

MEDICATION GUIDE

Deferasirox (see for a sir xol) tablets

What is the most important information I should know about deferasirox tablets?

Deferasirox tablets can cause serious side effects, including:

- Kidney problems that can cause sudden death. Kidney problems can also cause other health problems, and had a blood disorder that was in an advanced stage. Adults and children who already have kidney problems and are taking certain medicines with deferasirox tablets may also have an increased risk of sudden kidney problems. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take during treatment with deferasirox tablets.
- Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your or your child's kidney function before and during treatment with deferasirox tablets. Call your healthcare provider right away if you:
- your child becomes sick with fever, vomiting, or diarrhea and cannot drink fluids normally during treatment with deferasirox tablets. Your child may be dehydrated. Your healthcare provider may need to temporarily stop treatment with deferasirox tablets and treat your child for dehydration to help prevent kidney problems.
- you notice that you or your child are passing less urine than usual during treatment with deferasirox tablets.

Liver problems. Deferasirox tablets can cause liver problems, including liver failure, that can sometimes cause death. Liver problems with deferasirox tablets may be more common in people who are over 55 years of age but can also happen in children. Liver failure has happened more often in people with cirrhosis of the liver and failure of other organs. Liver failure has also happened along with kidney problems in certain children who became dehydrated. See "Kidney problems" above.

Your healthcare provider should do blood tests to check your liver function before you start and regularly during treatment with deferasirox tablets. Call your healthcare provider right away, if you develop any of the following signs and symptoms:

- darkness
- yellowing or increased yellowing of your skin or eyes
- upper right stomach area (abdomen) pain
- dark urine

Bleeding, ulcers, and tears of the stomach or intestine. Severe stomach and intestine bleeding (hemorrhage) that has caused death have happened in some people treated with deferasirox tablets, especially in elderly people who have advanced blood cancers or low platelet counts. Some people have also had ulcers of the stomach or intestine, sometimes with tears (perforation) that have advanced blood cancers or low platelet counts. Some people have also had ulcers of the esophagus, irritation of the upper gastrointestinal tract, ulcers, and bleeding have happened, but did not cause death.

Adolescents, irritation of the bladder (hemorrhage) may be increased if you take deferasirox tablets along with other medicines that can cause ulcers or bleeding, such as:

- certain corticosteroids
- certain anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
- nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
- certain osteoporosis medicines called oral bisphosphonates

Before you start taking deferasirox tablets, tell your healthcare provider if you are taking one of these medicines. Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure.

If you develop an ulcer of the stomach or intestine, or severe bleeding, your healthcare provider may stop deferasirox tablets.

Elderly people may be at a higher risk of developing serious side effects and death due to serious side effects with deferasirox tablets.

May tell your healthcare provider if you get heartburn during treatment with deferasirox tablets.

Get emergency medical help right away if you vomit blood or pass black or bloody stools, or if you have severe stomach-ache (abdominal pain).

See "What are the possible side effects of deferasirox tablets?" for more information about side effects.

What are deferasirox tablets?

Deferasirox tablets are prescription medicines that are used to treat:

- people 1 years of age and older who have an increased amount of iron in their blood for a long period of time (chronic), causally by repeated blood transfusions
- certain people 10 years of age or older with thalassemia who have an increased amount of iron in their blood but who are not receiving regular blood transfusions

It is not known if deferasirox tablets are safe and effective when used with other medicines to treat an increased amount of iron in the blood.

It is not known if deferasirox tablets are safe and effective for treating children under 2 years of age who have an increased amount of iron in their blood for a long period of time (chronic) caused by repeated blood transfusions.

It is not known if deferasirox tablets are safe and effective for treating children under 10 years of age with thalassemia who have an increased amount of iron in their blood, but who are not receiving regular blood transfusions.

Do not take deferasirox tablets if you:

- have certain kidney problems
- have a high-risk myeloplastic syndrome (MDS)
- have advanced cancer
- have a low platelet count
- are allergic to deferasirox, or any of the ingredients in deferasirox tablets. See the end of this medication guide for a list of the ingredients in deferasirox tablets.

Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure if you have any of the medical conditions listed above.

Before taking deferasirox tablets tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have kidney problems
- have liver problems
- have advanced cancer. See "Do not take deferasirox tablets if you?"
- have a blood disorder that may increase your risk for bleeding
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if deferasirox tablets can harm your unborn baby. Hormonal forms of birth control may not be as effective if used during treatment with deferasirox tablets. You could become pregnant. Talk to your healthcare provider about other birth control options that you can use during this time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant during treatment with deferasirox tablets.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if deferasirox passes into your breast milk and can harm your baby. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take deferasirox tablets or breastfeed. You should not do both.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Some medicines may affect how deferasirox tablets work, and deferasirox tablets may affect how other medicines work. Also, your risk of sudden kidney problems or severe bleeding may be increased if you take deferasirox tablets with certain medicines. See "What is the most important information I should know about deferasirox tablets?"

Avoid taking the following medicines used to treat heartburn that contain aluminum or antacid products (medicines used to treat heartburn) that contain aluminum:

- o antacid products
- o ranitidine
- o certain medicines to lower your cholesterol, called bile acid sequestrants.

Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure if you take one of these medicines.

How the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your healthcare provider or pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

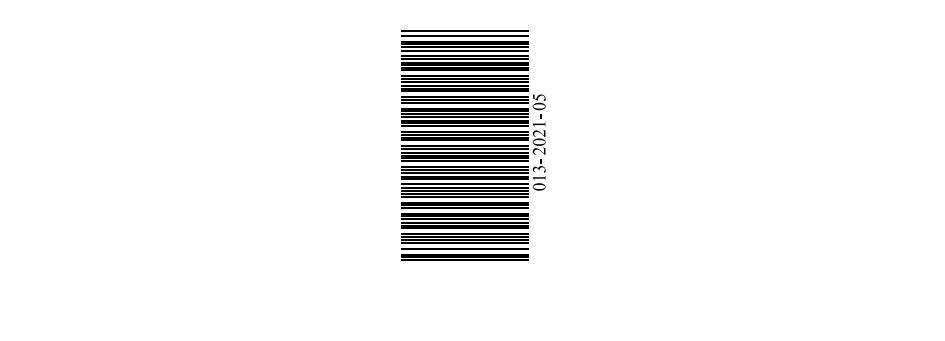
How should I take deferasirox tablets?

- Do not change your dose of deferasirox tablets or stop taking them unless you are told to.
- Do not take deferasirox tablets if you are taking other medicines that contain aluminum.
- o You may take deferasirox tablets on an empty stomach or with a light meal.
- o Examples of light meal include:
  - 1 whole wheat English muffin,
  - 1 packet of jelly (0.5 ounce), and skim milk (8 fluid ounces), or
  - A turkey sandwich 2 ounces of turkey on whole wheat bread with lettuce, tomato, and 1 packet of mustard)

Taking deferasirox tablets:

- o Take deferasirox tablets by mouth with water or other liquids 1 time every day, preferably at the same time every day.
- o If you have trouble swallowing the tablets, you may crush deferasirox tablets and mix them with soft foods such as yogurt or applesauce right before taking your dose.

Size: 400 x 800 mm  
Pharma Code: Front-61 & Back-62  
Spec.: Printed on 40 GSM Bible paper, front & back side printing  
Note: Pharma code position and Orientation are tentative, will be changed based on folding size.  
No of Colours: 01 - Black



HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION  
These highlights do not include all the information needed to use DEFERASIROX TABLETS safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for DEFERASIROX TABLETS.  
DEFERASIROX tablets, for oral use  
Initial U.S. Approval: 2005

WARNING: RENAL FAILURE, HEPATIC FAILURE, AND GASTROINTESTINAL HEMORRHAGE	
Deferasirox may cause serious and fatal:	
• acute kidney injury, including acute renal failure requiring dialysis and renal tubular toxicity including Fanconi Syndrome (5.1)	
• hepatic toxicity, including failure (5.2)	
• gastrointestinal hemorrhage (5.3)	
Deferasirox therapy requires close patient monitoring, including laboratory tests of renal and hepatic function. (5)	

RECENT MAJOR CHANGES	
Indications and Usage, Limitations of Use (1.1, 3)	7/2019
INDICATIONS AND USAGE	
Deferasirox tablets are an oral chelator indicated for the treatment of chronic iron overload due to blood transfusions in patients 2 years of age and older. (1.1)	
Deferasirox tablets are indicated for the treatment of chronic iron overload in patients 10 years of age and older with iron transfusion-dependent thalassemia (NTDT) syndromes, and with a liver iron concentration (LIC) of at least 5 mg per gram of dry weight (mg/g dw) and a serum ferritin greater than 300 mcg/L. (1.2)	
Limitations of Use	
The safety and efficacy of deferasirox tablets when administered with other iron chelation therapy have not been established. (1.3)	

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION	
Transfused Iron Overload: Initial dose for patients with estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) greater than 60 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> is 14 mg per kg body weight (kg) calculated to nearest whole tablet once daily. (2.1)	
NTDT Syndromes: Initial dose for patients with eGFR greater than 60 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> is 7 mg/kg calculated to nearest whole tablet once daily. (2.2)	
See full prescribing information for information regarding monitoring, administration, and dose reduction for organ impairment. (2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4)	

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS	
Tablets: 50 mg, 100 mg, 300 mg (3)	
CONTRAINDICATIONS	
• Estimated GFR less than 40 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> (4)	
• Patients with poor performance status (4)	
• Patients with high risk myeloplastic syndromes (MDS) (4)	
• Patients with advanced malignancies (4)	

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monitor renal function more frequently, by evaluating tubular and glomerular function. Titrate dosing based on renal injury. Consider dose reduction or interruption and less nephrotoxic therapies until improvement of renal function. If signs of renal tubular or glomerular injury occur in the presence of other risk factors such as volume depletion, reduce or interrupt deferasirox tablets to prevent severe and irreversible renal injury (see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)).	
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Administration of deferasirox for rats during pregnancy resulted in decreased offspring viability and an increase in renal anomalies in male offspring at doses that were about or less than the recommended human dose on a mg/kg basis. No fetal effects were noted in pregnant rabbits at doses equivalent to the human recommended dose on a mg/kg basis. Deferasirox should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

The background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated population is unknown. All pregnancies had a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. However, the background risk in the U.S. general population of major birth defects is 2% to 4% and of miscarriage is 15% to 20% of clinically recognized pregnancies. Data Animal Data In early-in-life developmental studies, pregnant rats and rabbits received oral deferasirox during the period of organogenesis at doses up to 100 mg/kg/day in rats and 50 mg/kg/day in rabbits (1.2 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) on an mg/kg basis). These doses resulted in maternal toxicity but no fetal harm was observed. In a prenatal and postnatal developmental study, pregnant rats received oral deferasirox daily from organogenesis through lactation Day 20 at doses of 10, 30, and 60 mg/kg/day (0.1, 0.3, and 1.2 times the MRHD on a mg/kg basis). Maternal toxicity, loss of fetuses, and decreased offspring viability occurred at 60 mg/kg/day (1.2 times the MRHD on a mg/kg basis), and increases in renal anomalies in male offspring occurred at 30 mg/kg/day (0.3 times the MRHD on a mg/kg basis).

## 8.2 Lactation

### Risk Summary

No data are available regarding the presence of deferasirox or its metabolites in human milk, the effects of the drug on the breastfed child, or the effects of the drug on milk production. Deferasirox and its metabolites were excreted in rat milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, and because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in a breastfed child from deferasirox and its metabolites, a decision should be made whether to discontinue breastfeeding or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

## 8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential

### Contraception

Caution patients to use non-hormonal methods of contraception since deferasirox can render hormonal contraceptives ineffective. *(See Drug Interactions (7.2)).*

### Pediatric Use

#### Transfused Iron Overload

The safety and effectiveness of deferasirox have been established in pediatric patients 2 years of age and older for the treatment of transfusional iron overload. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.1)).*

Safety and effectiveness have not been established in pediatric patients less than 2 years of age for the treatment of transfusional iron overload.

Pediatric approval for treatment of transfusional iron overload was based on clinical studies of 352 pediatric patients 2 years to less than 16 years of age with various congenital and acquired anemias. Seventy percent of these patients had beta-thalassemia. *(See Indications and Usage (1.1), Dosage and Administration (2.1), Clinical Studies (14)).* In these clinical studies, 173 children (ages 2 to < 12 years) and 119 adolescents (ages 12 to < 17 years) were exposed to deferasirox.

*Iron Overload in Non-Transfused Dyserythrocytic Syndromes* The safety and effectiveness of deferasirox have been established in patients 10 years of age and older for the treatment of chronic iron overload with non-transfusion-dependent thalassemia (NTD) syndromes. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.2)).*

Safety and effectiveness have been established in pediatric patients less than 10 years of age with chronic iron overload in NTD syndromes.

Pediatric approval for treatment of NTD syndromes with oral iron (oral ferrous sulfate) or LUC at least 5 mg/kg per gram of dry weight and a serum ferritin greater than 300 mcg/L was based on 16 pediatric patients treated with deferasirox therapy (10 years or less than 18 years of age) with chronic iron overload and NTD. Use of deferasirox in these age groups is supported by evidence from open-label, active and well-controlled studies of deferasirox in adult and pediatric patients. *(See Indications and Usage (1.2), Dosage and Administration (2.2), Clinical Studies (14)).*

In general, risk factors for deferasirox-associated kidney injury include preexisting renal disease, volume depletion, dehydration, and concomitant use of other nephrotoxic drugs. Acute kidney injury, and acute liver injury and failure has occurred in pediatric patients. In a pooled safety analysis, pediatric patients with higher deferasirox exposure had a greater probability of renal toxicity and decreased renal function, resulting in increased deferasirox exposure and progressive renal toxicity/kidney injury. Higher rates of renal AEs have been identified among pediatric patients receiving deferasirox tablets for oral suspension doses greater than 25 mg/kg/day equivalent to 17.5 mg/kg/day deferasirox when their serum ferritin values were less than 1,000 mcg/L. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.5), Warnings and Precautions (5.1, 5.2), Adverse Reactions (6.1, 6.2)).*

*Monitoring recommendations for all pediatric patients with transfusional iron overload and NTD*

It is recommended that serum ferritin be monitored every month to assess the patient's response to therapy and to minimize the risk of overchelation. *(See Warnings and Precautions (4.6)).*

Monitor renal function by estimating GFR using an eGFR prediction equation appropriate for pediatric patients and evaluate renal tubular function. Monitor renal function more frequently in pediatric patients in the presence of renal toxicity risk factors, including exposure to deferasirox, fever, and acute illness that may result in volume depletion or decreased renal perfusion. Use the minimum effective dose. *(See Warnings and Precautions (5.1)).*

Interact deferasirox in pediatric patients with transfusional iron overload, and consider dose interruption in pediatric patients with non-transfusion-dependent iron overload, for acute illnesses, which can cause volume depletion, such as vomiting, diarrhea, or prolonged decreased oral intake, and monitor more frequently. Resume therapy as appropriate, based on assessment of renal function, when oral intake and volume status are normal. Evaluate the risk/benefit profile of continued deferasirox therapy in the setting of decreased renal function. *Avoid use of other nephrotoxic drugs. (See Dosage and Administration (2.5), Warnings and Precautions (5.1)).*

### Adult Use

*Baseline toxicity was observed in adult mice, rats, and non-rodent monkeys administered deferasirox at therapeutic doses. In a maternal and juvenile toxicity study in rats, deferasirox was administered orally from postpartum Day 7 through Day 70, which equates to a human age range of neonate through adolescence. Increased renal toxicity was identified in juvenile rats compared to adult rats as a dose-based on high approximate 0.4 times the recommended dose of 20 mg/kg/day. A higher frequency of renal abnormalities was noted when deferasirox was administered to non-reproductive animals compared to non-reproductive adults.*

*Additional pediatric use information is approved for Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation's JADERIV (deferasirox) tablets and granules. However, due to Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation's marketing exclusivity rights, this drug product is not labeled with this information.*

## 8.5 Geriatric Use

Four hundred thirty-one (431) patients greater than or equal to 65 years of age were studied in clinical trials of deferasirox in the transfusional iron overload setting. Two hundred twenty-five (225) of these patients were between 65 and 75 years of age while 206 were greater than or equal to 75 years of age. The majority of these patients had myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) ( $n = 353$ ). In these trials, elderly patients experienced a higher frequency of adverse reactions than younger patients. Monitor elderly patients for early signs or symptoms of adverse reaction that may require a dose adjustment. Elderly patients are at increased risk for toxicity due to the greater frequency of decreased kidney, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy. Dose selection for elderly patients should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range.

In elderly patients, including those with MDS, individualize the decision to remain on treatment on based on clinical circumstances and the anticipated clinical benefit and risks of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension.

## 8.6 Renal Impairment

Deferasirox is contraindicated in patients with eGFR less than 40 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> *(see Contraindications (4.6)).* For patients with renal impairment (eGFR 40 to 60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>), reduce the starting dose by 50% *(See Dosage and Administration (2.4)).* For patients with renal impairment (eGFR between 40 and 60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>), *(See Dosage and Administration (2.4)).* If treatment is needed, use the minimum effective dose with enhanced monitoring of glomerular and renal tubular function. Individualize dose initiation based on improvement in renal injury. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.4, 2.5)).*

Deferasirox can cause glomerular dysfunction, acute renal tubular toxicity, or both, and renal tubular toxicity is more clinically meaningful. Monitor all patients closely for changes in eGFR and renal tubular dysfunction during deferasirox treatment. If either develops, consider dose reduction, interruption or discontinuation of deferasirox until glomerular or renal tubular function returns to baseline. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.4, 2.5), Warnings and Precautions (5.1)).*

## 8.7 Hepatic Impairment

Avoid use in patients with severe (Child-Pugh C) hepatic impairment. For patients with moderate (Child-Pugh B) hepatic impairment, reduce the starting dose by 50%. Closely monitor patients with mild (Child-Pugh A) or moderate (Child-Pugh B) hepatic impairment for efficacy and adverse reactions that may require dose titration. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.4), Warnings and Precautions (5.2), Clinical Pharmacology (12.2)).*

## 10 OVERDOSAGE

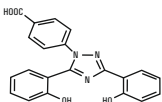
Cases of overdose (2 to 6 times the prescribed dose for several weeks) have been reported in one case. This resulted in hepatitis which resolved without long term consequences after a dose interruption. In a study in healthy patients, a dose of 17 to 2 times the prescribed dose of 6 to 24 mg/kg/day in acute and chronic deferasirox treatment and acute liver injury, which were reversible with intensive care support. Single doses up to 80 mg/kg per day with the tablet for oral suspension formulation in non-overloaded beta-thalassemia patients have been tolerated with nausea and diarrhea noted. In healthy subjects, single doses of up to 40 mg/kg per day with the tablet for oral suspension formulation were tolerated.

Early signs of acute overdose are digestive effects such as abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting. Hepatic and renal disorders have been reported, including cases of liver enzyme and creatinine increased with recovery after treatment discontinuation. An unusually administered single dose of 90 mg/kg led to Fanconi syndrome which resolved after treatment.

There is no specific antidote for deferasirox. In case of overdose, it may be treated with induction of vomiting or gastric lavage, and with symptomatic treatment.

## 11 DESCRIPTION

Deferasirox is an iron chelating agent provided as a tablet for oral use. Deferasirox is designated chemically as 4-[5-(3-hydroxyphenyl)-1H-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl]-5-phenylacetic acid and has the following structural formula:



Deferasirox is a white to light yellow crystalline powder. It has a molecular formula of C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and molecular weight of 372.35 g/mol. It is insoluble in water with a pH of suspension at 4.1.

Deferasirox tablets contain 90 mg, 180 mg, or 360 mg deferasirox. Inactive ingredients include colloidal silicon dioxide, croscarmellose, microcrystalline cellulose, poloxamer 188, polyethylene glycol, and sodium stearate/fatty materials. The film coating contains hypromellose, polyethylene glycol, talc and titanium dioxide.

## 12.1 Mechanism of Action

Deferasirox is an orally active chelator that is selective for iron (Fe<sup>3+</sup>). It is a tridentate ligand that binds iron with high affinity in a 2:1 ratio. Although deferasirox has very low affinity for zinc and copper, there are variable decreases in the serum concentrations of these trace metals after the administration of deferasirox. The clinical significance of these decreases is uncertain.

## 12.2 Pharmacokinetics

Pharmacokinetic effects tested in an iron balance metabolic study with the tablet for oral suspension formulation showed that deferasirox (10, 20, and 40 mg/kg per day) was able to induce a mean iron excretion (0.118, 0.228, and 0.445 mg/kg body weight per day, respectively) within the clinically relevant range (0.1 to 0.5 mg/kg per day). Iron excretion was predominantly fecal.

An analysis of pooled pediatric clinical data found a statistically significant relationship between exposure and the probability of renal toxicity (increase in serum creatinine and urinary protein), resulting in a decrease in renal function. Decreases in renal function resulted in an increase in deferasirox exposure which may increase the probability of renal toxicity.

## Clinical Pharmacology

*At the maximum approved recommended dose, deferasirox does not prolong the QT interval or any clinically relevant extent.*

## 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

### Absorption

Based on studies in patients with the tablet for oral suspension, deferasirox is absorbed following oral administration with median times to maximum plasma concentration (T<sub>max</sub>) of about 1 to 1.5 hours. In healthy subjects, deferasirox showed comparable T<sub>max</sub>. The maximal concentrations (C<sub>max</sub>) and area under the curve (AUC<sub>0-∞</sub>) of deferasirox increased approximately linearly with dose after both single administration and under steady-state conditions. Exposure to deferasirox increased in a dose-dependent fashion (1.2 to 2.3 after multiple doses with the tablet for oral suspension formulation).

### Tables

The absolute bioavailability (as measured by area under the curve time to infinity AUC<sub>0-∞</sub>) of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension is 70% compared to the intravenous dose. The bioavailability (as measured by AUC<sub>0-∞</sub>) of deferasirox tablets was 36% greater than deferasirox tablets for oral suspension. After strength adjustment, the mean AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> of deferasirox tablets (a<sub>0</sub>, 360 mg strength) was similar to that of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension (a<sub>0</sub>, 360 mg strength) under fasting conditions; however the mean C<sub>max</sub> was increased by 20%. The 30% increase in C<sub>max</sub> observed with deferasirox tablets is not clinically meaningful.

The administration of deferasirox tablets with a high fat meal (approximately 250 calories with fat content less than 7% of total calories) indicated that the AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> and C<sub>max</sub> were similar to that under fasting conditions. The administration of deferasirox tablets with a high fat meal (approximately 1,500 calories with fat content greater than 50% of total calories), increased AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> by 13% and C<sub>max</sub> by 25% compared to that under fasting conditions. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.3)).*

*Distribution* Deferasirox is highly (~98%) protein bound almost exclusively to serum albumin. The percentage of deferasirox confined to the blood cells was 5% in humans. The volume of distribution at steady state (V<sub>dss</sub>) of deferasirox is 1,537 ± 260 L in adults.

### Metabolism

Glucuronidation is the metabolic pathway for deferasirox, with subsequent biliverdin excretion. Degradation of glucuronides to the intestine and subsequent metabolism (enterohepatic recycling) is likely to occur. Deferasirox is primarily metabolized by UGT1A3, and to a lesser extent UGT1A5. CYP3A5 catalyzed (passive) metabolism of deferasirox appears to be minor in humans about 0%. Degradation of glucuronide metabolites in the intestine and subsequent glucuronidation (enterohepatic recycling) was confirmed in healthy subjects; study results indicated that approximately 12% of excreted urinary metabolites in deferasirox tablets are glucuronide metabolites. It takes about 12 hours after single dose of deferasirox resulted in a 45% decrease in deferasirox exposure (AUC<sub>0-∞</sub>) by interfering with the enterohepatic recycling of deferasirox.

*Excretion* Deferasirox and metabolites are primarily 84% of the dose excreted in the feces. Renal excretion of deferasirox and metabolites is minimal (8% of the dose). The mean elimination half-life (t<sub>1/2</sub>) ranged from 16 to 18 hours following administration.

### Drug Interactions

*Mitotane:* The concomitant administration of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension and CYP3A4 probe substrate mitotane resulted in a decrease of mitotane C<sub>max</sub> by 23% and AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> by 17%. In the clinical setting, this effect may be more pronounced, as the study was not adequately designed to conclusively assess the potential induction of CYP3A4 by deferasirox. *(See Drug Interactions (7.2)).*

*Rapigallide:* The concomitant administration of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension (30 mg/kg/kg/day for 4 days) and the CYP2C9 probe substrate rapigallide (single dose of 0.5 mg) increased rapigallide AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> by 2.3 fold and C<sub>max</sub> of 1.6 fold. *(See Drug Interactions (7.2)).*

*Theophylline:* The concomitant administration of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension (single dose of 20 mg/kg per day) and the CYP1A2 probe substrate theophylline (single dose of 120 mg) resulted in an approximate doubling of the theophylline AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> and elimination half-life. The single dose C<sub>max</sub> was not affected, but an increase in theophylline t<sub>1/2</sub> is expected to occur with chronic dosing. *(See Drug Interactions (7.4)).*

*Rifampin:* The concomitant administration of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension (single dose of 30 mg/kg per day) and the strong inducer diphosphoglycerolacetate (UGT) inducer rifampin (600 mg per day for 6 days) decreased deferasirox AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> by 44%. *(See Drug Interactions (7.2)).*

*Cholestyramine:* The concomitant administration of cholestyramine after a single dose of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension decreased deferasirox AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> by 45%. *(See Drug Interactions (7.6)).*

*Rapigallide:* Concomitant administration of deferasirox and rapigallide resulted in an increase of rapigallide exposure (AUC).

*Acute Study:* Deferasirox inhibited human CYP2A6, CYP2D6, and CYP2C19 in vitro.

Deferasirox is not a substrate of P-glycoprotein, MRP1 or MRP2.

## Pharmacokinetics in Specific Populations

*Pediatric:* Following oral administration of single or multiple doses, systemic exposure of adolescents and children to deferasirox was less than in adult patients. In children less than 6 years of age, systemic exposure was about 50% lower than adults.

*Sex:* The apparent clearance is 17.5% lower in females compared to males.

*Renal Impairment:* Compared to patients with MDS and eGFR greater than 60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>, patients with MDS and eGFR to 60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> ( $n = 34$ ) had approximately 50% higher mean deferasirox trough plasma concentrations.

*Hepatic Impairment:* In a single dose (20 mg/kg) study in patients with varying degrees of hepatic impairment, deferasirox exposure was increased compared to patients with normal hepatic function. The average total time and bound AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> of deferasirox increased 18% in 6 patients with mild (Child-Pugh A) hepatic impairment, and 76% in 6 patients with moderate (Child-Pugh B) hepatic impairment compared to 6 patients with normal hepatic function. The impact of severe (Child-Pugh C) hepatic impairment was assessed in only 1 patient.

## 13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

### 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

A 104-week oral carcinogenicity study in F344 rats showed no evidence of carcinogenicity from deferasirox at oral doses up to 60 mg/kg/day (0.3 times the MRHD on an mg/kg basis). A 26-week oral carcinogenicity study in B6C3F<sub>1</sub> transgenic mice has shown no evidence of carcinogenicity from deferasirox at doses up to 200 mg/kg/day (1.2 times the MRHD on a mg/kg basis) in males and 200 mg/kg/day (1.7 times the MRHD on a mg/kg basis) in females. Deferasirox was negative in the Ames test and chromosome aberration test with human peripheral blood lymphocytes. It was positive in a 1 to 3 in vivo oral rat micronucleus tests. Deferasirox at oral doses up to 75 mg/kg/day (0.3 times the MRHD on a mg/kg basis) was found to have no adverse effect on fertility and reproductive performance of male and female rats.

## 14 CLINICAL STUDIES

Deferasirox was evaluated in healthy subjects. There are no clinical data in patients with deferasirox. Deferasirox contains the same active ingredient as deferasirox tablets for oral suspension. The following information is based on clinical trials conducted with deferasirox tablets for oral suspension.

### Transfused Iron Overload

The primary efficacy study, Study 1 (NCT00877520), was a multicenter, open-label, randomized, active-comparator control study to compare deferasirox tablets for oral suspension and deferasirox tablets in transfused iron overload. Patients greater than or equal to 2 years of age were randomized to a 1:1 ratio to receive either deferasirox tablets for oral suspension or deferasirox tablets for oral suspension at starting doses of 5, 10, 20, or 30 mg/kg per day or subcutaneous deferasirox at starting doses of 20 to 60 mg/kg per kg at least 5 days per week based on LIC at baseline (5 to 10, 20, or 30 mg/kg dry weight), greater than 1 to 14, and greater than 14 mg/kg dry weight). Patients randomized to deferasirox who had LIC values less than 7 mg/kg dry weight were permitted to continue on their other deferasirox dose, even though the dose may have been higher than specified in the protocol.

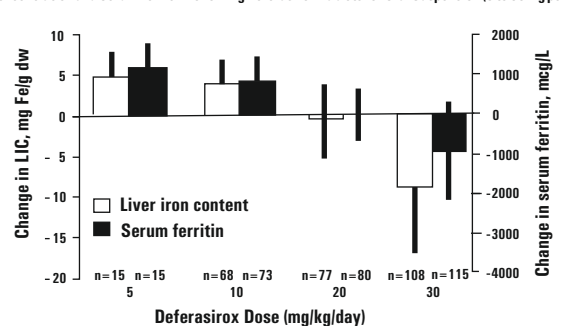
Patients were to have a low blip at baseline and end of study (after 12 months) for LIC. The primary efficacy endpoint was defined as a reduction in LIC of greater than or equal to 3 mg/kg dry weight for baseline values greater than or equal to 10 mg/kg dry weight, reduction of baseline values between 7 and less than 15 to less than 7 mg/kg dry weight, or maintenance or reduction for baseline values less than 7 mg/kg dry weight.

A total of 506 patients were randomized and treated, 236 with deferasirox tablets for oral suspension and 230 with deferasirox tablets. The mean age was 17.1 years (range, 2 to 53 years); 52% were females and 48% were males. The primary efficacy population consisted of 553 patients: deferasirox tablets for oral suspension ( $n = 275$ ; deferasirox  $n = 277$ ) who had LIC evaluated at baseline and 12 months or discontinued due to an adverse reaction. The percentage of patients achieving the primary endpoint was 52.5% for deferasirox tablets for oral suspension and 56.4% for deferasirox tablets. The relative efficacy of deferasirox tablets cannot be determined from this study.

In patients who had an LIC at baseline and at end of study, the mean change in LIC was: 2.4 mg/kg dry weight in patients treated with deferasirox tablets for oral suspension and -2.9 mg/kg dry weight in patients treated with deferasirox.

Reduction of LIC and serum ferritin was observed with deferasirox tablet for oral suspension doses of 20 to 30 mg/kg per kg per day. Deferasirox tablets for oral suspension doses below 20 mg/kg per kg per day failed to provide consistent lowering of LIC and serum ferritin levels (Figure 1). Therefore, a starting dose of 20 mg/kg per kg per day is recommended. *(See Dosage and Administration (2.2)).*

Figure 1. Changes in Liver Iron Concentration and Serum Ferritin Following Deferasirox Tablets for Oral Suspension (5 to 30 mg/kg per kg per day Study 1)



Study 2 (NCT00877523) was an open-label, noncomparative trial of efficacy and safety of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension given for 1 year to patients with chronic anemia and transfusional hemosiderosis. Similar to Study 1, patients received 5, 10, 20, or 30 mg/kg per kg per day of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension based on baseline LIC.

A total of 184 patients were treated in this study; 85 patients with beta-thalassemia and 99 patients with other congenital or acquired anemias (myelodysplastic syndromes,  $n = 47$ ; Diamond-Blackfan syndrome,  $n = 30$ ; other,  $n = 22$ ). Ninety-seven percent (19%) of patients were less than 16 years of age and 18% were greater than or equal to 65 years of age. There was a reduction in the absolute LIC from baseline to end of study (4.2 mg/kg dry weight).

Study 3 (NCT00877080) was a multicenter, open-label, randomized trial of the safety and efficacy of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension and 63 with deferasirox. Forty-four percent (44%) of patients were less than 16 years of age and 81% were black. At end of study, the mean change in LIC (as measured by magnetic susceptibility by a superconducting quantum interference device) in the per protocol (PP) population, which consisted of patients who had at least 1 post-baseline LIC assessment, was 1.3 mg/kg dry weight for patients receiving deferasirox tablets for oral suspension ( $n = 113$ ) and 0.7 mg/kg dry weight for patients receiving deferasirox ( $n = 54$ ).

Randomized 150 patients with thalassemia major and cardiac iron overload were enrolled in a study assessing the change in cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) T2\* value (measured in milliseconds, ms) before and after treatment with deferasirox. Cardiac T2\* values at baseline ranged from 5 to less than 20 ms. The geometric mean of cardiac T2\* in the 68 patients who completed 3 years of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension therapy increased from 11.98 ms at baseline to 17.12 ms at 3 years. Cardiac T2\* values improved in patients with lower cardiac iron overload (less than 10 mg/kg dry weight) and those with mild to moderate cardiac iron overload (greater than or equal to 10 to less than 20 mg/kg dry weight). The clinical significance of these observations is unknown.

Six hundred twenty-seven (627) patients with MDS were enrolled across 5 controlled trials. Two hundred thirty-nine of the 627 patients were enrolled in trials that limited enrollment to patients with PPSS (low or intermediate-1 risk) MDS, and the remaining 388 patients were enrolled in trials that did not specify MDS risk stratification but required a life expectancy of greater than 1 year. Planned duration of treatment in these trials ranged from 1 year (385 patients) to 5 years (47 patients). These trials evaluated the effects of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension therapy on parameters of iron overload, including LIC (125 patients) and serum ferritin (627 patients). The percent of patients completing planned duration of treatment was 51% in the largest 1-year study, 52% in the 3-year study and 22% in the 5-year study. The major causes for treatment discontinuation were withdrawal of consent, adverse reaction, and death. Over 1 year of follow-up across these pooled studies, mean change in serum ferritin was -323.1 ± 2615.53 mcg/L ( $n = 583$ ) and mean change in LIC was 5.8 (± 8.20) mg/kg dry weight (n = 488). Results of these pooled studies in 627 patients with MDS suggest a progressive decrease in serum ferritin and LIC beyond 1 year in these patients who are able to continue deferasirox tablets for oral suspension.

### Non-Transfusion-Dependent Thalassemia

Study 5 (NCT00872941) was a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of treatment with deferasirox tablets for oral suspension for patients 10 years of age or older with NTD syndromes and iron overload. Eighty patients had an LIC of at least 5 mg/kg dry weight measured by 62 MRI and a serum ferritin exceeding 200 mcg/L at screening (2 consecutive values at least 14 days apart from each other). A total of 166 patients were randomized, 55 to the deferasirox tablets for oral suspension 5 mg/kg/day dose group, 55 to the deferasirox tablets for oral suspension 10 mg/kg/day dose group, and 56 to placebo (28 to each matching placebo group). Doses could be increased after 1 month if the LIC exceeded 7 mg/kg dry weight and the LIC reduction from baseline was less than 15%. The patients enrolled included 89 males and 77 females. The underlying disease was beta-thalassemia intermedia ( $n = 95$  (57.4%)), beta-thalassemia ( $n = 49$  (29.5%)), and alpha-thalassemia ( $n = 21$  (12.6%)). There were 17 pediatric patients in the study. Causes of anemia comprised 57% of the study population and Adams comprised 42%. The median baseline LIC (range) for all patients was 12.1 (2.6 to 48.1) mg/kg dry weight. Follow-up was for 1 year. The primary efficacy endpoint of change in LIC from baseline to Week 52 was statistically significant (low to high deferasirox dose groups compared with placebo) less than or equal to 0.001 (Table 5). Furthermore, a statistically significant dose effect of deferasirox was observed in favor of the 10 mg/kg/day dose group (10 versus 5 mg/kg/day,  $p = < 0.008$ ). In a descriptive analysis, the target LIC less than 5 mg/kg dry weight was reached by 15 (27%) of 55 patients in the 10 mg/kg/day arm, 8 (15%) of 55 patients in the 5 mg/kg/day arm and 2 (4%) of 56 patients in the placebo group.

Study 6 (NCT00873041) was an open-label trial of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension for the treatment of patients previously enrolled on Study 5, including those over to active treatment for those previously treated with placebo. The starting dose of deferasirox tablets for oral suspension in Study 6 was assigned based on the patient's LIC at baseline at the time of Study 5, using 20 mg/kg/day dose group, and 60 to placebo (28 to each matching placebo group). Doses could be increased after 1 month if the LIC exceeded 7 mg/kg dry weight and the LIC reduction from baseline was less than 15%. The patients enrolled included 89 males and 77 females. The underlying disease was beta-thalassemia intermedia ( $n = 95$  (57.4%)), beta-thalassemia ( $n = 49$  (29.5%)), and alpha-thalassemia ( $n = 21$  (12.6%)). There were 17 pediatric patients in the study. Causes of anemia comprised 57% of the study population and Adams comprised 42%. The median baseline LIC (range) for all patients was 12.1 (2.6 to 48.1) mg/kg dry weight. Follow-up was for 1 year. The primary efficacy endpoint of change in LIC from baseline to Week 52 was statistically significant (low to high deferasirox dose groups compared with placebo) less than or equal to 0.001 (Table 5). Furthermore, a statistically significant dose effect of deferasirox was observed in favor of the 10 mg/kg/day dose group (10 versus 5 mg/kg/day,  $p = < 0.008$ ). In a descriptive analysis, the target LIC less than 5 mg/kg dry weight was reached by 15 (27%) of 55 patients in the 10 mg/kg/day arm, 8 (15%) of 55 patients in the 5 mg/kg/day arm and 2 (4%) of 56 patients in the placebo group.

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