



MaxorPlus Clinical Newsletter

April-May 2012

Now available

Potigan® ([vismodegib](#)) is an oral anticonvulsant agent which is a potassium channel opener. It is used for partial seizures. Dosing is started at 100 mg three times daily, increased to maintenance dose of 200-400 mg three times daily.

AWP \$ 3.96/ 50 mg capsule or \$ 7.92/200 or 400 mg capsule or \$ 712.80/month

Korlym® ([mifepristone](#)) is indicated for control of hyperglycemia secondary to hypercortisolism in adult patients with Cushing's syndrome who have type 2 diabetes and have failed surgery or are not candidates for surgery. Not for use in patients with type 2 diabetes unrelated to Cushing's syndrome. Dosing is started at 300 mg once daily with a meal, maybe increased to maximum dose of 1200 mg/day.

AWP \$ 223.20/ 300 mg tablet or \$ 6,696.00/month

Based on [Korlym's®](#) indication and cost, we recommend restricting to a specialty pharmacy.

Subsys® ([fentanyl](#)) is a sublingual spray of fentanyl for severe pain in patients with cancer who are already receiving and are tolerant to opioid treatment.

AWP \$ 25.72/ 100 mcg spray or \$ 61.29/ 600 mcg spray

Imtermezzo® ([zolpidem](#)) is a sublingual tablet indicated for middle of the night awakening followed by difficulty returning to sleep. **Dosing is gender specific** with women having a maximum dose of 1.75 mg and men having 3.5 mg. The dosage for women is lower than the dosage for men due to gender differences in clearance of the drug.

AWP \$ 7.74/ for either strength tablet

Zioptan® ([tafluprost](#)) is a prostaglandin analog. Indicated for reducing elevated intraocular pressure in patient with open-angle glaucoma. Dosing is 1 drop in the affected eye(s) once daily in the evening.

AWP \$ 116.40/ 30 count unit dose drops

Omontys® ([peginesatide acetate](#)) is an erythropoiesis-stimulating agent for anemia in adult dialysis patients with chronic kidney disease. It is **not** indicated for use in patients with kidney disease not on dialysis, or in patients receiving treatment for cancer who have anemia. Dosing is monthly and based on hemoglobin level and whether patient has been on other medications for anemia.

AWP \$ 1297.20/ 10 mg injection

Based on **Omontys's®** indication and cost, we recommend restricting to a specialty pharmacy.

Qnasl® ([beclomethasone](#)) is an intranasal glucocorticoid steroid indicated for seasonal or perennial allergic rhinitis. Dosing is 2 sprays into each nostril once daily.

AWP \$ 128.39/ inhaler

Voraxaze® ([glycarpidase](#)) is an IV carboxypeptidase enzyme for the treatment of toxic plasma methotrexate concentrations in patients with delayed clearance due to impaired renal function. Dosing is 50 units/kg IV over 5 minutes.

AWP \$ 27,000/ 1000 units injection Average patient would receive 4 vials or \$ 108,000.00

Based on **Voraxaze's®** indication and cost, we recommend restricting to a specialty pharmacy.

New generics available:

[quetiapine](#) generic for **Seroquel®** indicated for bipolar disorder

[irbesartan](#) generic for **Avapro®** indicated for hypertension

[irbesartan/hctz](#) generic for **Avalide®** indicated for hypertension

[modafinil](#) generic for **Provigil®** indicated for narcolepsy

[ziprasidone](#) generic for **Geodon®** indicated for schizophrenia

[Lipodox](#) generic for **Doxil®** indicated for various cancers

[escitalopram](#) generic for **Lexapro®** indicated for depression

[ibandronate 150 mg](#) generic for **Boniva®** indicated for osteoporosis

[carbo/levo/entac](#) generic for **Stalevo®** indicated for Parkinson's disease

[tinidazole](#) generic for **Tindamax®** indicated for protozoal infections

In Medical News

Deep vein thrombosis risk increased by airplane window seats, experts say "Economy class syndrome," which suggests that air passengers in cheaper seats are at risk of deep vein thrombosis (DVT), is a myth, according to US researchers, who warned in February that the condition was more likely to affect any travelers sitting in window seats. Experts from the American College of Chest Physicians said that economy class passengers on flights of more than four hours were no more likely to suffer from DVT than those in business and first class—but sitting next to a window made passengers less likely to get up and walk around.

"Traveling in economy class does not increase your risk for developing a blood clot, even during long-distance travel," according to Dr. Mark Crowther, of McMaster University in Ontario, Canada. "However, **remaining immobile** for long periods of time will. "He added, "Long-distance travelers sitting in a window seat tend to have limited mobility, which increases their risk for DVT. This risk increases as other factors are present."

Risk factors include female passengers taking the contraceptive pill, travelers over 70, cancer patients and the severely obese and the risk was "strongest for flights over eight to 10 hours."

The researchers also dispelled the myth that dehydration increases the chances of suffering from DVT and said that passengers who drink alcohol on a flight were not any more at risk than nondrinkers. The study, published in the journal *Chest*, stressed that the risk of developing DVT from a flight is "rare" but recommended that passengers walk around regularly to stretch their calf muscles.

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2012/02/07/deep-vein-thrombosis-risk-increased-by-airplane-window-seats-experts-say/#ixzz1lj1bceXy>