nervous system/psychiatric: cerebral edema (including fatalities)

Reproductive: Hemorrhagic corpus luteum / hemorrhagic ovarian cyst

Respiratory: acute respiratory failure (fatal cases have been reported in patients with advanced disease, severe infections, severe neutropenia and other serious concomitant conditions), interstitial lung disease

Special senses: vitreous hemorrhage

Neoplasm benign, malignant and unspecified (including cysts and polyps):
Tumor lysis syndrome, some of which were fatal.

[1] Vascular disorders.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Drug-Drug Interactions

Drugs that may alter imatinib plasma concentrations

Drugs that may **increase** imatinib plasma concentrations:

Substances that inhibit the cytochrome P450 isoenzyme (CYP3A4) activity may decrease metabolism and increase imatinib concentrations. There was a significant increase in exposure to imatinib (mean C_{max} and AUC of imatinib increased by 26% and 40%, respectively) in healthy subjects when GLEEVEC® was co-administered with a single dose of ketoconazole (CYP3A4 inhibitor). Caution is recommended when administering GLEEVEC® with inhibitors of the CYP3A4 family (e.g. ketoconazole, erythromycin, clarithromycin, itraconazole, grapefruit juice).

Drugs that may **decrease** imatinib plasma concentrations:

Substances that are inducers of CYP3A4 activity may increase metabolism and decrease imatinib plasma concentrations. Co-medications that induce CYP3A4 (e.g., dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampicin, phenobarbital or St. John's Wort) may significantly reduce exposure to GLEEVEC®.

Administration of rifampin 600 mg daily for eight days to 14 healthy adult volunteers, followed by a single 400 mg dose of GLEEVEC® increased imatinib oral dose clearance by 3.8-fold (90% CI 3.5- to 4.3-fold). Mean C_{max}, AUC_{0-24} and $AUC_{0-\infty}$ decreased by 54%, 68% and 74%, respectively compared to treatment without rifampin.

Similar results were observed in patients with malignant gliomas treated with GLEEVEC® while taking enzyme-inducing anti-epileptic drugs (EIAEDs) such as carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, phenytoin, fosphenytoin, phenobarbital, and primidone. The plasma AUC for imatinib decreased by 73% compared to patients not on EIADs.

In two published studies, concomitant administration of GLEEVEC® and a product containing St. John's wort led to a 30 to 32% reduction in the AUC of GLEEVEC®. In patients in whom rifampin or other CYP3A4 inducers are indicated, alternate therapeutic agents with less enzyme induction potential should be considered.

Drugs that may have their plasma concentration altered by GLEEVEC®

There is limited data on drug interactions. Since the major metabolic pathway is CYP3A4 mediated and GLEEVEC® is an inhibitor of CYP2D6, precaution should be exercised with the co-administration of the following classes of drugs.

Table 12 Common classes of drugs used in patients with CML

CYP3A4			CYP2D6	
Inhibitors	**Inducers**	**Substrates**	**Inhibitors**	**Substrates**
Cyclosporine Imidazole antifungals Macrolide antibiotics Metronidazole	Antiepileptics Glucocorticoids Rifampicin St. John's wort	Busulphan Calcium-channel blockers Cyclophosphamide Cyclosporine Doxorubicin Epipodophyllotoxins Glucocorticoids Ifosphamide Imidazole antifungals Macrolide antibiotics (Azithromycin, Clarithromycin, Erythromycin) PPIs Retinoic acid Rifampicin Serotonin-H_3 antagonists Vinca alkaloids	Dextropropoxyphene Doxorubicin Quinidine Vinca alkaloids	Cyclophosphamide Beta blockers Morphine Oxycodone Serotonin-H_3 antagonists

GLEEVEC® increases the mean C_{max} and AUC of simvastatin (CYP3A4 substrate) 2- and 3.5-fold, respectively, suggesting an inhibition of the CYP3A4 by GLEEVEC®. Therefore, caution is recommended when administering GLEEVEC® with CYP3A4 substrates with a narrow therapeutic window (e.g. cyclosporine, pimozide), (See ADVERSE REACTIONS.)

In vitro, GLEEVEC® inhibits the cytochrome P450 isoenzyme CYP2D6 activity at similar concentrations that affect CYP3A4 activity. Imatinib at 400 mg twice daily had a weak inhibitory effect on CYP2D6-mediated metoprolol metabolism, with metoprolol Cmax and AUC being increased by approximately 23%. Caution is advised for CYP2D6 substrates with a narrow therapeutic window such as metoprolol. In patients treated with GLEEVEC® and metoprolol clinical monitoring should be considered.

In vitro data suggest that GLEEVEC® has some capacity to act as an inhibitor of CYP2C9, although at concentrations higher than would be expected in plasma with recommended doses. However, caution should be exercised with the concomitant use of drugs metabolized by CYP2C9 (e.g. warfarin).

In view of the potential interaction between GLEEVEC® and warfarin, the international normalised ratio (INR) of patients who require anticoagulation with warfarin should be monitored closely, especially when GLEEVEC® dose adjustments are necessary. Consideration should be given to anticoagulation with low-molecular weight heparin or unfractionated heparin.

In vitro, GLEEVEC® inhibits acetaminophen O-glucuronidation metabolic pathway with Ki value of 58.5µmol/L. Based on the *in vitro* results, systemic exposure to acetaminophen would be expected to increase when co-administered with GLEEVEC®. A clinical study showed that co-administration of GLEEVEC® (400 mg/day between days two and eight) in the presence

of single dose acetaminophen (1000 mg/day on day eight) in CML patients did not alter the pharmacokinetics of acetaminophen. GLEEVEC® pharmacokinetics was also not altered in the presence of single-dose acetaminophen. However, there are no pharmacokinetic or safety data on the concomitant use of GLEEVEC® at doses > 400 mg/day or the chronic use of concomitant acetaminophen and GLEEVEC®. Hence CAUTION is recommended in patients on the concomitant use of GLEEVEC® with acetaminophen.

Drug-Food Interactions

There were no clinically relevant differences in absorption when GLEEVEC® was administered either with food or in the fasting state. The concomitant use of grapefruit juice should be avoided.

Drug-Lifestyle Interactions

Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Reports of motor vehicle accidents have been received in patients receiving GLEEVEC®. Patients should be advised that they may experience undesirable effects such as dizziness, blurred vision or somnolence during treatment with GLEEVEC®. Therefore, caution should be recommended when driving a car or operating machinery.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Dosing Considerations

Therapy should be administered under the supervision of a physician experienced in the treatment of patients with hematological malignancies and/or malignant sarcomas.

The prescribed dose should be administered orally, during a meal and with a large glass of water to minimize the risk of gastrointestinal disturbances. Doses of 400 mg or 600 mg should be administered once daily, whereas a dose of 800 mg should be administered as 400 mg twice a day in the morning and in the evening. Efficacy data for the 800 mg/day dose are limited.

Dosing in pediatric patients should be on the basis of body surface area (mg/m^2). Treatment can be given as a once daily dose or alternatively the daily dose may be split into two administrations – one in the morning and one in the evening. (See CLINICAL TRIALS SECTION AND ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY SECTION). There is no experience with the use of GLEEVEC® in pediatric patients with CML under 2 years of age. There is very limited to no experience with the use of GLEEVEC® in children in other indications.

For patients unable to swallow the film-coated tablets, the tablets may be dispersed in a glass of water or apple juice. The required number of tablets should be placed in the appropriate volume of beverage (approximately 50 mL for a 100 mg tablet, and 200 mL for a 400 mg tablet) and stirred with a spoon. The suspension should be administered immediately after complete disintegration of the tablet(s). Traces of the disintegrated tablet left in the glass after drinking should also be consumed.

Treatment should be continued as long as the patient continues to benefit.

For daily dosing of 800 mg, GLEEVEC® should be administered using the 400 mg tablet twice a day to reduce exposure to iron.

Preventative measures should be considered prior to treatment with GLEEVEC® in patients with increased risk for TLS (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS and Monitoring and Laboratory Tests).

Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

Chronic myeloid leukemia (CML)

The recommended dosage of GLEEVEC® is 400 mg/day for adult patients with newly diagnosed CML or in chronic phase CML. The recommended dosage for adult patients in accelerated phase or blast crisis is 600 mg/day. The recommended dosage of GLEEVEC® for pediatric patients with newly diagnosed Ph+ CML is 340 mg/m^2/day (rounded to the nearest 100 mg, i.e not to exceed 600 mg).

In CML, a dose increase from 400 mg to 600 mg or to 800 mg/day in adult patients with chronic phase disease, or from 600 mg to 800 mg (given as 400 mg twice daily) in adult patients in accelerated phase or blast crisis may be considered in the absence of severe adverse drug reactions and severe non-leukemia related neutropenia or thrombocytopenia in the following circumstances: disease progression (at any time); failure to achieve a satisfactory hematologic response after at least 3 months of treatment; failure to achieve a cytogenetic response after 12 months of treatment; or loss of a previously achieved hematologic and/or cytogenetic response.

Patients with CML should undergo regular response monitoring (See WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS). Any changes to patient imatinib therapy (for example, when imatinib dose is lowered due to occurrence of side effects) should be followed by close response monitoring.

Ph+ Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (Ph+ALL)

The recommended dose of GLEEVEC® for use as a single-agent for induction phase therapy in adult patients with newly diagnosed Ph+ALL, or for adult patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL is 600 mg/day.

Myelodysplastic/Myeloproliferative Diseases (MDS/MPD)

The recommended dose of GLEEVEC® is 400 mg/day for adult patients with MDS/MPD

Aggressive sub-types of Systemic Mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD)

The recommended dose of GLEEVEC® is 400 mg/day for adult patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD without the D816V c-Kit mutation or mutational status unknown and not responding satisfactory to other therapies.

For patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD associated with eosinophilia, a clonal hematological disease related to the fusion kinase FIP1L1-PDGFRα, a starting dose of 100 mg/day is recommended. A dose increase from 100 mg to 400 mg for these patients may be considered in the absence of adverse drug reactions if assessments demonstrate an insufficient response to therapy**.**

Hypereosinophilic Syndrome (HES) and/or Chronic Eosinophilic Leukemia (CEL)

The recommended dose of GLEEVEC® is 100 mg/day for adult patients with HES/CEL.

For HES/CEL patients, a dose increase from 100 mg to 400 mg may be considered in the absence of adverse drug reactions if assessments demonstrate an insufficient response to therapy. Treatment should be continued as long as the patient continues to benefit.

Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans (DFSP)

The recommended dose of GLEEVEC® is 800 mg/day for adult patients with DFSP

Gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST)

Unresectable and/or metastatic malignant GIST

The recommended dose of GLEEVEC® is 400 mg/day or 600 mg/day for adult patients with unresectable and/or metastatic malignant GIST, depending on the stage and the progression of the disease. In GIST, a dose increase from 400 mg/day to 600 mg/day or to 800 mg/day for adult patients may be considered in the absence of adverse drug reactions if assessments demonstrate an insufficient response to therapy.

Adjuvant Treatment of GIST

The recommended dose of GLEEVEC® is 400 mg/day for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients at intermediate to high risk of relapse following complete resection of Kit (CD117) positive GIST. In the clinical study, GLEEVEC® was administrated for one year. The optimal treatment duration with GLEEVEC® is not known.

No dose adjustment of the initial 400 mg a day dose was made in patients with GIST with mild liver function abnormalities.

Dose Adjustment for Hepatotoxicity and Other Non-Hematologic Adverse Drug Reactions

If a severe non-hematologic adverse drug reaction develops (such as severe hepatotoxicty or severe fluid retention), GLEEVEC® should be withheld until the event has resolved. Thereafter, treatment can be resumed as appropriate depending on the initial severity of the event.

If elevations in bilirubin >3 x institutional upper limit of normal (IULN) or in liver transaminases >5 x IULN occur, GLEEVEC® should be withheld until bilirubin levels have returned to a <1.5 x IULN and transaminase levels to <2.5 x IULN. In adults, treatment with GLEEVEC® may then be continued at a reduced daily dose (i.e., from 400 mg to 300 mg or from

600 mg to 400 mg, or from 800 mg to 600 mg). In children, daily doses can be reduced under the same circumstances from 340 mg/m^2/day to 260 mg/m^2/day.

Dose Adjustment for Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Patients with mild, and moderate liver dysfunction should be dosed at the minimum effective dose of 400 mg daily and patients with severe liver dysfunction should start at 200 mg daily. In the absence of severe toxicity, a dose increase up to 300 mg daily may be considered. The dose should be reduced if the patient develops unacceptable toxicity (SEE ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

Dose Adjustment for Patients with Renal Impairment

GLEEVEC® and its metabolites are not excreted via the kidney to a significant extent. However, it has been shown that exposure to imatinib is increased up to 2-fold in patients with mild (CrCL: 40-59 mL/min) and moderate (CrCL: 20-39 mL/min) renal dysfunction, and that there is a significant correlation in the incidence of serious adverse events with decreased renal function.

In clinical trials to date, the safety and efficacy of GLEEVEC® in patients with renal impairment has not been established. Patients with mild or moderate renal dysfunction should be treated with caution, and be given the minimum recommended effective dose of 400 mg daily as starting dose. (SEE ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY) The dose should be reduced if not tolerable. If tolerated, the dose can be increased for lack of efficacy (See section WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS). Treatment of patients with moderate renal insufficiency at 800 mg cannot be recommended as this dose has not been investigated in these patients. The effect of GLEEVEC® treatment on patients with severe renal dysfunction (CrCL: <20 mL/min) and on hemodialysis has not been assessed, so treatment of these patients with imatinib cannot be recommended.

Hematologic adverse drug reactions

Dose reduction or treatment interruptions for severe neutropenia and thrombocytopenia are recommended as indicated in the table below.

Dose adjustments for neutropenia and thrombocytopenia.

ASM or SM-AHNMD associated with eosinophilia and HES/CEL with FIP1L1-PDGFRα fusion kinase (starting dose 100 mg)	ANC < 1.0 x10^9/L and/or platelets < 50 x10^9/L	1. Stop GLEEVEC® until ANC ≥ 1.5 x10^9/L and platelets ≥ 75 x10^9/L. 2. Resume treatment with GLEEVEC® at previous dose (i.e. before severe adverse drug reaction).
Chronic phase CML (starting at dose 400 mg) MDS/MPD, ASM/SM-AHNMD, HES/CEL (at 400 mg dose) or GIST (starting dose either 400 mg or 600 mg)	ANC < 1.0 x10^9/L and/or Platelets < 50 X 10^9/L	1. Stop GLEEVEC® until ANC ≥ 1.5 x10^9/L and platelets ≥ 75 x10^9/L. 2. Resume treatment with GLEEVEC® at the original dose of 400 mg or 600 mg (i.e. before severe adverse drug reaction). 3. If recurrence of ANC < 1.0 x10^9/L and/or Platelets < 50 x10^9/L, repeat step 1 and resume GLEEVEC® at a reduced dose of 300 mg (if starting dose was 400 mg, 400 mg if starting dose was 600 mg).
Newly diagnosed pediatric chronic phase CML (at dose 340 mg/m^2/day)	ANC < 1.0 x10^9/L and/or platelets < 50 x10^9/L	1. Stop GLEEVEC® until ANC ≥ 1.5 x10^9/L and platelets ≥ 75 x10^9/L. 2. Resume treatment with GLEEVEC® at previous dose (i.e. before severe adverse drug reaction). 3. In the event of recurrence of ANC < 1.0 x10^9/L and/or platelets < 50 x10^9/L, repeat step 1 and resume GLEEVEC® at reduced dose of 260 mg/m^2/day.
Accelerated phase CML and blast crisis and Ph+ALL (starting dose 600 mg)	[1]ANC < 0.5 x10^9/L and/or Platelets < 10 x10^9/L	1. Check if cytopenia is related to leukemia (marrow aspirate or biopsy). 2. If cytopenia is unrelated to leukemia, reduce dose of GLEEVEC® to 400 mg. 3. If cytopenia persists for 2 weeks, reduce further to 300 mg. 4. If cytopenia persists for 4 weeks and is still unrelated to leukemia, stop GLEEVEC® until ANC ≥ 1 x10^9/L and platelets ≥ 20 x10^9/L and then resume treatment at 300 mg.
DFSP (at 800 mg dose)	ANC < 1.0 x10^9/L and/or platelets < 50x10^9/L	1. Stop GLEEVEC® until ANC ≥ 1.5 x10^9/L and platelets ≥ 75 x10^9/L. 2. Resume treatment with GLEEVEC® at 600 mg. 3. In the event of recurrence of ANC < 1.0 x10^9/L and/or platelets < 50 x10^9/L, repeat step 1 and resume GLEEVEC® at reduced dose of 400 mg.

ANC: absolute neutrophil count
[1]occurring after at least 1 month of treatment

OVERDOSAGE

Experience with higher than therapeutic doses is limited. Isolated cases of GLEEVEC® overdosage have been reported spontaneously and in the literature. Generally the reported outcome in these cases was improvement or recovery. In the event of overdosage the patient should be observed and appropriate symptomatic treatment should be given.

Events that have been reported at different dose ranges are as follows:

Adult overdose:

1,200 to 1,600 mg (duration varying between 1 to 10 days): Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, erythema, oedema, swelling, fatigue, muscle spasms, thrombocytopenia, pancytopenia, abdominal pain, headache, decreased appetite, increased bilirubin and liver transaminase level. 1,800 to 3,200 mg (as high as 3,200 mg daily for 6 days): Weakness, myalgia, increased CPK, increased bilirubin, gastrointestinal pain. 6,400 mg (single dose): A case report in the literature about one patient who experienced nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, pyrexia, facial swelling, neutrophil count decreased, increased transaminases.
8 to 10 g (single dose): Vomiting and gastrointestinal pain have been reported.

Pediatric overdose:

One 3 year-old male exposed to a single dose of 400 mg experienced vomiting, diarrhoea and anorexia and another 3 year old male exposed to a single dose of 980 mg dose experienced decreased white blood cell count and diarrhea.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.

ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) is a protein tyrosine kinase inhibitor, which inhibits the Bcr-Abl tyrosine kinase at the *in vitro*, cellular, and *in vivo* levels. The compound selectively inhibits proliferation and induces apoptosis in Bcr-Abl positive cell lines as well as fresh leukemic cells from Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) and acute lymphoid leukemia (ALL) patients. In colony formation assays using *ex vivo* peripheral blood and bone marrow samples, imatinib shows selective inhibition of Bcr-Abl positive colonies from CML patients.

In vivo, it inhibits tumor growth of Bcr-Abl transfected murine myeloid cells as well as Bcr-Abl positive leukemia lines derived from CML patients in blast crisis.

In addition, imatinib is an inhibitor of several receptor tyrosine kinases: the platelet-derived growth factor receptors (PDGFR-α and PDGFR–β), and the stem cell factor (SCF), receptor (c-Kit), and it inhibits the cellular events mediated by these receptors. *In vitro*, imatinib inhibits proliferation and induces apoptosis in gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST) cells, which express an activating *kit* mutation.

Constitutive activation of the PDGFR or the Abl protein tyrosine kinases as a consequence of fusion to diverse partner proteins or constitutive production of PDGF have been implicated in the pathogenesis of several conditions including MDS/MPD, HES/CEL and DFSP. In addition, constitutive activation of c-Kit or the PDGFR has been implicated in the pathogenesis of SM. Imatinib inhibits signaling and proliferation of cells driven by dysregulated PDGFR, Kit and Abl kinase activity.

Several mechanisms of resistance have been identified from *in vitro* studies of Bcr-Abl positive cell lines. Mechanisms include amplification of the Bcr-Abl gene and overexpression of the multidrug resistance P-glycoprotein. Mutation or amplification of the Bcr-Abl gene has been described in relapsed patients with advanced stage CML.

Prevalence of Abl kinase domain mutations among samples of resistant CML patients varies across studies, likely reflecting variations in time frames for testing, the duration of imatinib exposure, patient selection differences, and perhaps differences in techniques and sensitivity.

The specific clinical relevance of Abl kinase domain mutations in the prognosis and management of patients with CML requires further study. It is likely that mutations will have different clinical phenotypes, with some being subject to higher-dose imatinib therapy, depending on the IC_{50} of the mutation, and others requiring alternative treatment strategies.

Recent i*n-vitro* experiments have indicated that some mutations remain sensitive to GLEEVEC® at high concentrations, other mutants remain unresponsive to dose escalation, which may indicate a kinase-independent, or even Bcr-Abl independent mechanisms of resistance.

Currently identified possible mechanisms of resistance to GLEEVEC® can be categorized in two main groups: the mechanisms where Bcr-Abl is reactivated and cell proliferation remains dependent on Bcr-Abl signaling, and mechanisms where the Bcr-Abl protein remains inactivated by GLEEVEC® but alternative signalling pathways become activated. Whereas the primary resistance to GLEEVEC® seems mostly associated with amplification of the Bcr-Abl gene, secondary resistance (ie. loss of response or progression) appears to be associated with the emergence of mutations of the Bcr-Abl gene (see below):

Currently identified mechanisms of resistance to imatinib

Bcr-Abl dependent mechanisms (cells remain dependent of Bcr-Abl signaling)	**Bcr-Abl independent mechanisms (Bcr-Abl is inactivated)**
Amplification of Bcr-Abl gene	Activation of signaling pathways downstream of Bcr-Abl
Mutations of Bcr-Abl preventing correct Bcr-Abl imatinib binding	Clonal evolution with appearance of new chromosomal abnormalities
Efflux of imatinib by PgP associated MDR protein	Activation of leukemogenic pathways unrelated to Bcr-Abl
Protein binding of imatinib (eg. to circulating AGP)	

P-gP: Protein–glyco-Protein
MDR: Multidrug Resistance
AGP: Alpha 1-acid glycoprotein

The clinical utility of detecting mutations remains to be demonstrated, since mutations have been described among GLEEVEC® treated patients without evidence of disease progression. In addition, the approach to managing resistance will differ by CML disease stage, irrespective of treatment. Clinical and molecular resistance is much more prevalent among patients with blast crisis and accelerated phase CML, than among patients with chronic phase CML.

Pharmacokinetics

The pharmacokinetics (PK) of GLEEVEC® have been evaluated in 591 patients and 33 healthy subjects over a dosage range of 25 to 1000 mg**.**

Absorption: Mean absolute bioavailability for the capsule formulation is 98%. The coefficient of variation for plasma imatinib AUC is in the range of 40-60% after an oral dose. When given with a high fat meal the rate of absorption of imatinib was reduced (11% decrease in C_{max} and prolongation of t_{max} by 1.5 h), with a small reduction in AUC (7.4%) compared to fasting conditions.

Distribution: At clinically relevant concentrations of imatinib, binding to plasma proteins is approximately 95% on the basis of *in vitro* experiments, mostly to albumin and ∞_1-acid glycoprotein, with little binding to lipoproteins.

In *in vitro* experiments, the active metabolite, CGP74588, exhibited similar protein binding behaviour to imatinib at clinically relevant concentrations.

Metabolism: CYP3A4 is the major enzyme responsible for metabolism of imatinib. Other cytochrome P450 enzymes, such as CYP1A2, CYP2D6, CYP2C9, and CYP2C19, play a minor role in its metabolism.

The main circulating active metabolite in humans is the N-demethylated piperazine derivative, formed predominantly by CYP3A4. It shows *in vitro* potency similar to the parent imatinib. The plasma AUC for this metabolite is about 15% of the AUC for imatinib and the terminal half-life

is approximately 40 h at steady state. The plasma protein binding of the N-demethylated metabolite CGP74588 was shown to be similar to that of the parent compound in both healthy volunteers and Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) patients although there were variabilities in blood distribution and protein binding between AML patients. Some of the AML patients showed a significantly higher unbound fraction of both compounds which led to a higher blood cell uptake.

A phase I study has shown a 4- to 7-fold accumulation of the metabolite CGP74588 at steady state following once daily dosing, which was greater than the parent drug (See below: plasma pharmacokinetics). This might be due to the fact that CGP74588 is metabolized at a 53% lower metabolic conversion rate compared to GLEEVEC® in human hepatocytes. The reduced metabolic clearance of CGP74588 is further implied by *in vitro* experiments which showed a lower infinity of CGP74588 to CYP3A4 in comparison to STI571.

Excretion: Based on the recovery of compound(s) after an oral ^{14}C-labelled dose of imatinib, approximately 81% of the dose was eliminated within 7 days in feces (68% of dose) and urine (13% of dose). Unchanged imatinib accounted for 25% of the dose (5% urine, 20% feces), the remainder being metabolites.

Plasma pharmacokinetics: Following oral administration in healthy volunteers, the $t_{½}$ was approximately 18 hours suggesting that once daily dosing is appropriate. Plasma pharmacokinetic profiles were analyzed in CML patients on Day 1 and on either Day 7 or 28, by which time plasma concentrations had reached steady state. The increase in mean imatinib AUC with increasing dose was linear and dose proportional in the range 25-1000 mg after oral administration. There was no change in the kinetics of imatinib on repeated dosing, and accumulation is 1.5-2.5 fold at steady state when GLEEVEC® is dosed once daily.

The effect of body weight on the clearance of imatinib is such that for a patient weighing 50 kg the mean clearance is expected to be 8.5 l/h, while for a patient weighing 100 kg the clearance will rise to 11.8 l/h. These changes are not considered sufficient to warrant dose adjustment based on body weight. There is no effect of gender on the kinetics of imatinib.

Special Populations and Conditions:

Pediatrics: A total of 31 pediatric patients with either chronic phase CML (n=15), CML in blast crisis (n = 4) or acute leukemias (n=12) have been enrolled in a dose-escalation phase I trial. In this trial the effective dose in pediatric patients was not identified. This was a population of heavily pretreated patients; 45% had received prior BMT and 68% prior multi-agent chemotherapy. Newly diagnosed patients or those eligible for bone marrow transplantation were not studied. The median age was 14 years (range 3 to 20 years). Of the 31 patients, n=12 were three to 11 years old at the start of the study, n= 17 were between 12 and 18 years, and only two were more than 18 years old. Patients were treated with doses of GLEEVEC® of 260 mg/m^2/day (n=6), 340 mg/m^2/day (n=11), 440 mg/m^2/day (n= 8) and 570 mg/m^2/day (n=6). Dosing based upon body surface area resulted in some patients receiving higher than the adult therapeutic dose, and the effect of this on pediatric patient safety is limited.

As in adult patients, imatinib was rapidly absorbed after oral administration in pediatric patients in both phase I and phase II studies. Dosing in children at 260 and 340 mg/m2/day achieved similar exposure, respectively, as doses of 400 mg and 600 mg in adult patients, although this

was based upon a small sample size. The comparison of AUC_{0-24} on Day 8 versus Day 1 at the 340 mg/m^2/day dose level revealed a 1.7- fold drug accumulation after repeated once daily dosing. As in adults, there was considerable inter-patient variability in the pharmacokinetics, and the coefficient of variation for AUC_{0-24} ranged from 21% (260 mg/m^2/day) to 68% (570 mg/m^2/day). The AUC did not increase proportionally with dose within the range of doses examined. The active metabolite, GCP 74588, contributed about 20% of the AUC for imatinib. Total plasma clearance is about 8 - 10 L/h at steady state. The plasma AUC of imatinib is significantly lower (p=0.02) in children at ages between 2 and <12 years old (29.3 ug*hr/mL) than those at ages between 12 and <20 years old (34.6 ug*hr/mL). However, the difference between the two age groups does not seem to be clinically significant, only 15% of difference (geometric mean of 29.3 in children compared to 34.6 in adolescents). The AUC exposure in both age groups falls within the adult $AUC_{(0-24h)}$ range, between 24.8 and 39.7 μg*h/ml, achieved at 400 mg and 600 mg daily doses, respectively.

Geriatrics: Based on population PK analysis, there was an effect of age on the volume of distribution (12% increase in patients > 65 years old). This change is not thought to be clinically significant.

Hepatic Insufficiency: In a study of patients with mild and moderate hepatic dysfunction (Table 13), the mean exposure to imatinib (dose normalized AUC) did not differ significantly compared with patients with normal liver function. There was a tendency toward an increased exposure in patients with severe liver dysfunction (approximately 45% increase compared with patients with normal liver function). In this study up to 500 mg daily was used in patients with mild liver dysfunction, up to 400 mg daily in patients with moderate, and up to 300 mg daily in patients with severe liver dysfunction.

In the severe liver dysfunction group 29% of patients experienced serious adverse events at the 100 mg dose level, 60% at the 200 mg and 50% of patients treated at the 300 mg dose levels. (See sections WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Table 13: Liver Dysfunction Classification

Liver Dysfunction	Liver Dysfunction Tests
Mild	Total bilirubin: = 1.5 ULN SGOT: >ULN (can be normal or <ULN if Total bilirubin is >ULN)
Moderate	Total bilirubin: >1.5-3.0 ULN SGOT: any
Severe	Total bilirubin: >3-10 ULN SGOT: any

ULN=upper limit of normal for the institution

SGOT= serum glutamic oxaloacetic transferase

Renal Insufficiency: Imatinib and its metabolites are not excreted via the kidney to a significant extent.
In a study of patients with varying degrees of renal dysfunction (mild, moderate and severe - see Table 14 below for renal function classification), the mean exposure to imatinib (dose normalized AUC) increased 1.5- to 2-fold compared to patients with normal renal function,

which corresponded to an elevated plasma level of AGP, a protein to which imatinib binds strongly. There was a correlation with the incidence of serious adverse events and decreasing renal function (p = 0.0096). In this study, 800 mg daily was used in patients with mild renal dysfunction and 600 mg daily was used in patients with moderate renal dysfunction. The 800 mg dose was not tested in patients with moderate renal dysfunction due to the limited number of patients enrolled. Similarly, only 2 patients with severe renal dysfunction were enrolled at the low (100 mg) dose, and no higher doses were tested. No patients on hemodialysis were enrolled in the study. Since the effect of GLEEVEC® treatment on patients with severe renal dysfunction and on hemodialysis has not been sufficiently assessed, treatment of these patients with imatinib cannot be recommended. Patients with mild or moderate renal dysfunction should be treated with caution, and be given the minimum recommended dose of 400 mg daily as starting dose. The dose should be reduced if not tolerable. If tolerated, the dose can be increased for lack of efficacy. Dosing of patients with moderate renal insufficiency at 800 mg cannot be recommended as this has not been investigated (See sections ADVERSE REACTIONS; DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION and WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS).

Table 14 Renal function classification

Renal dysfunction	Renal function tests
Mild	CrCL = 40-59 mL/min
Moderate	CrCL = 20-39 mL/min
Severe	CrCL = < 20 mL/min

CrCL = Creatinine Clearance

Drug-Drug Interactions

CYP3A4 Inhibitors: There was a significant increase in exposure to imatinib (mean C_{max} and AUC increased by 26% and 40%, respectively) in healthy subjects when GLEEVEC® was co-administered with a single dose of ketoconazole (a CYP3A4 inhibitor) (See DRUG INTERACTIONS).

CYP3A4 Substrates: Imatinib increased the mean C_{max} and AUC of simvastatin (CYP3A4 substrate) by 2- and 3.5- fold, respectively, indicating an inhibition of CYP3A4 by imatinib (See DRUG INTERACTIONS).

CYP3A4 Inducers: Administration of rifampin 600 mg daily for eight days to 14 healthy adult volunteers, followed by a single 400 mg dose of GLEEVEC® increased imatinib oral dose clearance by 3.8-fold (90% CI 3.5- to 4.3-fold). Mean C_{max}, AUC_{0-24} and $AUC_{0-\infty}$ decreased by 54%, 68% and 74%, respectively compared to treatment without rifampin. In patients in whom rifampin or other CYP3A4 inducers are indicated, alternate therapeutic agents with less enzyme induction potential should be considered (See DRUG INTERACTIONS).

In vitro Studies of CYP Enzyme Inhibition: Human liver microsome studies demonstrated that imatinib is a potent competitive inhibitor of CYP2C9, CYP2D6, and CYP3A4/5 with K_i values of 27, 7.5, and 8 μM, respectively. Imatinib is likely to increase the blood level of drugs that are substrates of CYP2C9, CYP2D6 and CYP3A4/5 (See DRUG INTERACTIONS).

STORAGE AND STABILITY

Store GLEEVEC® at room temperature (15-30°C). Protect tablets from moisture.

DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 100 mg tablets
Each tablet contains 100 mg of imatinib (as mesylate beta crystals) and the following inactive ingredients: Cellulose (microcrystalline), crospovidone, colloidal silicon dioxide, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, magnesium stearate. The coating contains ferric oxide (red), ferric oxide (yellow), hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyethylene glycol, and talc.

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 400 mg tablets
Each tablet contains 400 mg of imatinib (as mesylate beta crystals) and the following inactive ingredients: Cellulose (microcrystalline), colloidal silicon dioxide, crospovidone, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, and magnesium stearate. The coating contains ferric oxide (red), ferric oxide (yellow), hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyethylene glycol, and talc.

Availability of Dosage Forms

PrGLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 100 mg scored tablets are supplied in cartons containing 6, 12, or 18 blister strips of 10 tablets.

PrGLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 400 mg tablets are supplied in cartons containing 1, 3, or 9 blister strips of 10 tablets.

PrGLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 400 mg scored tablets are supplied in cartons containing 1, 3, or 9 blister strips of 10 tablets.

PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

GLEEVEC®, indicated for

- the adjuvant treatment of adult patients who are at intermediate to high risk of relapse following complete resection of Kit (CD117) positive GIST.

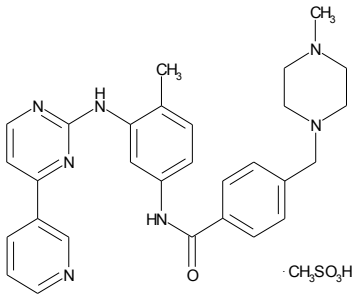
has been issued marketing authorization with conditions, pending the results of studies to verify its clinical benefit. Patients should be advised of the nature of the authorization.

GLEEVEC® has been issued non-conditional approval for the indications of

- adult patients with newly diagnosed, Philadelphia chromosome-positive, chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in chronic phase.
- pediatric patients with newly diagnosed, Philadelphia chromosome-positive, chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in chronic phase.
- adult patients with Philadelphia chromosome-positive CML in blast crisis, accelerated phase or chronic phase after failure of interferon-alpha therapy.
- for use as a single agent for induction phase therapy in adult patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia (Ph+ALL).
- adult patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL as monotherapy.
- adult patients with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases (MDS/MPD) associated with platelet-derived growth factor receptor (PDGFR) gene re-arrangements.
- adult patients with aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD) without the D816V c-Kit mutation. If c-Kit mutational status in patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD is not known or unavailable, treatment with GLEEVEC® may be considered if there is no satisfactory response to other therapies.
- adult patients with advanced hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) with FIP1L1-PDGFRα rearrangement.
- adult patients with unresectable, recurrent and/or metastatic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP).
- adult patients with Kit (CD117) positive unresectable and/or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumours (GIST).

PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

Drug Substance:

Proper name:	Imatinib mesylate
Chemical name:	(4-[(4-Methyl-1-piperazinyl)methyl]-N-[4-methyl-3-[[4-(3-pyridinyl)-2-pyrimidinyl]amino]-phenyl]benzamide methanesulfonate)
Molecular formula and	$C_{29}H_{31}N_7O$. CH_4SO_3
Molecular mass:	589.7
Structural formula:	

Physicochemical properties:

Description:	White to off-white to brownish or yellowish tinged powder
Solubility:	Very to freely soluble in water and aqueous solutions at low pH values. The solubility drops in aqueous buffer solution to “insoluble” with an increase of the pH from pH 5.5 to 8.0.
pH:	The pH of a 1% solution in water is approximately 5.5
Melting range:	210-220°C (beta crystal form)
pKa:	7.8, 3.8, and 3.3
Distribution coefficient:	> 100 (n-octanol/phosphaste buffer pH 6.8 medium at 37±1°C). Log D = 3.5

CLINICAL TRIALS

Chronic Myeloid Leukemia

NOC *Newly diagnosed chronic myeloid leukemia (adults)*

An open label, multicenter, international randomized phase III study has been conducted in adult patients with newly diagnosed chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in which GLEEVEC® was compared to a combination of interferon-α plus cytarabine (IFN+Ara-C). Patients showing a lack of response [lack of complete hematologic response (CHR) at six months, increasing white blood cell (WBC) counts or no major cytogenetic response (MCyR) at 24 months], loss of response (loss of CHR or MCyR) or severe intolerance to treatment were allowed to cross over to the alternate treatment arm.

In the GLEEVEC® arm, patients were treated with 400 mg daily. Dose escalations were allowed from 400 mg daily to 600 mg daily, then from 600 mg daily to 800 mg daily. In the IFN+Ara-C arm, patients were treated with a target dose of IFN of 5 MU/m^2/day subcutaneously. In addition, subcutaneous Ara-C, (20 mg/m^2/day), was administered for ten days every month until a complete cytogenetic response (CCyR) had been achieved and confirmed by cytogenetic analysis on two consecutive occasions not more than three months apart. In this trial, at least 80% of patients were brought to baseline conditions by previous treatment with hydroxyurea. Median WBC decreased from 90 x 10^9/L at diagnosis to 19x10^9/L. Moreover concurrent administration of hydroxyurea during the first six months of the study was permitted in 44.6% and 74.3% of patients in the GLEEVEC® and IFN+Ara-C arms, respectively, to keep the WBC under 20x10^9/L.

A total of 1106 patients were randomized at 177 centers in 16 countries, 553 to each arm. Baseline characteristics were well balanced between the two arms. Median age was 51 years (range 18 to 70 years), with 21.9% of patients 60 years of age or older. There were 59% males and 41% females: 89.9% Caucasian and 4.7% Black patients. At an analysis 7 years after the last patient had been recruited, the median duration of first-line treatment was 82 months and 8 months in the GLEEVEC® and IFN + Ara-C arms, respectively, with 60% of patients randomized to GLEEVEC® still receiving first-line treatment. Due to discontinuations and crossover, only 2% of those patients randomized to IFN+Ara-C were still on first-line treatment. In the IFN+Ara-C arm withdrawal of consent (13.7%) was the most frequent reason for discontinuation of first-line therapy. Of the patients who crossed over from the control arm (360/553), the reasons for crossover to the GLEEVEC® arm were intolerance to treatment (N=145, 40.3%), lack of response (N=97, 27.0%), progression (N=77, 21.4%), and patient refusal to continue on IFN + Ara-C (N=41, 11.4%).

The primary efficacy endpoint of the study was progression-free survival. Progression was defined as any of the following events: progression to accelerated phase or blast crisis (AP/BC); death; loss of CHR or MCyR; or an increasing WBC despite appropriate therapeutic management in those patients not achieving a CHR. Major cytogenetic response, complete hematologic response, evaluation of minimal residual disease (molecular response), time to accelerated phase or blast crisis, and survival and quality of life were the main secondary endpoints. Response data are provided in Table 15.

Table 15 Response in newly diagnosed CML study(First Line) (84-month data)

Best response rates	GLEEVEC® n=553	IFN + Ara-C n=553
Hematological response[1]		
CHR rate n (%)	534 (96.6)*	313 (56.6)*
[95% CI]	[94.7, 97.9]	[52.4, 60.8]
Cytogenetic response[2]		
Major Cytogenetic response n (%)	472 (85.4)*	93 (16.8)*
[95% CI]	[82.1, 88.2]	[13.8, 20.2]
Unconfirmed[3]	490 (88.6)*	129 (23.3)*
Complete Cytogenetic Response n (%)	413 (74.7)*	36 (6.5)
[95% CI]	[70.8, 78.3]	[4.6, 8.9]
Unconfirmed[3]	456 (82.5)*	64 (11.6)*
Molecular response[4]		
Major response at 12 months (%)	40	2
Major response at 24 months (%)	54*	NA[5]

*p<0.001, Fischer's exact test

1 **Hematological response criteria** (all responses to be confirmed after ≥4 weeks): WBC<10x10^9/L; platelet <450x10^9/L; myelocyte+metamyelocyte <5% in peripheral blood; no blasts and promyelocytes in peripheral blood; basophils <20%; no extramedullary involvement.

2 **Cytogenetic response criteria :** complete (0% Ph+metaphases or partial (1-35%).

3 Unconfirmed cytogenetic response is based on a single bone marrow cytogenetic evaluation, therefore unconfirmed complete or partial cytogenetic responses might have had a lesser cytogenetic response on a subsequent bone marrow evaluation.

4 **Major molecular response criteria**: in the peripheral blood, reduction of ≥ 3 logarithms in the amount of Bcr-Abl transcripts (measured by real-time quantitative reverse transcriptase PCR assay) over a standardized baseline.

5 Not Applicable: insufficient data, only two patients available with samples

For analysis of long-term outcomes patients randomized to receive GLEEVEC® were compared with patients randomized to receive IFN+ Ara-C. Patients who crossed over prior to progression were not censored at the time of crossover, and events that occurred in these patients following crossover were attributed to the original randomized treatment.

With 7 years of follow-up, there were 93 (16.8%) progression events in the GLEEVEC® arm: 37 (6.7%) involving progression to AP/BC, 31 (5.6%) loss of MCyR, 15 (2.7%) loss of CHR or increase in WBC and 10 (1.8%) CML unrelated deaths. In contrast, there were 165 (29.8%) events in the IFN+Ara-C arm of which 130 occurred during first-line treatment with IFN+Ara-C. These progression events in the IFN + Ara-C arm included 61 (11%) involving progression to AP/BC, 31 (5.6%) loss of MCyR, 46 (8.3%) loss of CHR, 18 (3.3%) increase in WBC, and 5 (0.9%) CML-unrelated deaths.

The estimated rate of progression-free survival at 84 months was 81.2% with [95% CI: 78%, 85%] in the GLEEVEC® arm and 60.6% with [95% CI: 56%, 65%] in the IFN+Ara-C arm (p<0.001) (Figure 1).

The estimated rate of patients free of progression to AP or BC at 84 months was significantly higher in the GLEEVEC® arm compared to the IFN+Ara-C arm (92.5% with [95% CI: 90, 95] versus 85.1% with [95% CI: 82, 89], (p<0.001 respectively)) (Figure 2).

Figure 1 Time to progression (ITT principle)

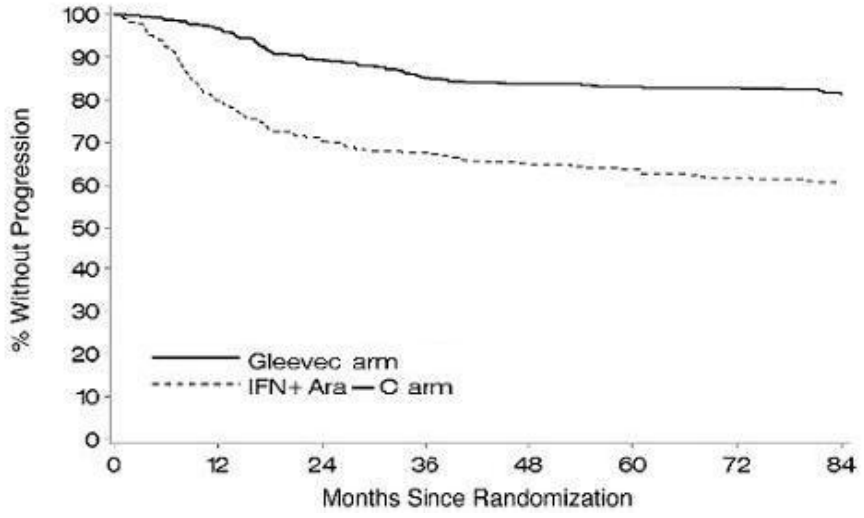
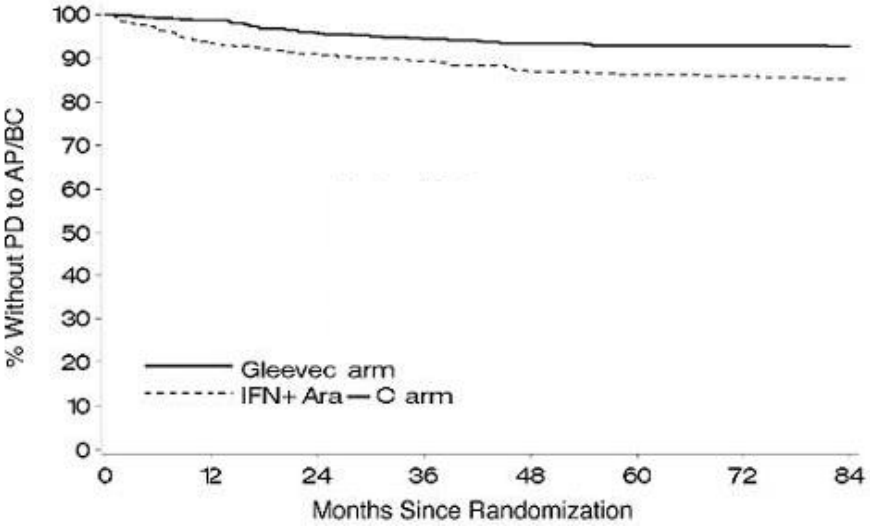


Figure 2 Time to progression to AP or BC (ITT principle)



A total of 71 (12.8%) and 85 (15.4%) patients died in the GLEEVEC® and IFN+Ara-C groups, respectively. At 84 months the estimated overall survival is 86.4% [95% CI: 83, 90] vs. 83.3% [95% CI: 80, 87] in the randomized GLEEVEC® and IFN+Ara-C groups, respectively (p=0.073, log-rank test; p=0.065, Wilcoxon test). The probability of remaining progression-free at 60 months was 95% for patients who were in complete cytogenetic response with major molecular response (≥ 3 log reduction in Bcr-Abl transcripts as measured by quantitative reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction) at 12 months, compared to 89% for patients in complete cytogenetic response, but without a major molecular response, and 70% in patients who were not in complete cytogenetic response at 12 months (p<0.001).

In this study, dose escalation were allowed from 400 mg daily to 600 mg daily, then from 600 mg daily to 800 mg daily. After 42 months of follow-up, half of the patients who had increased the dose due to lack of CHR at 3 months, achieved a CHR thereafter. Of the 55 patients who did not have a dose increase 44 patients (80%) also achieved a CHR. Six (50%) of 12 patients with one assessment indicating loss of PCyR or CCyR achieved a MCyR after dose increase and 12 (48%) of the 25 patients without dose increase also achieved a MCyR. Eleven patients who did achieve a complete hematological response at 3 months and a major cytogenetic response at 12 months while on 400 mg daily dose experienced a confirmed (within 4 weeks) loss of their cytogenetic response. Of those, 4 patients did escalate up to 800 mg daily and 2 of them regained a cytogenetic response (1 partial and 1 complete, the latter also achieving a molecular response), while out of 7 patients that did not escalate the dose, only one regained a complete cytogenetic response. The percentage of some adverse events were higher in the 40 patients in whom the dose was increased to 800 mg daily compared to the population of patients before dose increase (n=551). These more frequent adverse events included gastrointestinal hemorrhages, conjunctivitis, elevation of transaminases or bilirubin, hematologic toxicities (mainly anemia and thrombocytopenia) and upper respiratory tract infections. Other adverse events were reported with lower or equal frequency.

Quality of Life (QoL) was measured using the validated FACT-BRM instrument. All domains were assessed and showed that patients in the GLEEVEC® arm had significantly higher scores compared to those in the IFN-Ara-C arm. QoL data showed that patients maintain their physical, functional and emotional well-being while on treatment with GLEEVEC®.

NOC *Pediatric newly diagnosed chronic myeloid leukemia:*

A total of 51 pediatric patients with newly diagnosed and untreated CML in chronic phase were enrolled in an open-label, multicenter, single arm phase II trial. Patients were treated with GLEEVEC® 340 mg/m^2/day, with no interruptions in the absence of dose limiting toxicity. GLEEVEC® treatment induces a rapid response in newly diagnosed pediatric CML patients with a CHR of 80% after 8 weeks of therapy. Those patients for whom cytogenetics was evaluable (46/51) developed a complete cytogenetic response (CCyR) at a rate of 72%. Additionally, partial cytogenetic response (PCyR) was observed in 15% adding up to a Major Cytogenetic response (MCyR) rate of 87%. The majority of patients who achieved a CCyR developed the CCyR between months 3 and 10 with a median time to response based on the Kaplan-Meier estimate of 5.6 months. Fifteen of these patients who achieved CCyR underwent quantitative measurement of BCR-ABL transcript (PCR). Six of these patients (40%) achieved a major molecular response (five of which were complete responses). Patients were allowed to be removed from protocol therapy to undergo alternative therapy including hematopoietic stem cell transplantation as this is the known curative option. Thirty one children received stem cell transplantation. Of the 31 children, 5 were transplanted after disease progression on study and 1 withdrew from study during the first week of treatment and received transplant approximately 4 months after withdrawal. Twenty five children withdrew from protocol therapy to undergo stem cell transplant after receiving a median of 9 twenty-eight day courses (range 4 to 24). Of the 25 patients 13 (52%) had CCyR and 5 (20%) had PCyR at the end of protocol therapy.

NOC *Late chronic phase CML and advanced stage CML*

Three large, international, open-label, uncontrolled phase II studies were conducted in patients with Philadelphia chromosome-positive (Ph+) chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in advanced, blast or accelerated phase disease, in myeloid blast crisis or with CML in the chronic phase in patients who were resistant/refractory to or intolerant of prior interferon-alpha (IFN) therapy. About 45% of patients were women and 6% were Black. In clinical studies 38-40% of patients were ≥ 60 years of age and 10-12% of patients were ≥ 70 years of age.

Chronic phase, Interferon-failure: 532 patients were treated at a starting dose of 400 mg; The patients were distributed in three main categories according to their response to prior interferon therapy: hematologic failure (29%), cytogenetic failure (35%), or intolerance to interferon (36%). Patients had received a median of 14 months of prior IFN therapy at doses ≥ 25 $x10^6$ IU/week and were all in late chronic phase, with a median time from diagnosis of 32 months. The primary efficacy variable of the study was the rate of major cytogenetic response (complete plus partial response, 0 to 35% Ph+ metaphases in the bone marrow). Median duration of treatment was 29 months with 81% of patients treated for ≥ 24 months (maximum = 31.5 months). Efficacy results are reported in Table 16. In this study, 65% of the patients achieved a major cytogenetic response (MCyR), which was confirmed in 59% of patients. Complete cytogenetic response (CCyR) was achieved in 48% of patients, and was confirmed in 38% of patients.

Accelerated phase: 235 patients with accelerated phase disease were enrolled. The first 77 patients were started at 400 mg, the protocol was subsequently amended to allow higher dosing and the remaining 158 patients were started at 600 mg.

The primary efficacy variable was the rate of hematologic response, reported as either complete hematologic response, no evidence of leukemia (i.e., clearance of blasts from the marrow and the blood, but without a full peripheral blood recovery as for complete responses), or return to chronic phase CML. Median duration of treatment was 18 months with 45% of patients treated for ≥ 24 months (maximum = 35 months). A confirmed hematologic response was achieved in 72% of patients (Table 16). Importantly, 27% of patients also achieved a major cytogenetic response, which was confirmed in 21% of patients. Complete cytogenetic response was achieved in 20% of patients, and confirmed in 16%. For the patients treated at 600 mg, the 24-month estimate of the rate of progression-free survival and overall survival is 50% and 66%, respectively. In a multivariate analysis, a dose of 600 mg was associated with an improved time to progression, independent of platelets ≥ 100 x 10^9/L, blood blasts < 15%, and hemoglobin ≥ 10 g/L.

Myeloid blast crisis: 260 patients with myeloid blast crisis were enrolled. 165 (63%) had received prior chemotherapy for treatment of either accelerated phase or blast crisis ("pretreated patients") whereas 95 (37%) had not ("untreated patients"). The first 37 patients were started at 400 mg, the protocol was subsequently amended to allow higher dosing and the remaining 223 patients were started at 600 mg.

The primary efficacy variable was the rate of hematologic response, reported as either complete hematologic response, no evidence of leukemia, or return to chronic phase CML using the same

criteria as for the study in accelerated phase. Median duration of treatment was 4 months with 21% of patients treated for ≥ 12 months and 10% for ≥ 24 months (maximum = 35 months). In this study, 31% of patients achieved a hematologic response (36% in previously untreated patients and 22% in previously treated patients).

Table 16 Response in other CML clinical studies

	Chronic phase IFN failure 400mg (n=532)	**Accelerated phase 600 mg n=158 400 mg n=77**	**Myeloid blast crisis 600 mg n=223 400 mg n=37**
	% of patients (CI $_{95\%}$)		
Hematologic response[1]	**95% (92.3,96.3)**	**72% (65.3, 69.2)**	**31% (25.2, 36.8)**
Complete hematologic response (CHR)	95%	42%	8%
No evidence of leukemia (NEL)	Not applicable	12%	5%
Return to chronic phase (RTC)	Not applicable	17%	18%
Major cytogenetic response[2]			
Unconfirmed	65% (60.2, 68.5)	27% (21.7, 33.4)	15% (11.2, 20.4)
Confirmed	59% (54.9, 63.4)	21% (16.2, 27.1)	7% (4.5, 11.2)
Complete Cytogenetic response[3]			
Unconfirmed	48%	20%	7%
Confirmed	38%	16%	2%

[1]Hematologic response criteria (all responses to be confirmed after ≥4 weeks):
CHR: Chronic phase study [WBC <10 x10^9/L, platelet <450 x10^9/L, myelocytes+metamyelocytes <5% in blood, no blasts and promyelocytes in blood, basophils <20%, no extramedullary involvement] and in the accelerated and blast crisis studies [ANC≥1.5 x10^9/L, platelets ≥100 x10^9/L, no blood blasts, BM blasts <5% and no extramedullary disease]
NEL: same criteria as for CHR but ANC ≥1 x10^9/L and platelets ≥20 x10^9/L (accelerated and blast crisis studies)
RTC: <15% blasts BM and PB, <30% blasts+promyelocytes in BM and PB, <20% basophils in PB, no extramedullary disease other than spleen and liver (accelerated and blast crisis studies).
BM=bone marrow, PB=peripheral blood
[2]Cytogenetic response criteria: A major response combines both complete and partial responses: complete (0% Ph+ metaphases), partial (1%-35%).
[3]Complete cytogenetic response confirmed by a second bone marrow cytogenetic evaluation performed at least one month after the initial bone marrow study.

The median time to hematologic response was 1 month.

In late chronic phase CML, with a median time from diagnosis of 32 months, an estimated 87.8% of patients who achieved MCyR maintain their response 2 years after achieving their initial response. After 2 years of treatment, an estimated 85.4% of patients were free of progression to AP or BC, and estimated overall survival was 90.8% [88.3, 93.2].

In accelerated phase, median duration of hematologic response was 28.8 months for patients with an initial dose of 600 mg (16.5 months for 400 mg, p=0.0035). An estimated 63.8% of patients who achieved MCyR were still in response 2 years after achieving initial response. The median survival was 20.9 [13.1, 34.4] months for the 400 mg group and was not yet reached for the 600 mg group (p=0.0097). An estimated 46.2% [34.7, 57.7] vs. 65.8% [58.4, 73.3] of patients were still alive after 2 years of treatment in the 400 mg vs. 600 mg dose groups, respectively (p=0.0088).

In blast crisis, the estimated median duration of hematologic response is 10 months. An estimated 27.2% [16.8, 37.7] of hematologic responders maintained their response 2 years after achieving their initial response. Median survival was 6.9 [5.8, 8.6] months and an estimated 18.3% [13.4, 23.3] of all patients with blast crisis were alive 2 years after start of study.

NOC Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

Newly diagnosed Ph+ ALL:

GLEEVEC®, when used as a single agent in an induction phase in a controlled trial of 55 newly diagnosed patients aged 55 years and over (ADE10) resulted in a significantly higher rate of complete hematological remission when compared to chemotherapy induction (96.3% vs. 50%; *p*=0.0001).

Table 17 Effect of GLEEVEC® in newly diagnosed Ph+ ALL patients (600 mg/day)

Study	**ADE10[§]** (Controlled study)	
	GLEEVEC® induction	CHT induction
N (evaluable for CHR)	27	26
CHR (%)	96	50*
95% C.I.	81 - 100	30 - 70
N (overall)	28	27
1-year DFS (%)	54	
1-year OS (%)	54	

CHR = complete haematological response
CHT = chemotherapy
* p<0.01
§ after induction (Complete remission was achieved as a result of induction treatment in both arms).

Relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL:

In study 0109, a total of 43 patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ALL received the initial dose of 600 mg and 3 patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ALL received the initial dose 400 mg.

The results in 3 patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ALL showed that the initial dose of 400 mg/day was insufficient for achieving hematological responses.

Table 18 Effect of GLEEVEC® on relapsed or refractory Ph+ALL (600 mg/day)

	Phase II Study No. 0109 (N=46)[1] N(%)
Confirmed Hematologic Response	12 (26.1)
CHR	4 (8.7)
NEL	1(2.2)
RTC	7 (15.2)
Confirmed Cytogenetic Responses	
MCyR	12 (26.1)
CCyR	7 (15.2)
PCyR	5 (10.9)

[1]43/46 patients were relapsed or refractory Ph+ALL
NEL= No Evidence of Leukemia
CHR = Complete Hematological Response
RTC= Return to Chronic Phase

The median time to hematologic response was 1 month.
The median duration of hematologic response was 3.42 months
The median time to progression in patients started with 600 mg was 2.56 months

NOC Myelodysplastic/Myeloproliferative Diseases (MDS/MPD)

One open label, multicentre, phase II clinical trial (Study B2225) was conducted testing GLEEVEC® in diverse populations of patients suffering from life-threatening diseases associated with Abl, Kit or PDGFR protein tyrosine kinases. This study included 7 patients with MDS/MPD. These patients were treated with GLEEVEC® 400 mg daily. The ages of the enrolled patients ranged from 20 to 86 years. A further 24 patients with MDS/MPD aged 2 to 79 years were reported in 12 published case reports and a clinical study. These patients also received GLEEVEC® at a dose of 400 mg daily with the exception of three patients who received lower doses. Of the total population of 31 patients treated for MDS/MPD, 14 (45%) achieved a complete hematologic response and 9 (29%) a complete cytogenetic response (39% including major and partial responses). Of note, the malignancy carried a translocation, usually involving the chromosome t5q33 or t4q12, resulting in a PDGFR gene re-arrangement in 14 evaluable patients. All of these patients achieved an hematologic response (12 completely). Cytogenetic response was evaluated in 11 out of 14 patients, all of whom responded (9 patients completely). Only 2 (13%) out of the 16 patients without a translocation associated with PDGFR gene re-arrangement achieved a complete hematologic response and one (6%) achieved a major cytogenetic response. A further patient with a PDGFR gene re-arrangement in molecular relapse after bone marrow transplant responded molecularly. Median duration of therapy was 12.9 months (0.8 to 26.7) in the 7 patients treated within Study B2225 and ranged between 1 week and more than 18 months in responding patients in the published literature. Results are provided in Table 19.

Table 19 Response in MDS/MPD

	N	Complete hematologic response	Cytogenetic response
	(Number of patients)	(%)	(%)
Overall population	31	14 (45)	12 (39)
Chromosome t5 involved	12	12 (100)	10 (83)
Chromosome t4 involved	2	2 (100)	1 (50)
Others / no translocation	16	2 (13)	1 (6)
Molecular relapse	1	NE	NE

NE: Not evaluable

NOC Aggressive sub-types of Systemic Mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD)

One open-label, multicentre, phase II clinical trial (Study B2225) was conducted testing GLEEVEC® in diverse populations of patients suffering from life-threatening diseases associated with Abl, Kit or PDGFR protein tyrosine kinases. This study included 5 patients with aggressive systemic mastocytosis (ASM). The ASM patients were treated with GLEEVEC® 100 mg to 400 mg daily. The ages of these 5 patients ranged from 49 to 74 years. A further 25 patients with ASM aged 26 to 85 years were reported in 10 published case reports and case series. These patients also received GLEEVEC® at doses of 100 mg to 400 mg daily. Of the total population of 30 patients treated for SM, 10 (33%) achieved a complete hematologic response and 9 (30%) a partial hematologic response (63% overall response rate).

Cytogenetic abnormalities were evaluated in 21 of the 30 ASM patients treated GLEEVEC® from the published reports and Study B2225. Eight out of these 21 patients had FIP1L1-PDGFRα fusion kinase (or CHIC2 deletion). Patients with this cytogenetic abnormality are most likely to be males and to have eosinophilia associated with their systemic mast cell disease. Two patients had a Kit mutation in the juxtamembrane region (one Phe522Cys and one K509I). Sixteen patients had unknown or no detectable cytogenetic abnormality and 50% achieved hematologic responses (7 partial and 1 complete) with GLEEVEC®. Four patients showed a D816V c-Kit mutation and one with concomitant CML and SM achieved a complete hematologic response with GLEEVEC®. The majority of ASM patients reported in the reviewed published medical literature with the D816V c-Kit mutation are not considered sensitive to GLEEVEC®. Median duration of GLEEVEC® therapy for the 5 ASM patients in Study 2225 was 13 months (range 1.4-22.3 months) and ranged between 1 month and more than 30 months in the responding patients reported in the published medical literature. A summary of the response rates to GLEEVEC® in ASM is provided in Table 20.

Table 20 Response in ASM

Cytogenetic abnormality	Number of patients	Complete hematologic response	Partial hematologic response
FIP1L1-PDGFRα fusion kinase (or CHIC2 deletion)	8	8 (100%)	0 (0%)
Juxtamembrane mutation	2	0 (0%)	2 (100%)
Unknown or no cytogenetic abnormality detected	16	1(6%)	7(44%)
D816V mutation	4	1*(25%)	0 (0%)
Overall totals	30	10 (33%)	9 (30%)
*Patient had concomitant CML and ASM			

NOC Hypereosinophilic Syndrome and/or Chronic Eosinophilic Leukemia (HES/CEL)

One open-label, multicentre, phase II clinical trial (Study B2225) was conducted testing GLEEVEC® in diverse populations of patients suffering from life-threatening diseases associated with Abl, Kit or PDGFR protein tyrosine kinases. In this study, 14 patients with HES/CEL were treated with 100 mg to 1000 mg of GLEEVEC® daily (the recommended dose for this indication is 100 mg/day to 400 mg/day). The ages of these patients ranged from 16 to 64 years. A further 170 patients with HES/CEL aged 11 to 78 years were reported in 42 published case reports and case series. These patients received GLEEVEC® at doses of 75 mg to 800 mg daily. Results are provided in Table 21.

Table 20 Response in HES/CEL

Cytogenetic abnormality	Number of patients	Complete hematologic response	Partial hematologic response
Positive FIP1L1-PDGFRα fusion kinase	69	69 (100%)	0 (0%)
Negative FIP1L1-PDGFRα fusion kinase	56	12 (21%)	9 (16%)
Unknown cytogenetic abnormality	59	34 (58%)	7 (12%)
Overall totals	184	115 (62%)	16 (9%)

NOC Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans (DFSP)

One open label, multicentre, phase II clinical trial (Study B2225) was conducted testing GLEEVEC® in a diverse population of patients suffering from life-threatening diseases associated with Abl, Kit or PDGFR protein tyrosine kinases. This study included 12 patients with DFSP who were treated with GLEEVEC® 800 mg daily. The primary efficacy endpoint was an objective response rate. The age of the DFSP patients ranged from 23 to 75 years; DFSP was metastatic, locally recurrent following initial resective surgery and not considered amenable to further resective surgery at the time of study entry.

The median duration of therapy in Study B2225 was 6.2 months, with a maximum duration of 24.3 months. In Study B2225, one of the 12 DFSP patients achieved a complete response (8%) and 8 patients (66%) achieved partial response, 3 of which were rendered disease free by surgery. Responses to treatment are described in Table 22.

Table 22 Response in DFSP

Tumor response	Number of patients (N=12) (Study B2225)	%
Complete response	1	8
Partial response ®	8 (5+3)	66
Total	9	75

® 5 patients made disease free by surgery

A further 6 DFSP patients treated with GLEEVEC® are reported in 5 published case reports. Their ages ranging from 18 months to 49 years. The adult patients reported in the published literature were treated with either 400 mg (4 cases) or 800 mg (1 case) GLEEVEC® daily. The pediatric patient received 400 mg/m^2/daily, subsequently increased to 520 mg/m^2/daily. The approved pediatric dose in CML is 340 mg/m^2/day (rounded to the nearest 100 mg, i.e not to exceed 600 mg). In the published literature duration of therapy ranged between 4 weeks and more than 20 months. Three (50%) of the 6 patients achieved a complete response and 2 (33%) achieved partial response, with one of the partial responders then rendered disease free by surgery.

NOC ***Unresectable and/or Metastatic Malignant Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors***

One phase 2, open-label, randomized multinational study (B2222) was conducted in patients with unresectable or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST). In this study 147 patients were enrolled and randomized to receive either 400 mg or 600 mg orally q.d. for up to 24 months. These patients ranged in age from 18 to 83 years old and had a pathologic diagnosis of Kit -positive malignant GIST that was unresectable and/or metastatic. Immunohistochemistry was routinely performed with Kit antibody (A-4502, rabbit polyclonal antiserum, 1:100; DAKO Corporation, Carpinteria, CA) according to analysis by an avidin-biotin-peroxidase complex method after antigen retrieval.

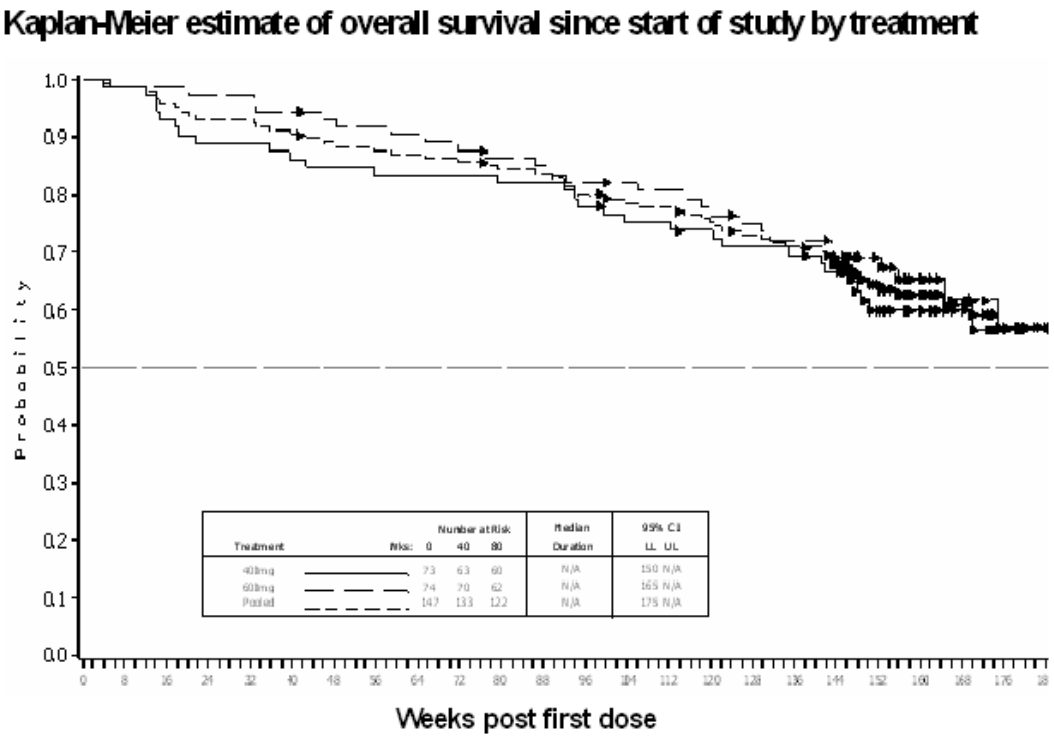
The primary evidence of efficacy was based on objective response rates. Tumors were required to be measurable in at least one site of disease, and response characterization based on Southwestern Oncology Group (SWOG) criteria. Results are provided in Table 23.

Table 23 Best Tumor Response in Trial STIB2222 (GIST)

Best response	All doses (n=147) 400 mg n= 73 600 mg n=74 n (%)
Complete response	1(0.7)
Partial response	98 (66.7)
Stable disease	23 (15.6)
Progressive disease	18 (12.2)
Not evaluable	5 (3.4)
Unknown	2 (1.4)

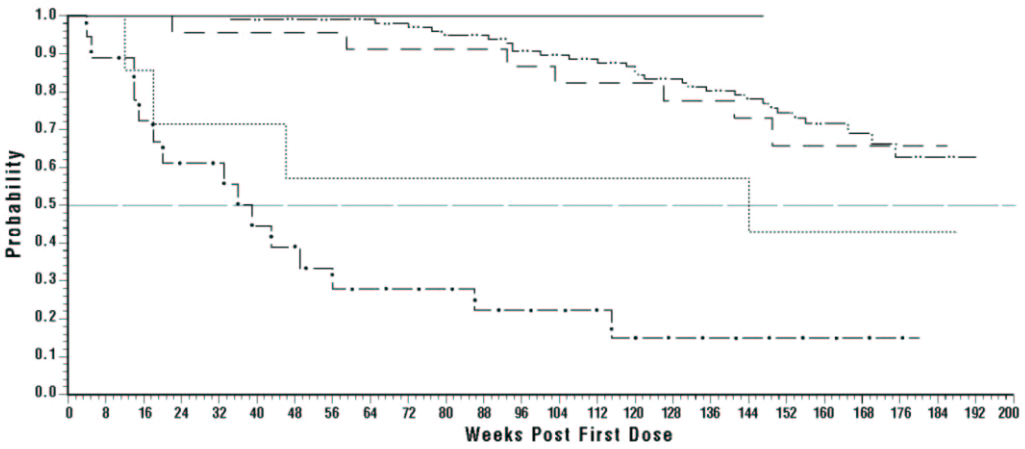
There were no differences in response rates between the two dose groups. A significant number of patients who had stable disease at the time of the interim analysis did achieve a partial response with longer treatment (median follow-up 31 months). Median time to response was 13 weeks (95% CI 12 to 23). Median time to treatment failure in responders is 122 weeks (95% CI 106 to 147), while in the overall population is 84 weeks (95% CI 71 to 109). The median overall survival has not been reached. The Kaplan-Meier estimate for survival after 36-months follow-up is 68% (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Kaplan-Meier estimate for survival after 36-months



Hazard ratio: 0.852, Log rank test p=0.5537.

Figure 4: Kaplan-Meier estimate of overall survival since start of study by best response.



Best Response	Wks:	Number at Risk 0	40	80	Median Duration	95% CI LL	UL
CR		1	1	1	N/A	N/A	N/A
PR		98	97	92	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD		23	22	20	N/A	149	N/A
PD		18	8	5	38 Wks	18	56
UNK		7	5	4	144 Wks	18	N/A

Two randomized studies were conducted comparing GLEEVEC® 400 mg versus 800 mg/day as a starting dose: Intergroup Study S0033 and a European-Australian phase III trial (EORTC). Study S0033 showed no significant differences in efficacy between a starting dose of 400 mg and a starting dose of 800 mg daily. The EORTC trial also did not show significant differences in terms of response or overall survival. However, the EORTC trial reported a statistically significant advantage in progression-free survival with the higher dose of GLEEVEC®. Grade 3 to 5 toxicities were described more often in high-dose patients in both studies.

The clinical benefit of dose escalation to 800 mg after progression is uncertain. In three randomized clinical trials (B2222, S0033 and EORTC) the daily dose of GLEEVEC® was escalated to 800 mg in patients progressing at the lower daily dose of 400 mg. A total of 257 escalated their dose to 800 mg daily; 8 patients achieved a partial response and 71 patients a stabilization of their disease after dose escalation. The dose escalation in the EORTC study led to a significant increase in anemia and fatigue, although fewer cases of neutropenia were reported after the dose escalation to 800 mg.

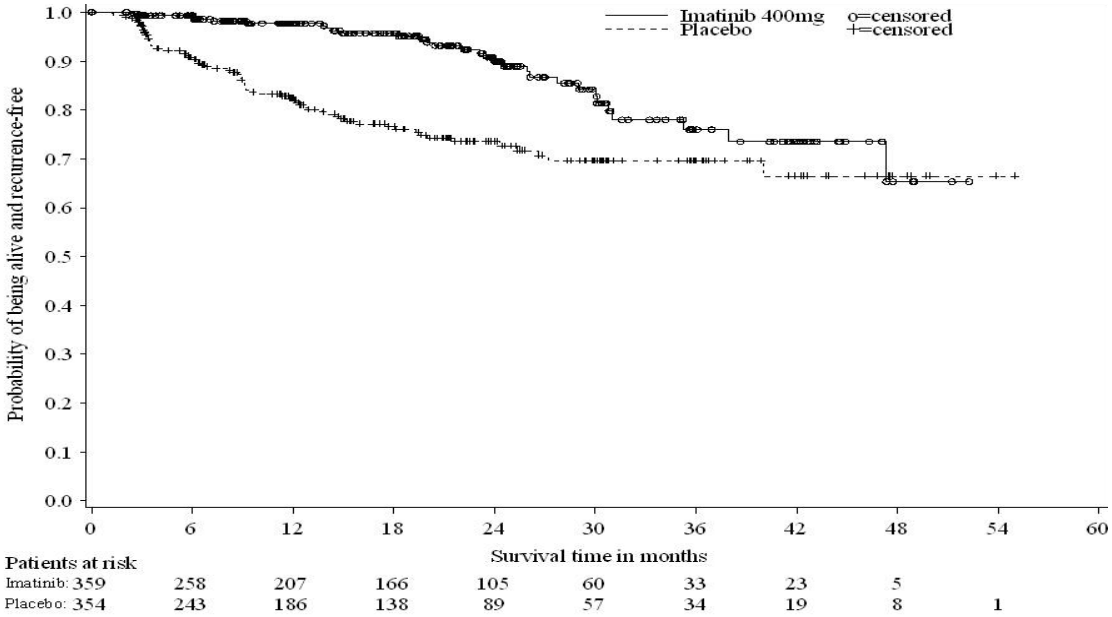
NOC/c ***Adjuvant Treatment of GIST***

In the adjuvant setting, GLEEVEC® was investigated in a multicentre, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized phase III study (Z9001) involving 713 patients. The ages of these patients ranged from 18 to 91 years. Patients who were included had a histologic diagnosis of primary GIST expressing KIT protein by immunochemistry and a tumor size ≥3 cm in maximum dimension, with complete gross resection of primary GIST within 14 to 70 days prior to registration. After complete gross resection of primary GIST, patients were randomized to one of the two arms: GLEEVEC® at 400 mg/day or matching placebo for one year.

The primary efficacy endpoint of the study was recurrence free survival (RFS) defined as the time from date of randomization to the date of recurrence or death from any cause. At a median

follow up of 14.0 months, there had been 30 RFS events in the GLEEVEC® arm and 70 RFS events in the placebo arm (hazard ratio 0.398 [95%CI: 0.259 to 0.610], two-sided log-rank $p<0.0001$). Based on an interim analysis, the trial was stopped early and placebo patients were allowed to cross over to GLEEVEC®. Overall survival data are immature due to short follow up time

Figure 5 Recurrences Free Survival



Risk of recurrence was also retrospectively assessed in this trial based on the prognostic factors of tumour size, mitotic index, and tumour location. Mitotic index data were available for 556 of 713 patients in the ITT population. The results of subgroup analyses using the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) risk classifications demonstrate benefit from use of adjuvant GLEEVEC® in the moderate and high risk groups, but not in the low and very low risk groups. See Table 24:

Table 24 Summary of Z9001 trial RFS analyses by NIH and AFIP risk classifications

RISK CRITERIA	Risk Level	% of pts	#events / #pts	Overall HR (95%CI)[¥]	RFS Rates (%)	
					12 month	24 month
			GLEEVEC® vs. Placebo		GLEEVEC® vs. Placebo	GLEEVEC® vs. Placebo
NIH	Low	29.5	0/86 vs 2/90	N.E.	100 vs 98.7	100 vs 95.5
	Intermediate	25.7	4/75 vs 6/78	0.59 (0.17, 2.10)	100 vs 94.8	97.8 vs 89.5
	High	44.8	21/140 vs 51/127	0.29 (0.18, 0.49)	94.8 vs 64.0	80.7 vs 46.6
AFIP	Very Low	20.7	0/52 vs 2/63	N.E.	100 vs 98.1	100 vs 93.0
	Low	25.0	2/70 vs 0/69	N.E.	100 vs 100	97.8 vs 100
	Moderate	24.6	2/70 vs 11/67	0.16 (0.03, 0.70)	97.9 vs 90.8	97.9 vs 73.3
	High	29.7	16/84 vs 39/81	0.27 (0.15, 0.48)	98.7 vs 56.1	79.9 vs 41.5

[¥]Full follow-up period
N.E = Non Estimate

TOXICOLOGY

Acute Toxicity

Species	Route	Doses (mg/kg)	Main findings
Rat	i.v.	10,30 &100	1 death at 100 mg/kg attributed to lung injury, due to precipitation of the compound. Well tolerated at 10 and 30 mg/kg.

Doses higher than 100 mg/kg were not administered due to the limited solubility of imatinib at neutral pH. The compound was well tolerated at both the low and mid dose. However, there was one death at the high dose (out of ten rats treated) which occurred 30 minutes post-dose. Death was attributed to lung injury, most probably as a result of precipitation of the compound in the pulmonary microcirculation. No other treatment-related changes were noted. Based on these results, 30 mg/kg is considered to be the maximum dose of STI571 which can be administered by slow i.v. bolus injection to rats without causing symptoms.

Subacute and Chronic Toxicity

Study Type	Species	Route	Doses (mg/kg)	Findings
Intravenous				
2 weeks	Rat	i.v.	0.3, 3 & 30	At ≥0.3 mg/kg, decreased WBC/lymphocytes. At 30 mg/kg, slight reduction in erythrocyte parameters and thymic atrophy. Slight inflammation at injection sites at all dosages. NOAEL 3 mg/kg.
4 weeks	Rat	i.v.	0.1, 3 & 30	No major findings; increased prostate weight without microscopic changes at ≥ 3 mg/kg.
rising dose	Dog	i.v.	3, 10 & 30	At 30 mg/kg, decreased WBC & absolute neutrophil counts, increased ALT. Clinical signs included hypoactivity and hypersensitivity to touch.
4 weeks	Dog	i.v.	3, 10 & 30	At 10 mg/kg, changes confined to decreased WBC & neutrophil counts. At 30 mg/kg, local reaction at injection sites, ataxia, hypoactivity, skin changes, decreased erythrocyte parameters, WBC & neutrophils, increased ALT, perivascular fibrosis & necrosis, thrombosis and edema at the injection site, decreased testis weight without microscopic change.
4 weeks	Dog	i.v.	20 & 60: 3 hour infusion/day for 7 days; 24 hour infusion thereafter	Mortality at 60 mg/kg. At ≥6 mg/kg, increased granulopoiesis decreased RBC parameters. At ≥20 mg/kg, decreased WBC, biochemical changes in serum indicating liver toxicity, necrotizing phlebitis, thrombosis in various organs; fatty replacement of bone marrow cells. At 60 mg/kg, reduced erythropoiesis. No NOAEL.
Intraperitoneal				
2-weeks	Rat	i.p.	0.3, 3 & 30	At 30 mg/kg, decreased erythrocyte parameters and alkaline phosphatase levels. Inflammation of the parietal and visceral peritoneum. NOEL 3 mg/kg, with the exception of mild effects at the injection site.
Oral				
2 weeks	Rat	p.o.	60, 200 & 600	Death or early kill at 600 mg/kg, with general deterioration. At all doses, evidence in serum of dose-related liver effects, hemorrhagic ovaries, increased mitoses in the liver; red cell, WBC/lymphocyte counts reduced, hypocellularity of bone marrow. At ≥ 200 mg/kg, enlarged stomachs & degenerative changes, including vacuolation, single cell necrosis or more widespread necrosis in a number of tissues, predominantly of epithelial origin; histiocytosis. At 600 mg/kg, hypertrophy of Kupffer cells, accumulation of macrophages in blood vessels in liver and lung, atrophic changes in thyroid, salivary, Harderian and mammary glands, prostate and seminal vesicles. Atrophy and histiocytosis in lymphoid tissues. All effects dose- related.
13 weeks	Rat	p.o.	6, 20 & 60	At 60 mg/kg, evidence of liver effects in serum. At 20 and 60 mg/kg, decreases in RBC parameters & decreased cellularity of bone marrow. Hyperplasia of transitional epithelium in renal papilla & bladder at all dosages, minimal at 6 mg/kg. Lymphoid & plasma cell hyperplasia in lymph nodes at ≥ 20 mg/kg. At 60 mg/kg, increased mitotic figures in the liver, hemorrhagic ovaries, vacuolation of Harderian glands, increased alveolar macrophages; hemorrhage, hemosiderosis and increased histiocytes in mesenteric lymph nodes. Effects at 6 mg/kg confined to microscopic findings in kidney/bladder.
13 weeks (repeated)	Rat	p.o	0.3, 1, 3 & 10	No effect at any dose level.

26-week	Rat	p.o.	5, 15, 50	50 mg/kg: Mortality (2m). Red ears, squinting, swollen appendages, red feet, dry perineal staining, apparent blood or dark yellow urine on cage paper, swollen muzzles and appendages, and dry staining of fur. Slight decrease in body weight (f). Decreased neutrophils, eosinophils, hematocrit, hemoglobin, platelets; increased MCV, MCH, MCHC and red cell distribution width. Increased AST, ALT, total protein, albumin, globulin; decreased A/G ratio, sodium, cholesterol and triglycerides. Increased heart (f), adrenal, liver (m), thyroid (m) and ovary weights; decreased pituitary (f) and testis weights. Enlarged masseter muscles and dark or red ovarian nodules. Hemorrhagic and/or cystic corpora lutea, hemosiderin-laden macrophages in ovaries, foamy macrophage accumulation in lungs, focal angiectasis of adrenal cortex, hypertrophy of masseter muscles, focal mineralization/hyperplasia of renal pelvic epithelium and focal new bone formation. ≥ 15 mg/kg: Prominent eyes, wet perineal staining, increased incidence/frequency of chromodacryorrhea and red penile discharge. Decreased RBC counts and platelets. Increased heart (m) and spleen weights. Focal fibrosis of bone marrow, atrophy of acinar cells of harderian gland, increased eosinophilic macrophages in mesenteric lymph nodes. ≥ 5 mg/kg: Salivation, presence of oral red substance, chromodacryorrhea, increased incidence/frequency of chromorhinorrhea. Most changes were reversible or partially reversible by the end of the recovery period. NTEL = 5 mg/kg.
2-week	Dog	p.o.	10, 30 & 100	No deaths. Occasional emesis and diarrhea at 100 mg/kg. Evidence in serum of liver changes, and decreased leucocyte counts & RBC parameters at 30 & 100 mg/kg. At 100 mg/kg, liver weight increased & centrilobular/ midzonal hepatocyte hypertrophy with increased mitosis and apoptosis, vacuolar degeneration hyperplasia/hypertrophy of epithelium of intrahepatic bile ducts and gall bladder. Vacuolar degeneration of gastric mucosa and renal pelvis. Fibrin thrombi in capillaries of small intestine villi with vasculitis and edema. Decreased thymus weight, lymphocytolysis in lymphoid organs, and bone marrow hypocellularity (dose related) at ≥ 30 mg/kg. NOEL 10 mg/kg.
13 weeks	Dog	p.o.	3, 10, 30 & 100 reduced to 50	Death in 1 male at 100 reduced to 50 mg/kg. At ≥ 10 mg/kg, dose-related diarrhea; decreases in RBC counts, and bone marrow hypo-cellularity in some animals; increased ovary weights, hepatic inflammation; gastric & small intestinal changes; thyroid weights decreased with follicular atrophy; increased splenic hemopoiesis. At >30 mg/kg dose-related emesis; decreased WBC, liver toxicity markers in serum; bile duct hyperplasia; pigment deposition in various tissues; thymic atrophy; focal acinar atrophy in the pancreas; reduced spermatogenesis. At high dose decreased testis weight, vacuolation of hepatocytes & bile duct epithelium; cystic corpora lutea containing hemorrhagic fluid; after recovery period peri-biliary fibrosis also present. NOEL = 3 mg/kg.
4 weeks (exploratory)	Dog	p.o.	100	Moribundity (1m). Salivation and vomiting, resistance to dosing, headshaking, diarrhea, hypoactivity, grey discoloration of fur. Moderate to marked decreased food consumption and body weight loss (reversible). Slight to moderate anemia (decreased reticulocytes and moderately decreased WBC due to decreased neutrophils). Liver alterations: degenerative lesions in biliary system (reversible) and hepatocytes (non-reversible), inflammatory cell infiltration, pigment deposition (mainly Kupffer cells) and bile duct hyperplasia, peribiliary fibrosis and increased perivascular infiltration of granulocytes and precursor cells. Electron microscopy: myeloid bodies in hepatocytes and Kupffer cells. Immunohistochemical analysis: antibodies reacting with nucleoli of hepatocytes and presence of bile duct epithelial cells.
2 weeks	Monkey	p.o.	10, 30,100 & 300 reduced to 200	Single doses of 200 and 300 mg/kg not tolerated. At 100 mg/kg emesis, decreased body weight, slight decrease in hematocrit, centrilobular vacuolation of the liver. NOEL = 30 mg/kg

13 weeks	Monkey	p.o.	3, 15 & 75	Reduced erythrocyte parameters, emesis, pale gums and skin at 75 mg/kg/day. One female at 15 mg/kg/day also showed pale gums and skin. No test-article-related macroscopic or microscopic changes. NTEL = 15 mg/kg/day.
2-week b.i.d.	Monkey	p.o.	20, 75 & 150→100	Twice daily dosing. Unscheduled sacrifice 150→100 due to poor general condition. Clinical signs at doses ≥75mg/kg: diarrhea, fecal changes, pale gums, and emesis with or without feed. At 150→100 increased creatinine, BUN, total bilirubin and decreased chloride and sodium; focal mineralization and dilatation of kidney tubules; tubular nephrosis; vacuolization of centrilobular hepatocytes; thymic atrophy. Toxicokinetics: No apparent gender difference in exposure, proportional increase in plasma concentrations seen with increasing dose. $AUC_{(0\text{-}18)}$: 1160, 40700 and 34550 ng·h/ml (m), 3270, 9430 and 41250 ng.h/mL (f).
39-week b.i.d.	Monkey	p.o.	15, 30, 80	Results at 6 months: Twice daily dosing 80 mg/kg: Reduced feces, diarrhea (m, f), and reddened conjunctiva/eyelid, pale gingiva (m). Decreased food consumption and body weight change (f). ≥ 30 mg/kg: Decreased food consumption and body weight change (m). Reduced albumin. Decreased RBC count, hemoglobin and hematocrit, increased MCV, MCH and MCHC. Presence of Plasmodium species (malaria). ≥ 15 mg/kg: Soft feces.

The toxicity after i.v. bolus administration was qualitatively similar to that seen after oral dosing. Irritation at the injection site was seen after peripheral i.v. administration in most studies using this route of administration.

Mild to moderate hematological changes were observed in rats, dogs and monkeys at oral doses $\geq$ 20, 10 and 75 mg/kg, respectively. Red blood cells were generally affected at doses slightly lower than those causing a decrease of white blood cell formation. Bone marrow changes reflected the effects on peripheral blood in rats and dogs. Atrophy of lymphoid organs, lymphocytolysis and/or lymphoid depletion were observed at oral doses $\geq$ 200 mg/kg in the rat and $\geq$ 30 mg/kg in the dog. A slight to moderate reduction in spermatogenesis was observed in the dog $\geq$ 30 mg/kg and in the rat fertility study at a dose of 60 mg/kg. Enlarged corpora lutea with hemorrhagic fluid were observed in rats at doses $\geq$ 60 mg/kg and in dogs at 100$\rightarrow$50 mg/kg/day. Diarrhea was observed in the dog at oral doses $\geq$ 3mg/kg/day. Emesis was observed at oral doses of $\geq$ 30 mg/kg in the dog and $\geq$ 75 mg/kg in the monkey. Atrophy of the intestinal mucosa, vacuolar degeneration of the gastrointestinal epithelium and single cell necrosis were observed at doses $\geq$ 10 mg/kg in the dog and at 600 mg/kg in the rat. The effects on bone marrow, lymphoid tissues, testis/ovaries, and gastrointestinal (GI) tract can be explained by an exaggerated pharmacological effect of imatinib on its different molecular targets.

The kidney was a target organ in rats and monkeys. In rats, hyperplasia of the transitional epithelium in the renal papilla and in the urinary bladder was observed at doses $\geq$ 6 mg/kg without changes in serum or urinary parameters. These findings may reflect local irritation of the compound to the urinary tract, since it has shown to be a local moderate irritant after i.v. administration. In monkeys, focal mineralisation and dilatation of renal tubules, and tubular nephrosis was seen in a 2-week oral dose range finding study at 150$\rightarrow$100 mg/kg. Biochemical changes indicating renal dysfunction (increased BUN and creatinine, electrolyte changes) were noted.

The liver was a target organ in rats and dogs. Increases in transaminases, and decreases in cholesterol, triglycerides, total protein and albumin were observed in both species. Liver toxicity was greater in dogs, as reflected by more extensive microscopic findings consisting of mild multifocal hepatocellular necrosis (single cell type) and single cell necrosis in bile ducts with reactive hyperplasia, and/or inflammation adjacent to blood vessels and bile ducts at doses $\geq$ 10 mg/kg, most pronounced at the100/50 mg/kg/day. After the recovery period, liver lesions were more severe than in the main study, associated with peribiliary fibrosis and increased incidence and severity of bile duct hyperplasia. Antinucleolar antibodies located in hepatocytes and in epithelial bile duct cells were detected in the 4-week dog exploratory study.

Reproductive Toxicity Studies

Study Type	Species	Route	Doses (mg/kg)	Findings
Segment I	Rat	Oral	6, 20, 60	At 60 mg/kg, decreased testes and epididymal weights, decrease in percent motile sperm, increased post-implantation loss. NOEL for male and female fertility and early embryonic development = 20 mg/kg.
Segment II range-finding	Rat	Oral	30, 100, 300	At 300 mg/kg death & total resorption. At 100 mg/kg increased post-implantation loss, decreased fetal weight & teratogenicity. No changes at 30 mg/kg.
Segment II	Rat	Oral	10, 30, 100	At 100 mg/kg, post-implantation loss and teratogenicity. At 30 mg/kg protruded tongue and shortened 13th rib. NOEL = 10 mg/kg.
Segment II range-finding	Rabbit	Oral	10, 30, 100	At 100 mg/kg, embryo-fetal toxicity; no reproductive changes at 10 or 30 mg/kg.
Segment II	Rabbit	Oral	6, 20, 60	At 60 mg/kg, slight delay in fetal development (ossification) and slight maternal toxicity. No teratogenicity.

Reproductive toxicity studies indicated that imatinib has a teratogenic potential in rats at doses ≥ 30 mg/kg. A dose of 10 mg/kg appeared to represent the no effect level (NOEL). In rats, doses ≥30 mg/kg induced embryo-fetal toxicity and/or teratogenicity (exencephaly, encephalocele, absent or reduced frontal, parietal and/or interparietal bones; dose-dependent protruded tongues) in surviving fetuses. In rabbits, there was no evidence of teratogenicity. Although testes and epididymal weights and percent motile sperm were decreased in male rats at 60 mg/kg, there were no effects on mating or on the number of pregnant females.

Three groups of time-pregnant female rats (n=24/group) were administered STI571 orally by gavage at dosages of 5, 15 and 45 mg/kg/day. The animals were treated from gestation day 6 through lactation day 20.

There was no maternal mortality. A red vaginal discharge was noted in the 45 mg/kg/day group on either day 14 or 15 of gestation. At this dose the number of stillborn pups was slightly increased while the number of viable pups and the number of pups dying between postpartum days 0 and 4 were decreased. In the F_1 offspring, at the same dose level, mean body weights were reduced from birth until terminal sacrifice and the number of litters achieving criterion for preputial separation was slightly decreased. F_1 fertility was not affected while an increased number of resorptions and a decreased number of viable fetuses was noted at 45 mg/kg/day. The No Effect Level (NOEL) for both the maternal animals and the F_1 generation was 15 mg/kg/day (one-fourth the maximum human dose of 800 mg/day).

Fertility was not affected in the preclinical fertility and early embryonic development study although lower testes and epididymal weights as well as a reduced number of motile sperm were observed in the high dose males rats. In the preclinical pre- and postnatal study in rats, fertility in the first generation offspring was also not affected by GLEEVEC®.

Human studies on male patients receiving GLEEVEC® and its effect on male fertility and spermatogenesis have not been performed. Male patients concerned about their fertility on GLEEVEC® treatment should consult with their physician.

Juvenile Developmental Toxicology

No new target organs were identified in the rat juvenile development toxicology study (day 10 to 70 post-partum). In the juvenile toxicology study, transitory effects upon growth and delay in vaginal opening and preputial separation were observed at approximately 0.3 to 2 times the average pediatric exposure at the highest recommended dose of 340 mg/m^2. Also, mortality was observed in juvenile animals (around weaning phase) at approximately 2-times the average pediatric exposure at the highest recommended dose of 340 mg/m^2.

Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

The genotoxic potential of imatinib was assessed in a battery of mutagenicity tests

Study Type	Findings
In vitro: Ames Salmonella and Escherichia/mammalian-microsome mutagenicity test	
30.9 – 5000 µg/plate ± S9 (range)	Negative
In vitro : Gene mutation test with Chinese hamster cells V79	
range: 7.41 - 200 µg/ml + S9	Negative
0.74 - 20 µg/ml – S9	Negative
In vitro: Cytogenetic test on Chinese hamster cells CHO	
range: 31 - 125 µg/ml + S9	Positive
1.5 - 12.5 µg/ml – S9	Negative
In vitro: Mouse lymphoma mutagenicity assay	
range: 0.98 - 62.5 µg/ml + S9	Negative
1.56 - 50 µg/ml – S9	Negative
In vivo: Rat micronucleus	
Doses 25, 50 & 100 mg/kg	Negative

Imatinib was devoid of genotoxicity in bacterial and cellular assays for mutagenic effects. The rat micronucleus assay which detects clastogenic and aneugenic effects was also negative. Positive results were obtained in an *in vitro* assay for clastogenicity (chromosome aberration) in the presence of metabolic activation, but only at concentrations which resulted in significant cytotoxicity.

In a 2-year rat carcinogenicity study, imatinib was administered in feed at doses of 15, 30 and 60 mg/kg/day and resulted in a statistically significant reduction in the longevity of males rats at 60 mg/kg/day and females rats at ≥30 mg/kg/day. Histopathological examination of decedents revealed cardiomyopathy (both rats sexes), chronic progressive nephropathy (females rats) and preputial gland papilloma as principal causes of death or reasons for sacrifice. Target organs for neoplastic changes were the kidneys, urinary bladder, urethra, preputial and clitoral gland, small intestine, parathyroid glands, adrenal glands and non-glandular stomach. The no observed effect levels (NOEL) for the various target organs with neoplastic lesions were established as follows: 30 mg/kg/day for the kidneys, urinary bladder, urethra, small intestine, parathyroid glands, adrenal glands and non-glandular stomach, and 15 mg/kg/day for the preputial and clitoral gland.

The papilloma/carcinoma of the preputial/clitoral gland were noted at 30 and 60 mg/kg/day in rats, representing (approximately 0.5 to 4 times the human daily exposure at 400 mg/day (based on AUC), 0.3 to 2.4 times the human daily exposure at 800 mg/day (based on AUC), and 0.4 to 3.0 times the daily exposure in children at 340 mg/m^2 (based on AUC). The renal adenoma/carcinoma, the urinary bladder and urethra papilloma, the small intestine adenocarcinomas, the parathyroid glands adenomas, the benign and malignant medullary tumors of the adrenal glands and the non-glandular stomach papillomas/carcinomas were noted only at 60 mg/kg/day.

Non-neoplastic histological lesions not identified in earlier preclinical studies were the cardiovascular system, pancreas, endocrine organs and teeth. The most important changes included cardiac hypertrophy and dilatation, leading to signs of cardiac insufficiency in some animals.

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PART III: CONSUMER INFORMATION

[Pr]GLEEVEC®

imatinib mesylate Tablets
imatinib 100 mg and 400 mg Tablets

GLEEVEC®, for use in the adjuvant treatment of adult patients who are at intermediate to high risk of relapse following complete resection of Kit (CD117) positive GIST has been approved with conditions, pending the results of studies to verify its clinical benefit.

For more information, patients are advised to contact their health care provider.

GLEEVEC® has received an approval for the use of adult patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (Ph+CML) in chronic phase; for the use in pediatric patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (Ph+CML) in chronic phase; for use in the treatment of adult patients with Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia in blast crisis, accelerated phase or chronic phase after failure of interferon-alpha therapy; for use as a single agent for induction phase therapy in adult patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia (Ph+ALL); in adult patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL as single agent; in adult patients with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases (MDS/MPD) associated with platelet-derived growth factor receptor (PDGFR) gene re-arrangements; in adult patients with aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD[1]) without the D816V c-Kit mutation. If c-Kit mutational status in patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD[1] is not known or unavailable, treatment with GLEEVEC® may be considered if there is no satisfactory response to other therapies; adult patients with advanced hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) with FIP1L1-PDGFRα rearrangement; and in adult patients with unresectable, recurrent and/or metastatic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP); and adult patients with Kit (CD117) positive unresectable and/or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST).

What is a Notice of Compliance with Conditions (NOC/c)?

An NOC/c is a form of market approval granted to a product on the basis of **promising** evidence of clinical effectiveness following review of the submission by Health Canada.

Products approved under Health Canada's NOC/c policy are intended for the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of a serious, life-threatening or severely debilitating illness. They have demonstrated promising benefit, are of high quality and possess an acceptable safety profile based on a benefit/risk assessment. In addition, they either respond to a serious unmet medical need in Canada or have demonstrated a significant improvement in the benefit/risk profile over existing therapies. Health Canada has provided access to this product on the condition that sponsors carry out additional clinical trials to verify the anticipated benefit within an agreed upon time frame.

[Pr]GLEEVEC®
(imatinib mesylate)

This leaflet is part III of a three-part "Product Monograph" published when GLEEVEC® was approved for sale in Canada and is designed specifically for Consumers. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about GLEEVEC®. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about the drug.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using GLEEVEC®

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

This medicine has been prescribed only for you. Do not give it to anybody else or use it for any other illnesses.

ABOUT THIS MEDICATION

What the medication is used for:

- GLEEVEC® is indicated for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in chronic phase.
- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in blast crisis, accelerated phase or in chronic phase (after failure of interferon-alpha therapy).

Chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) with Philadelphia chromosome-positive (Ph-positive CML) is a cancer of the blood which makes the body produce too many abnormal white blood cells (named "myeloid" cells).

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for use as a single agent for induction phase therapy in adult patients with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia (Ph+ ALL).
- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory Ph+ ALL as single agent.

Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) is a cancer of the blood which makes the body produce too many abnormal white blood cells (named "lymphoblasts").

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases (MDS/MPD) associated with platelet-derived growth factor receptor (PDGFR) gene re-arrangements.

Myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative (MDS/MPD) diseases, a group of blood diseases which makes the body produce too many abnormal blood cells.

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD[1]) without the D816V c-Kit mutation. If c-Kit mutational status in patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD[1] is not known or unavailable, treatment with GLEEVEC® may be considered if there is no satisfactory response to other therapies.

[1] ASM: Aggressive systemic mastocytosis; SM-AHNMD: Systemic mastocytosis with an associated clonal hematological non-mast-cell disorder.

Aggressive sub-types of systemic mastocytosis (ASM) is a cancer which makes the body produce too many blood cells (named "mast" cells).

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with advanced hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) with FIP1L1-PDGFRα rearrangement.

Hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) are blood diseases which makes the body produce too many blood cells (named "eosinophils").

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with unresectable, recurrent and/or metastatic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP).

DFSP is a cancer of the tissue beneath the skin in which some cells start growing out of control.

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with Kit (CD117) positive unresectable and/or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST).

- GLEEVEC® is also indicated for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients who are at intermediate to high risk of relapse following complete resection of Kit (CD117) positive GIST.

Gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST) is a cancer of the gastrointestinal system (stomach and the bowels). It arises from uncontrolled cell growth of the supporting tissue of this system.

Adjuvant therapy in GIST refers to treatment following complete removal of GIST through surgery (the primary or initial treatment) in order to reduce the risk of recurrence (i.e. the tumor coming back again).

What it does:

GLEEVEC® specifically targets the activity of certain enzymes called tyrosine kinases that play an important role within certain cancer cells.

GLEEVEC® inhibits the growth of abnormal white blood cells by blocking an enzyme involved in the development of certain cancers such as Ph+CML and Ph+ALL.

GLEEVEC® inhibits the uncontrolled growth cells of the supportive tissues involved in the development of cancers of the gastrointestinal system (stomach and the bowels).

When it should not be used:

If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to imatinib mesylate or any of the other ingredients of GLEEVEC® listed under section *What the important nonmedicinal ingredients are*.

What the medicinal ingredient is:

GLEEVEC® contains an active ingredient called imatinib mesylate.

What the important nonmedicinal ingredients are:

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 100 mg tablets :
Each tablet contains 100 mg of imatinib (as mesylate) and the following inactive ingredients: Cellulose (microcrystalline), crospovidone, colloidal silicon dioxide, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, magnesium stearate. The coating contains ferric oxide (red), ferric oxide (yellow), hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyethylene glycol, and talc.

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 400 mg tablets :
Each tablet contains 400 mg of imatinib (as mesylate) and the following inactive ingredients: Cellulose (microcrystalline), crospovidone, colloidal silicon dioxide, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, magnesium stearate. The coating contains ferric oxide (red), ferric oxide (yellow), hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyethylene glycol, and talc.

What dosage forms it comes in:
GLEEVEC® is supplied as a tablet.

GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 100 mg tablets
GLEEVEC® (imatinib mesylate) 400 mg tablets

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Serious Warnings and Precautions

GLEEVEC® should only be prescribed to you (or your child) by a doctor who is experienced in the use of anti-cancer drugs. Serious and/or common side effects that may occur with GLEEVEC® include:

- Severe heart failure and decrease in the amount of blood pumped by the heart,
- Rhabdomyolysis has been rarely observed,
- Serious bleeding,
- Water retention,
- Liver failure (in some cases, fatal),
- Gastrointestinal perforation (a hole through the wall of the stomach, or small intestine, or large bowel) in some cases, fatal.

Before you (or your child) take GLEEVEC® talk to your doctor or pharmacist:

- if you have or ever have had a liver, kidney or heart problem,
- if you are or plan to get pregnant. Receiving GLEEVEC® during pregnancy may harm your unborn baby. Women who might get pregnant are advised to use highly effective method of birth control while taking GLEEVEC®. Tell your health professional right away if you become pregnant or think you are pregnant while receiving GLEEVEC®. Your health professional may recommend that you have a pregnancy test before starting GLEEVEC®.
- if you are a male patient and are concerned about your fertility (ability to father a child),
- if you are breast-feeding, GLEEVEC® can get to the breast milk and may cause harm to your child,
- if you had your thyroid removed and are receiving treatment with a thyroid hormone such as levothyroxine.

While taking GLEEVEC®, if you experience symptoms, like dizziness or drowsiness or if you have blurred vision, do not drive a vehicle or operate any tools or machinery.

Monitoring during your treatment with GLEEVEC®

Your doctor will regularly monitor your condition to check whether GLEEVEC® is having the desired effect. You will also have regular blood tests to see how GLEEVEC® is tolerated (e.g. blood cells, liver function, thyroid function). You will be weighed regularly while you are taking GLEEVEC®.
Use in children/adolescents

There is no experience with the use of GLEEVEC® in children under 2 years of age.

GLEEVEC® may slow the normal growth in children and adolescents.

INTERACTIONS WITH THIS MEDICATION

Inform your doctor or pharmacist before or while taking GLEEVEC® if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, even those not prescribed by a doctor or natural health products, including nonprescription drugs.

Drugs that interact with GLEEVEC® include:

- some medicines used to treat infections such as ketoconazole, itraconazole, erythromycine, or clarithromycin,
- some medicines used to treat epilepsy such as carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin, fosphenytoin, or primidone,
- some medicines used to treat high cholesterol such as simvastatin,
- some medicines used to treat mental disorders such as pimozide,
- some medicines used to treat high bood pressure or heart disorders such as calcium channel blockers or metoprolol,
- rifampicin, a medicine used to treat tuberculosis
- St. John's Wort - a herbal product used to treat depression and other conditions (also known as *Hypericum Perforatum),*
- dexamethasone, an anti-inflammatory medicine,
- cyclosporine, an immunosuppressant medicine,
- acetaminophen, a medicine used to relieve the pain or to reduce fever,
- warfarin, a medicine used to treat blood coagulation disorders (such as blood clots or thrombosis).

You should also tell your doctor **if you are already taking GLEEVEC®** and you are prescribed a new medicine you have not previously taken during GLEEVEC® treatment.

In addition, do not drink grapefruit juice while you are being treated with GLEEVEC®.

PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION

How to take GLEEVEC®

Adults
Usual adult dose:

- 400 mg/day in newly diagnosed CML or Chronic phase CML.
- 600 mg/day in accelerated phase and blast crisis CML.
- 400 mg/day or 600 mg/day for unresectable and/or metastatic malignant GIST.
- 400 mg/day in adjuvant treatment of GIST.
- 600 mg/day for Ph+ALL.

For CML and GIST, your doctor may prescribe a higher or lower dose depending on how you respond to treatment. If a dose of 800 mg is administered, it should be taken as 400 mg twice a day, in the morning and in the evening.

- **If you are being treated for MDS/MPD**: the starting dose in adult patients with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative diseases is 400 mg/day.

- **If you are being treated for ASM**: the starting dose in adult patients with aggressive sub-types systemic mastocytosis (ASM and SM-AHNMD) without the D816V c-Kit mutation or with c-Kit mutational status unknown is 400 mg, to be taken once a day. For patients with ASM or SM-AHNMD associated with eosinophilia, the starting dose is 100 mg once a day.

- **If you are being treated for HES/CEL:** the usual starting dose in adult patients with hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) and/or chronic eosinophilic leukemia (CEL) is 100 mg to be taken once a day.

  For ASM/SM-AHNMD and HES/CEL patients receiving 100 mg/day, your doctor may decide to increase the dose to 400 mg once a day depending on how you respond to treatment.

- **If you are being treated for DFSP**: the starting dose is 800 mg/day, to be taken as 400 mg twice a day, in the morning and in the evening.

Children and adolescents

The doctor will tell you how many tablets of GLEEVEC® to give your child. The amount of GLEEVEC® given, will depend on your child's condition, and also his or her body weight and height.

Usual dose for children (2 years of age and older): 340 mg/m^2 body surface area/day, rounded up to the nearest 100 mg and not to exceed 600 mg/day.

The treatment can either be given to your child as a once-daily dose or alternatively the daily dose can be split into two administrations (one in the morning and one in the evening).

GLEEVEC® should be taken during a meal and with a large glass of water. Avoid drinking grapefruit juice while being treated with GLEEVEC®. Swallow the tablet whole. The 400 mg tablet can be broken in half.

If you (or your child) cannot swallow the tablet(s), you can place them in water or apple juice, use 200 mL for 400 mg tablet or 50 mL for 100 mg tablet. Stir with a spoon to completely disintegrate the tablet(s), then drink the whole content immediately. Rinse the container with water or apple juice and drink it to make sure no trace of disintegrated tablet(s) is left.

When and how long to take GLEEVEC®

Your doctor will determine when you will be given GLEEVEC® and for how long you should receive it. Do not exceed the recommended dosage and make sure you take GLEEVEC® for as long as prescribed.

What if you miss a dose

If a dose is missed or vomiting occurs, do not make up the dose. Instead wait until it is time for your next dose.

Overdose

In case of drug overdose, contact a health care practitioner, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

Side effects reported with the use of Gleevec include:

Very common:
weight gain (signs of water retention), headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, indigestion, abdominal pain, itchy red burning rash, muscle cramps, muscle, bone, and joint pain, fatigue (tiredness).

Common:
loss of appetite, dizziness, taste disturbance, tingling, pain or numbness of the hands, feet, legs or around the hip, difficulty sleeping, discharge from the eye with itching, redness and swelling (conjunctivitis), blurred vision, increased tear production, dry eye, nose bleeds, swelling in the abdomen, gas (flatulence), constipation, heartburn, nausea and stomach pain (sign of gastritis), dry mouth, itching, dry skin, unusual hair loss or thinning, night sweats, weakness, increased muscle tension, hypersensitivity (allergies), decreased skin sensitivity, increased sensitivity of the skin to sun (sign of photosensitivity), hot flushes, chills, decreased weight, mouth ulceration, joint swelling, abnormal liver test results, cough, fever, and swelling of the eyelids or around the eye.

Abnormal thyroid hormone levels (hypothyroidism) were observed in patients whose thyroid has been removed and who are receiving treatment with a thyroid hormone such as levothyroxine.

Your doctor will tell you if your thyroid hormone levels changed abnormally.

In pediatric patients, higher frequencies of the following blood levels were observed compared to adult patients:

- low blood levels of calcium, sugar, phosphates, albumin protein and sodium,

- high blood levels of sugar.

Your doctor will tell if your blood tests results changed abnormally.

Slowing of growth in children and adolescents has been reported. Your doctor will monitor growth at regular visits.

Tell your doctor if you experience any of the events listed above.
Your doctor might decide to modify or discontinue your treatment.

If you notice any other side effects not mentioned in this leaflet, please inform your doctor or pharmacist.

SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

Symptom / effect		Talk with your doctor or pharmacist	
		Only if severe	In all cases
Very Common	Weakness, spontaneous bleeding or bruising, frequent infections with signs such as fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers (low level of blood cells counts)		√
	Rapid weight gain, swelling of extremities (calves, ankles), generalised swelling such as swelling of the face (signs of water retention)		√
Common	Chest pain		√
	Nausea, loss of appetite, dark-coloured urine or yellowing of your skin or eyes go yellow (liver toxicity rarely liver failure)		√
	Bleeding		√
	Vomiting	√	
	Diarrhea	√	
	Nausea	√	
	Pain in the abdomen		√
	Fever	√	
	Severe headache, weakness or paralysis of limbs or face, difficulty speaking, sudden loss of consciousness (nervous system disorder such as bleeding or swelling inside of the skull/brain)		√
	Cough, difficult or painful breathing (dyspnea or pleural effusion) wheezing, pain in chest when breathing and fever (pneumonia)		√
	Severely decreased urine output, thirst (kidney problems)		√

SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM			
Symptom / effect		Talk with your doctor or pharmacist	
		Only if severe	In all cases
Common or Uncommon	Severe abdominal pain, vomiting blood, black or bloody stools, or having black stools, swelling of the abdomen/fluid within the abdomen, constipation, stomach pain (gastrointestinal bleeding)		√
Uncommon	Crushing, chest pain, fever, tiredness, irregular or stopped heart beat (heart disorders such heart attack, angina)		√
	Inflammation of the skin caused by an infection (cellulitis)		√
	Thirst, weight loss and severely decreased urine output (signs of low intake of drinks /fluids)		√
	Fainting (syncope)		√
	Blood in urine		√
	Difficulty hearing		√
	Light-headedness, dizziness or fainting (which may be signs of low blood pressure)		√
	Numb or cold toes and fingers (Raynaud's syndrome)		√
	Reddening and/or swelling on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet which may be accompanied by tingling sensation and burning pain (palmar-plantar erythrodysaesthesia syndrome) .		√
	Nausea, shortness of breath, irregular heartbeat, clouding of urine, tiredness and/or joint pain associated with tumor lysis syndrome (the sudden, rapid death of cancer cells due to the treatment).		√
Uncommon or Rare	Muscle weakness, muscle spasms, abnormal heart rhythm (changes in level of potassium in the blood)		√

SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM			
Symptom / effect		Talk with your doctor or pharmacist	
		Only if severe	In all cases
Rare	stomach pain, nausea (gastrointestinal perforation)		√
	Severe rash, red skin, blistering of the lips, eyes, skin or mouth, skin peeling, fever, red raised or purple skin patches, itching, burning, pustular eruption (skin disorder)		√
	Pale skin, tiredness, breathlessness, dark urine (break down of red blood cells)		√
	Vision impairment, blurred vision, blood in eye		√
	Nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever (inflammatory bowel disease)		√
	severe headache, dizziness, blurred vision (signs of increased pressure inside skulls)		√
	seizure		√
Reported from post-marketing with unknown frequency	Unexplained muscle pain, tenderness or weakness (Severe muscle problem that may lead to acute kidney failure called rhabdomyolysis)		√
	Chest pain. The pain may be located in the center of the chest and sometimes extends over the shoulder, shortness of breath, anxiety, restlessness, (heart disorders)		√
	Rash, red skin, blistering of the lips, eyes, skin or mouth, skin peeling, fever		√
	Severe headache, weakness or paralysis of limbs or face, difficulty speaking, sudden loss of consciousness or fits (cerebral edema)		√

SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

Symptom / effect		Talk with your doctor or pharmacist	
		Only if severe	In all cases
	Constipation, swollen abdomen, abdominal pain		√
	Difficulty breathing, dizziness, pale skin, itching		√
	Swelling , redness and pain in one part of the body (clots in blood vessel)		√
	Pelvic pain and/or unexpected vaginal bleeding (signs of gynecological disorder)		√
	Itchy, swollen rash on the skin or in the mouth, pinkish papule or plaque		√
	Pain and having difficulty walking		√
	Any combination of a widespread severe rash, fever , swollen glands, and general ill feeling or "flu-like" symptoms, yellow skin or eyes (signs of jaundice) shortness of breath and non-productive cough, chest pain/discomfort, and dehydration (signs of drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS), a severe skin reaction). In most cases of DRESS, patients will not experience all of the listed symptoms.		√

This is not a complete list of side effects. If you have any unexpected effects after receiving GLEEVEC®, contact your doctor or pharmacist

HOW TO STORE GLEEVEC®

Keep GLEEVEC® out of the reach and sight of children.

- Store GLEEVEC® at room temperature (15- 30°C). Protect tablets from moisture.
- Store GLEEVEC® in the original package.
- Do not use GLEEVEC® after the expiry date shown on the box.
- Do not use any GLEEVEC® pack that is damaged or shows signs of tampering.

REPORTING SUSPECTED SIDE EFFECTS

To monitor drug safety, Health Canada through the Canada Vigilance Program collects information on serious and unexpected effects of drugs. If you suspect you have had a serious or unexpected reaction to this drug you may notify Canada Vigilance:

You can report any suspected adverse reactions associated with the use of health products in the Canada Vigilance Program by one of the following 3 ways:

Report online: www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect
Call toll-free at 1-866-234-2345
Complete a Canada Vigilance Reporting Form and:

- Fax toll-free to 1-866-678-6789, or
- Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program
  Health Canada
  Postal Locator 0701C
  Ottawa, ON K1A0K9

Postage paid labels, Canada Vigilance Reporting Form and the adverse reaction reporting guidelines are available on the MedEffect™ Canada Web site at www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect.

NOTE: Should you require information related to the management of the side effect, contact your health care professional. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.

MORE INFORMATION

This document plus the full product monograph, prepared for health professionals can be found at: http://www.novartis.ca

or by contacting the sponsor, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc., at: 1-800-363-8883

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