



February 4, 2005

RE: IMPORTANT DRUG WARNING

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Eli Lilly and Company (Lilly) would like to inform you of important new safety information about Xigris®. A new WARNING has been added to the prescribing information for Xigris [drotrecogin alfa (activated)], a biological therapeutic product indicated for the treatment of adult patients with severe sepsis who are at high risk of death. The warning is based upon exploratory analyses of the ADDRESS clinical trial database and subsequent reanalysis of the PROWESS (Phase 3 registration) clinical trial database. **This new warning, which appears below, applies only to patients with single organ dysfunction and recent surgery.** These patients may not be at high risk of death and therefore may not be indicated for Xigris.

WARNINGS

Mortality in Patients with Single Organ Dysfunction and Recent Surgery

Among the small number of patients enrolled in PROWESS with single organ dysfunction and recent surgery (surgery within 30 days prior to study treatment) all-cause mortality was numerically higher in the Xigris group (28-day: 10/49; in-hospital: 14/48) compared to the placebo group (28-day: 8/49; in-hospital: 8/47).

In a preliminary analysis of the subset of patients with single organ dysfunction and recent surgery from a separate, randomized, placebo-controlled study (ADDRESS) of septic patients at lower risk of death (APACHE II score <25 or single sepsis-induced organ failure at any APACHE II score) all-cause mortality was also higher in the Xigris group (28-day: 67/323; in-hospital: 76/325) compared to the placebo group (28-day: 44/313; in-hospital: 62/314).

Patients with single organ dysfunction and recent surgery may not be at high risk of death irrespective of APACHE II score and therefore may not be among the indicated population. Xigris should be used in these patients only after careful consideration of the risks and benefits.

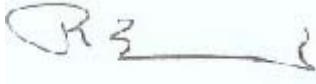
Although not conclusive, Lilly believes this information will be useful to healthcare professionals who evaluate patients for Xigris therapy.

This observation underscores the importance of accurate severe sepsis diagnosis and assessment of risk of death when considering patients for Xigris.

Lilly is committed to ensuring that Xigris is used as safely and effectively as possible and to providing you with the most current product information. You can assist us with monitoring the safety of Xigris by reporting adverse events to the Lilly Answer Center at 1-800-LILLYRx (1-800-545-5979). Alternatively, adverse events may be reported to the FDA's MedWatch reporting system (phone: 1-800-FDA-1088, facsimile: 1-800-FDA-0178, or website: www.fda.gov/medwatch).

Enclosed is a copy of the prescribing information for Xigris that incorporates the change described above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Eisenberg", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Paul Eisenberg, MD
Vice President, Global Product Safety

Round the actual amount of Xigris to be prepared to the nearest 5 mg increment to avoid discarding reconstituted Xigris.

- Determine the number of vials of Xigris needed to make up this amount.
- Reconstitute each vial of Xigris with Sterile Water for Injection, USP. The 5 mg vials must be reconstituted with 2.5 mL; the 20 mg vials with 10 mL. Slowly add the Sterile Water for Injection, USP to the vial and avoid inverting or shaking the vial. Gently swirl each vial until the powder is completely dissolved. The resulting Xigris concentration of the solution is 2 mg/mL.
- Xigris contains no antibacterial preservatives; the intravenous solution should be prepared **immediately** after reconstitution of the Xigris in the vial(s). If the vial of reconstituted Xigris is not used immediately, it may be held at controlled room temperature 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F), but must be used within 3 hours.
- Inspect the reconstituted Xigris in the vials for particulate matter and discoloration before further dilution. Do not use vials if particulate matter is visible or the solution is discolored.
- Xigris should be administered via a dedicated intravenous line or a dedicated lumen of a multilumen venous catheter. The **ONLY** other solutions that can be administered through the same line are 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP; Lactated Ringer's Injection, USP; Dextrose Injection, USP; and Dextrose and Sodium Chloride Injection, USP.
- Avoid exposing Xigris solutions to heat and/or direct sunlight. Studies conducted at the recommended concentrations indicate the Xigris intravenous solution to be compatible with glass infusion bottles, and infusion bags and syringes made of polyvinylchloride, polyethylene, polypropylene, or polyolefin.

Dilution and Administration Instructions for an Intravenous Infusion Pump Using an Infusion Bag:

- Complete Preparation and Administration steps 1-8, then complete the next 6 steps.
- The solution of reconstituted Xigris must be further diluted into an infusion bag containing 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP to a final concentration of between 0.1 mg/mL and 0.2 mg/mL. Bag volumes between 50 mL and 250 mL are typical.
- Confirm that the intended bag volume will result in an acceptable final concentration.

Final concentration, mg/mL = (actual Xigris amount, mg) ÷ (bag volume, mL)

If the calculated final concentration is not between 0.1 mg/mL and 0.2 mg/mL select a different bag volume and recalculate the final concentration.

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- Slowly withdraw the reconstituted Xigris solution from the vial(s) and add the reconstituted Xigris into the infusion bag of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP. When injecting the Xigris into the infusion bag, direct the stream to the side of the bag to minimize the agitation of the solution. Gently invert the infusion bag to obtain a homogeneous solution. Do not transport the infusion bag using mechanical transport systems such as pneumatic-tube systems that may cause vigorous agitation of the solution.
- Calculate the actual duration of the infusion period for the diluted Xigris.
Infusion period, hours = (actual Xigris amount, mg) X 1000 ÷ (patient weight, kg) ÷ 24 mcg/kg/hr
- Account for the added volume of reconstituted Xigris (0.5 mL per mg of Xigris used) and the volume of bag saline solution removed (if saline solution is removed prior to adding the reconstituted Xigris).

Final bag volume, mL = starting bag volume, mL + reconstituted Xigris volume, mL - saline volume removed (if any), mL

Calculate the actual infusion rate of the diluted Xigris.

Infusion rate, mL/hr = final bag volume, mL ÷ infusion period, hours

- After preparation, the intravenous solution should be used at controlled room temperature 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F) within 14 hours. If the intravenous solution is not administered immediately, the solution may be stored refrigerated 2° to 8°C (36° to 46°F) for up to 12 hours. If the prepared solution is refrigerated prior to administration, **the maximum time limit for use of the intravenous solution, including preparation, refrigeration, and administration, is 24 hours.**

Dilution and Administration Instructions for a Syringe Pump:

- Complete Preparation and Administration steps 1-8, then complete the next 7 steps.
- The solution of reconstituted Xigris must be further diluted with 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP to a final concentration of between 0.1 mg/mL and 1.0 mg/mL.
- Confirm that the intended solution volume will result in an acceptable final concentration.

Final concentration, mg/mL = (actual Xigris amount, mg) ÷ (solution volume, mL)

If the calculated final concentration is not between 0.1 to 1.0 mg/mL select a different volume and recalculate the final concentration.

- Slowly withdraw the reconstituted Xigris solution from the vial(s) into a syringe that will be used in the syringe pump. Into the same syringe, slowly withdraw 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP to obtain the desired

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final volume of diluted Xigris. Gently invert and/or rotate the syringe to obtain a homogenous solution.

- Calculate the actual duration of the infusion period for the diluted Xigris.
Infusion period, hours = (actual Xigris amount, mg) X 1000 ÷ (patient weight, kg) ÷ 24 mcg/kg/hr

- Calculate the actual infusion rate of the diluted Xigris.

Infusion rate, mL/hr = (solution volume, mL) ÷ (infusion period, hours)

- When administering Xigris using a syringe pump at low concentrations (less than approximately 0.2 mg/mL) with low flow rates (less than approximately 5 mL/hr), the infusion set must be primed for approximately 15 minutes at a flow rate of approximately 5 mL/hr.
- After preparation, the intravenous solution should be used at controlled room temperature 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F) within 12 hours. **The maximum time limit for use of the intravenous solution, including preparation and administration, is 12 hours.**

HOW SUPPLIED: Xigris is available in 5 mg and 20 mg single-use vials containing sterile, preservative-free, lyophilized drotrecogin alfa (activated).

Vials:

5 mg Vials
NDC 0002-7559-01
20 mg Vials
NDC 0002-7561-01

Xigris should be stored in a refrigerator 2° to 8°C (36° to 46°F). Do not freeze. Protect unconstituted vials of Xigris from light. Retain in carton until time of use. Do not use beyond the expiration date stamped on the vial.

REFERENCES:

- Bernard GR, et al. Efficacy and Safety of Recombinant Human Activated Protein C for Severe Sepsis. *N Engl J Med.* 2001;344:699-709
- Knaus WA, et al. APACHE II: a severity of disease classification system. *Crit Care Med.* 1985;13:818-29

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