

الوٲم[®]
ٲمٲر كسد

ٲودر برآى ٲهٲه محلول غلٲظ ءهٲٲ انفوزٲون ٲس از رقق سآزى

پیش از شروع مصرف الوپم® محتوای دفترچه راهنما را به دقت مطالعه کنید. این دفترچه راهنما در برگیرنده پاسخ شایع‌ترین سؤالات در مورد داروی الوپم® است. در صورتی که پاسخ تمامی سؤالات شما در این دفترچه راهنما نیامده است، می‌توانید با پزشک یا داروساز خود تماس بگیرید. این دارو برای بیماری فعلی شما تجویز شده است؛ لذا از مصرف آن در موارد مشابه یا توصیه آن به دیگران خودداری نمایید. اطلاعات این دفترچه راهنما در تاریخی که در آخرین صفحه آمده است، به روز رسانی شده و ممکن است در برگیرنده آخرین اطلاعات علمی در مورد داروی شما نباشد. برای اطلاع از آخرین داده‌های علمی در مورد داروی خود با پزشک یا داروساز مشورت کنید. همچنین برای دسترسی به آخرین ویرایش این دفترچه راهنما می‌توانید به وبسایت شرکت داروسازی نانوالوند به آدرس www.nanoalvand.com مراجعه فرمایید.

در این دفترچه به سؤالات زیر پاسخ داده می‌شود:

- الوپم® چیست و در چه مواردی تجویز می‌شود؟
- چه افرادی نباید الوپم® را دریافت کنند؟
- پیش از دریافت الوپم® یا در طول درمان با آن چه مواردی را حتماً باید به پزشک خود اطلاع دهید؟
- آیا الوپم® در کودکان و نوجوانان قابل تجویز است؟
- آیا الوپم® با سایر داروها تداخل دارد؟
- ایمنی مصرف الوپم® در دوران بارداری و شیردهی چگونه است؟
- آیا در طول مدت مصرف الوپم® رانندگی و کار با ماشین‌آلات مجاز است؟
- آیا الوپم® حاوی سدیم است؟
- دوز، فواصل تجویز و طول دوره درمان با الوپم® چقدر است؟

- الوپم® ممکن است چه اثرات نامطلوبی داشته باشد؟

- الوپم® را در چه شرایطی باید نگهداری کرد؟

- الوپم® از چه اجزایی تشکیل شده است و بسته‌بندی آن چگونه است؟



الوپم® چیست و در چه مواردی تجویز می‌شود؟

نام اختصاصی داروی شما الوپم® و نام ژنریک آن پمترکسد است. پمترکسد دارویی است که در درمان سرطان کاربرد دارد.

الوپم® همراه با داروی ضدسرطان دیگری به نام سیس‌پلاتین، برای درمان نوعی از سرطان ریه (مزوتلیومیای بدخیم پلورال) در بیمارانی که قبلاً تحت شیمی‌درمانی قرار نگرفته‌اند، استفاده می‌شود.

الوپم® همچنین همراه با سیس‌پلاتین برای درمان اولیه بیماران مبتلا به مرحله پیشرفته سرطان ریه، تجویز می‌شود.

الْوَيْم® ممکن است در بیماران مبتلا به مرحله پیشرفته سرطان ریه که به درمان پاسخ مناسبی داده‌اند و یا پس از شیمی‌درمانی اولیه، بیماری آن‌ها پیشرفت نکرده است، تجویز شود.

همچنین الوَیْم® در بیماران مبتلا به مرحله پیشرفته سرطان ریه که بیماری آن‌ها علی‌رغم درمان اولیه با سایر داروهای ضدسرطان، پیشرفت کرده است نیز کاربرد دارد.

همچنین این دارو ممکن است در مواردی که در این دفترچه راهنما ذکر نشده است، تجویز شود. در صورتی که در مورد علت تجویز این دارو و نحوه عملکرد آن سؤالی دارید، از پزشک خود بپرسید.

چه افرادی نباید الوَیْم® را دریافت کنند؟

- اگر در گذشته سابقه واکنش حساسیتی به پمترکسد و یا مواد جانبی موجود در الوَیْم® را داشته‌اید. (لیست این مواد در قسمت آخر دفترچه راهنما آمده است).

- اگر در دوران شیردهی هستید؛ در طول مدت درمان با الوَیْم® باید شیردهی را متوقف کنید.

- اگر به تازگی واکسن تب زرد را دریافت کرده و یا قصد دریافت آن را دارید.

پیش از دریافت الوَیْم® یا در طول درمان با آن چه مواردی را حتماً باید به پزشک خود اطلاع دهید؟



- اگر دچار مشکلات کلیوی هستید یا سابقه این مشکلات را داشته‌اید؛ ممکن است مجاز به دریافت الوَیْم® نباشید.

- پیش از هر بار تزریق الوَیْم®، از شما نمونه خون گرفته می‌شود تا عملکرد کبد و کلیه و همچنین تعداد سلول‌های خونی شما بررسی شود. با توجه به وضعیت عمومی شما و اگر تعداد سلول‌های خونی‌تان بسیار پایین باشد، پزشک ممکن است دوز الوَیْم® را کاهش دهد و یا درمان را به تعویق بیندازد. چنانچه علاوه بر الوَیْم®



آیا الوُپم® در کودکان و نوجوانان قابل تجویز است؟

الوُپم® نباید در کودکان و نوجوانان تجویز شود؛ زیرا در خصوص تجویز این دارو در کودکان و نوجوانان کمتر از ۱۸ سال اطلاعاتی وجود ندارد.



آیا الوُپم® با سایر داروها تداخل دارد؟

بسیاری از داروها ممکن است با الوُپم® تداخل داشته باشند؛ لذا در صورتی که در حال مصرف هر نوع دارویی اعم از داروهای نسخه‌ای، بدون نسخه، فرآورده‌های طبیعی، گیاهی و ویتامین‌ها هستید، اخیراً دارویی مصرف کرده و یا حتی قصد مصرف دارویی را دارید، با پزشک یا داروساز خود مشورت کنید.

در صورتی که داروی ضد درد و ضد التهاب مصرف می‌کنید، از جمله NSAID ها (مانند ایبوپروفن)، حتماً به پزشک خود اطلاع دهید. NSAID ها انواع مختلفی دارند و طول اثر آن‌ها با هم متفاوت است. با توجه به زمانی که قرار است الوُپم® را دریافت کنید و نیز عملکرد

سیس‌پلاتین هم دریافت می‌کنید، پزشک از هیدراتاسیون کافی و نیز دریافت داروی ضدتهوع مناسب قبل و بعد از تزریق دارو، اطمینان حاصل خواهد کرد.

- اگر تحت پرتودرمانی بوده‌اید و یا قرار است تحت درمان با این روش قرار بگیرید؛ ممکن است در اثر تزریق الوُپم® دچار واکنش‌های زودهنگام و یا تأخیری ناشی از پرتودرمانی شوید.
- اگر به تازگی واکسن دریافت کرده‌اید؛ ممکن است تزریق الوُپم® اثرات بدی داشته باشد.
- اگر دچار بیماری قلبی هستید یا سابقه بیماری قلبی داشته‌اید.
- اگر دچار تجمع مایع در اطراف ریه‌ها هستید، ممکن است پزشک تصمیم بگیرد پیش از شروع درمان با الوُپم®، این مایع را از بدن تان خارج کند.

کلیه‌تان، پزشک شما را در خصوص انتخاب NSAID مناسب و نیز زمان مناسب مصرف آن، راهنمایی خواهد کرد. در صورتی که مطمئن نیستید، می‌توانید از پزشک یا داروساز خود در خصوص این که آیا هیچ‌کدام از داروهای مصرفی‌تان NSAID است یا خیر، سؤال کنید.

تداخلات مطرح شده شامل تمامی تداخلات دارویی الوپم® نیست؛ لذا در خصوص تمام داروهای مصرفی خود با پزشک معالج یا داروساز مشورت کنید.

ایمنی مصرف الوپم® در دوران بارداری و شیردهی چگونه است؟



اگر در دوران بارداری هستید و یا قصد بارداری دارید، پیش از مصرف الوپم® حتماً به پزشک خود اطلاع دهید. الوپم® نباید در دوران بارداری مصرف شود. پزشک در خصوص خطرات احتمالی مصرف الوپم® در دوران بارداری با شما صحبت خواهد کرد. خانم‌ها در طول درمان با الوپم® باید از یک روش مطمئن برای جلوگیری از بارداری استفاده کنند.

در صورتی که در دوران شیردهی هستید، حتماً به پزشک اطلاع دهید. در طول مدت درمان با الوپم® باید شیردهی متوقف شود.

در خصوص مدت زمان دقیق مورد نیاز برای پیشگیری از بارداری و شیردهی پس از مصرف آخرین دوز دارو، با پزشک خود مشورت کنید.

آقایان در طول مدت درمان با الوپم® و تا ۶ ماه پس از پایان درمان با آن، نباید نسبت به فرزندآوری اقدام کنند. در صورتی که قصد دارید در طول درمان و یا پیش از ۶ ماه پس از پایان درمان با الوپم® اقدام به فرزندآوری کنید، حتماً در این رابطه با پزشک خود مشورت کنید؛ زیرا پزشک می‌تواند اطلاعاتی در خصوص جمع‌آوری اسپرم پیش از شروع درمان با الوپم® در اختیار شما قرار دهد.



آیا در طول مدت مصرف الوپم® رانندگی و کار با ماشین‌آلات مجاز است؟

الوپم® می‌تواند باعث بروز خستگی شود. در هنگام رانندگی و کار با ماشین‌آلات احتیاط کنید.



آیا الوپم® حاوی سدیم است؟

هر ویال الوپم® ۱۰۰ میلی‌گرم حاوی کمتر از ۱ میلی‌مول (۲۳ میلی‌گرم) سدیم است، بنابراین می‌توان آن را فاقد سدیم در نظر گرفت.

هر ویال الوپم® ۵۰۰ میلی‌گرم حاوی ۵۴ میلی‌گرم سدیم است. این میزان سدیم معادل ۲/۷ درصد حداکثر میزان مصرف توصیه شده روزانه برای یک فرد بزرگسال است.



دوز، فواصل تجویز و طول دوره درمان با الوپم® چقدر است؟

الوپم® را دقیقاً مطابق دستور پزشک استفاده نمایید. در صورتی که در مورد نحوه مصرف آن سؤالی دارید، حتماً از پزشک یا داروساز خود بپرسید.

دوز الوپم® معادل ۵۰۰ میلی‌گرم به ازای هر متر مربع از سطح بدن است. برای محاسبه سطح بدن، قد و وزن شما اندازه‌گیری خواهد شد و پزشک با توجه به سطح بدن، دوز مناسب برای شما را مشخص خواهد کرد. با توجه به تعداد سلول‌های خونی و نیز وضعیت عمومی شما، پزشک ممکن است دوز الوپم® را تغییر دهد و یا تزریق آن را به تعویق بیندازد. الوپم® به صورت پودر است و پیش از تزریق باید در محلول تزریقی سدیم کلراید ۰/۹ درصد حل شود.

الوپم® به صورت انفوزیون داخل وریدی تزریق می‌شود. انفوزیون الوپم® حدود ۱۰ دقیقه به طول می‌انجامد.

در صورتی که الوپم® را همراه با سیس پلاتین مصرف می‌کنید:

پزشک دوز مناسب را با توجه به قد و وزن شما تعیین می‌کند. سیس پلاتین نیز به صورت انفوزیون داخل وریدی تزریق می‌شود. تزریق سیس پلاتین حدود ۳۰ دقیقه پس از پایان انفوزیون الوپم® شروع می‌شود و تقریباً ۲ ساعت به طول می‌انجامد.

الوپم® معمولاً هر ۳ هفته یک بار تزریق می‌شود.

سایر داروهای مورد استفاده:

کورتیکواستروئیدها: پزشک ممکن است برای شما قرص حاوی کورتیکواستروئید تجویز کند که باید در روز قبل از تزریق، روز تزریق و روز بعد از تزریق الوپم® مصرف کنید. این دارو به کاهش دفعات و شدت بروز واکنش‌های پوستی در طول مدت درمان با الوپم® کمک می‌کند.

ویتامین‌ها: پزشک ممکن است برای شما فولیک اسید و یا مولتی‌ویتامین حاوی ۱۰۰۰-۳۵۰ میکروگرم فولیک اسید تجویز کند

که باید در طول مدت درمان با الوپم® به صورت روزانه یک عدد مصرف کنید. طی ۷ روز پیش از دریافت اولین دوز الوپم® باید حداقل ۵ نوبت فولیک اسید مصرف کرده باشید و تا ۲۱ روز پس از دریافت آخرین دوز الوپم® نیز باید مصرف فولیک اسید را ادامه دهید. همچنین ممکن است در هفته پیش از تزریق الوپم® و سپس هر ۹ هفته یک بار (معادل ۳ دوره درمان با الوپم®)، ۱۰۰۰ میلی‌گرم ویتامین ب ۱۲ به شما تزریق شود. فولیک اسید و ویتامین ب ۱۲ به کاهش عوارض درمان با الوپم® کمک می‌کنند.



الوپم® ممکن است چه اثرات نامطلوبی داشته باشد؟

الوپم® نیز مانند سایر داروها می‌تواند موجب بروز عوارض ناخواسته شود. هرچند این عوارض در همه افراد مصرف‌کننده بروز نخواهد کرد.

در صورت مشاهده هر یک از علائم زیر بلافاصله به پزشک خود اطلاع دهید:

- تب یا عفونت: اگر تب ۳۸ درجه سانتی‌گراد و بالاتر دارید و یا دچار

تعریق یا سایر علائم عفونت هستید؛ زیرا ممکن است دچار کاهش تعداد گلبول‌های سفید خون شده باشید که با مصرف الوپم® بسیار شایع است. عفونت می‌تواند بسیار شدید باشد و منجر به مرگ شود.

- اگر دچار درد قفسه سینه یا افزایش تعداد ضربان قلب شدید.

- اگر دچار درد، قرمزی، التهاب یا زخم در ناحیه دهان شدید.

- واکنش آلرژیک: اگر دچار راش پوستی، احساس سوزش یا تب شدید. به ندرت واکنش‌های پوستی می‌تواند شدید باشد و منجر به مرگ شود. چنانچه دچار راش پوستی، خارش یا تاول (علائم احتمالی سندرم استیونس-جانسون یا نکرولیز اپیدرمال سمی) شدید، بلافاصله به پزشک خود اطلاع دهید.

- اگر دچار خستگی، احساس غش کردن و رنگ‌پریدگی شدید و یا به آسانی دچار تنگی نفس می‌شوید؛ زیرا ممکن است دچار کاهش سطح هموگلوبین خون شده باشید که با مصرف الوپم® بسیار شایع است.

- اگر دچار خونریزی از لثه‌ها، بینی یا دهان، هر نوع خونریزی‌ای که متوقف نمی‌شود، ادرار قرمز یا صورتی و یا کبودی غیرطبیعی شدید؛ زیرا ممکن است دچار کاهش تعداد پلاکت‌های خون شده باشید که با مصرف الوپم® شایع است.

- اگر دچار تنگی نفس ناگهانی، درد قفسه سینه یا سرفه همراه با خلط خونی شدید؛ زیرا ممکن است نشان‌دهنده تشکیل لخته در رگ‌های خونی ریه‌ها باشد.

عوارض جانبی الوپم® بر اساس میزان شیوع، به شرح زیر است:

عوارض خیلی شایع (با شیوع بیش از ۱۰٪) الوپم® عبارتند از:

- عفونت

- فارنژیت (نوعی گلودرد)

- کاهش تعداد نوتروفیل‌ها (نوعی گلبول سفید خون)

- کاهش تعداد گلبول‌های سفید خون

عوارض شایع (با شیوع بین ۱٪ تا ۱۰٪) الُویم® عبارتند از:

- عفونت خون
- تب همراه با کاهش تعداد نوتروفیل‌ها
- کاهش تعداد پلاکت‌ها
- واکنش آلرژیک
- از دست دادن مایعات بدن
- اختلال در حس چشایی
- ضعف و آتروفی عضلات بازو و ساق پا
- بی‌حسی، درد و سوزش، لرزش هنگام راه رفتن
- احساس سبکی سر
- التهاب یا تورم ملتحمه چشم

- کاهش سطح هموگلوبین خون

- درد، قرمزی، التهاب یا زخم در ناحیه دهان
- بی‌اشتهایی
- استفراغ
- اسهال
- تهوع
- راش پوستی
- پوسته‌پوسته شدن پوست
- کاهش عملکرد کلیه‌ها که در آزمایش خون قابل مشاهده است.
- خستگی

- خشکی ملتحمه و قرنیه چشم

- تورم پلک‌ها

- خشکی، آبریزش، درد و احساس ناراحتی در چشم

- نارسایی قلبی

- ریتم نامنظم قلبی

- سوءهاضمه

- یبوست

- درد شکمی

- افزایش سطح خونی آنزیم‌های کبدی

- افزایش رنگدانه‌های پوست

- خارش پوست

- راش‌های پوستی به شکل یک دایره تیره‌رنگ در وسط و یک حلقه
کم‌رنگ قرمز در اطراف

- ریزش مو

- کهیر

- کم کاری یا نارسایی کلیه

- تب

- درد

- تورم بافت‌ها ناشی از تجمع مایع

- درد قفسه سینه

- زخم و التهاب غشاهای مخاطی دستگاه گوارش

- عوارض غیرشایع (با شیوع بین ۰/۱٪ تا ۱٪) الوپم® عبارتند از:
- کاهش تعداد گلبول‌های قرمز، سفید و پلاکت‌های خون
- سکتة مغزی ناشی از انسداد یکی از شریان‌های مغز
- خونریزی داخل جمجمه‌ای
- آنژین
- حمله قلبی
- باریک شدن یا انسداد شریان‌های کرونری
- افزایش ضربان قلب
- کاهش خون‌رسانی به اندام‌ها
- انسداد شریان‌های ریوی
- التهاب و زخم لایه پوشاننده ریه‌ها همراه با مشکلات تنفسی

- دفع خون روشن از مقعد
- خونریزی دستگاه گوارش
- پارگی روده
- التهاب لایه پوشاننده مری
- التهاب لایه پوشاننده روده بزرگ که ممکن است همراه با خونریزی باشد (در صورت مصرف همزمان الوپم® با سیس‌پلاتین)
- التهاب، ادم، قرمزی و فرسایش سطح مخاطی مری بر اثر پرتودرمانی
- التهاب ریه بر اثر پرتودرمانی
- عوارض نادر (با شیوع کمتر از ۰/۱٪) الوپم® عبارتند از:
- تخریب گلبول‌های قرمز خون
- شوک آنافیلاکتیک

- التهاب کبد

- قرمزی پوست

- راش پوستی در قسمتی از بدن که قبلاً تحت پرتودرمانی قرار گرفته است.

عوارض خیلی نادر (با شیوع کمتر از ۰/۰۱٪) الُوپِم® عبارتند از:

- عفونت پوست و بافت نرم

- سندرم استیونس-جانسون (نوعی واکنش شدید پوست و غشاهای مخاطی که می‌تواند تهدیدکننده حیات باشد)

- نکرولیز اپیدرمال سمی (نوعی واکنش پوستی شدید که می‌تواند تهدیدکننده حیات باشد)

- نوعی بیماری خودایمنی که با راش‌های پوستی و تاول روی ساق پاها، بازوها و شکم همراه است.

- التهاب پوست همراه با تاول‌های بزرگی که داخل‌شان مایع جمع شده است.

- شکنندگی، تاول، ساییدگی و زخم پوست

- قرمزی، درد و تورم اندام‌های تحتانی

- التهاب پوست و بافت چربی زیر پوست (پسودوسلولیت)

- التهاب پوست (درماتیت)

- التهاب، خارش، قرمزی، تَرَک و زبری پوست

سایر عوارض الُوپِم® با شیوع نامشخص عبارتند از:

- دیابت ناشی از آسیب کلیوی

- مشکلات کلیوی همراه با از بین رفتن سلول‌های اپی‌تلیال توبول‌های کلیه

عوارضی که در اینجا نام برده شده است، شامل همه عوارض الُوپِم®

نمی‌شوند. جهت کسب اطلاعات بیشتر در این زمینه از پزشک یا داروساز خود کمک بگیرید. ضمناً عوارض جانبی دارو به طور کامل در قسمت انگلیسی دفترچه راهنما آورده شده است.



الوېم® را در چه شرایطی باید نگهداری کرد؟

دارو را دور از دید و دسترس کودکان نگهداری نمایید.

الوېم® نباید بعد از تاریخ انقضایی که بر روی آن درج شده است، مصرف شود.

جهت محافظت از نور، دارو را تا زمان مصرف در بسته‌بندی اصلی نگهداری نمایید.

الوېم® را در دمای کمتر از ۳۰ درجه سانتی‌گراد نگهداری نمایید.

در صورت مشاهده هر گونه ذره در محلول آماده شده، از مصرف آن خودداری نمایید.

محلول آماده شده باید بلافاصله مصرف شود. این محلول برای یک بار استفاده است، باقیمانده آن را به شیوه صحیح دفع کنید.

این دارو سایتوتوکسیک است. آن را مطابق با دستورالعمل داروهای سایتوتوکسیک حمل، نگهداری و مصرف کنید.

هیچ دارویی را از طریق فاضلاب یا زباله‌های خانگی دفع نکنید. از پزشک یا داروساز خود در مورد شیوه صحیح دفع داروهایی که دیگر استفاده نمی‌کنید، سؤال کنید. این اقدامات به حفاظت از محیط زیست کمک می‌کند.

الوېم® از چه اجزایی تشکیل شده است و بسته‌بندی آن چگونه است؟



ماده مؤثره الوېم®، پمترکسد است.

سایر مواد تشکیل دهنده الوېم® عبارتند از: مانیتول، هیدروکلریک اسید و سدیم هیدروکساید

الُوپِم® به صورت ویال‌های شیشه‌ای شفاف حاوی پودر سفید رنگ مایل به زرد یا سبز روشن است. بعد از رقیق‌سازی محلولی شفاف و بی‌رنگ یا با رنگ سفید مایل به زرد-سبز خواهد بود.

هر ویال الُوپِم® حاوی ۱۰۰ یا ۵۰۰ میلی‌گرم پمترکسد (به صورت پمترکسد دی‌سدیم) است. پس از آماده‌سازی غلظت محلول ۲۵ میلی‌گرم در میلی‌لیتر خواهد بود. محلول غلیظ آماده شده، باید پیش از تزریق رقیق شود.

هر ویال به همراه یک دفترچه راهنما داخل یک جعبه بسته‌بندی می‌گردد.

ممکن است تمام دوزهای دارو، به طور همزمان در بازار موجود نباشند.

تاریخ آخرین بازننگری:

نوامبر ۲۰۲۱ برابر با آبان ۱۴۰۰



ساخت شرکت نانوفناوران دارویی الوند (نانوالوند)

آدرس: ایران، تهران، خیابان کارگر شمالی، پارک ملی زیست فناوری بوعلی سینا، مرکز

رشد واحدهای فناوری فرآورده‌های دارویی دانشگاه علوم پزشکی تهران، پلاک ۱۴۶۲

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پاسخگوی ۲۴ ساعته مرکز حمایت از بیماران: ۰۲۱-۴۲۵۹۳

Alvopen[®]
Pemetrexed

Powder for Concentrate for
Solution for Infusion

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Alvopem® 100 mg powder for concentrate
for solution for infusion

Alvopem® 500 mg powder for concentrate
for solution for infusion

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Alvopem® 100 mg powder for concentrate
for solution for infusion

Each vial contains 100 mg of pemetrexed (as
pemetrexed disodium).

Excipient with known effect

Each vial contains approximately 11 mg
sodium.

Alvopem® 500 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion

Each vial contains 500 mg of pemetrexed (as pemetrexed disodium).

Excipient with known effect

Each vial contains approximately 54 mg sodium.

After reconstitution (see section 6.6), each vial contains 25 mg/ml of pemetrexed.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Powder for concentrate for solution for infusion.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1. Therapeutic indications

Malignant pleural mesothelioma

Pemetrexed in combination with cisplatin is indicated for the treatment of chemotherapy naive patients with unresectable malignant pleural mesothelioma.

Non-small cell lung cancer

Pemetrexed in combination with cisplatin is indicated for the first line treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer other than predominantly squamous cell histology (see section 5.1).

Pemetrexed is indicated as monotherapy for the maintenance treatment of locally

advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer other than predominantly squamous cell histology in patients whose disease has not progressed immediately following platinum-based chemotherapy (see section 5.1).

Pemetrexed is indicated as monotherapy for the second line treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer other than predominantly squamous cell histology (see section 5.1).

4.2. Posology and method of administration

Posology

Pemetrexed must only be administered under the supervision of a physician qualified in the use of anti-cancer chemotherapy.

Pemetrexed in combination with cisplatin

The recommended dose of pemetrexed is 500 mg/m² of body surface area (BSA) administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes on the first day of each 21-day cycle. The recommended dose of cisplatin is 75 mg/m² BSA infused over two hours approximately 30 minutes after completion of the pemetrexed infusion on the first day of each 21-day cycle. Patients must receive adequate anti-emetic treatment and appropriate hydration prior to and/or after receiving cisplatin

Pemetrexed as single agent

In patients treated for non-small cell lung cancer after prior chemotherapy, the recommended dose of pemetrexed is 500 mg/m² BSA

administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes on the first day of each 21-day cycle.

Pre-medication regimen

To reduce the incidence and severity of skin reactions, a corticosteroid should be given the day prior to, on the day of, and the day after pemetrexed administration. The corticosteroid should be equivalent to 4 mg of dexamethasone administered orally twice a day (see section 4.4).

To reduce toxicity, patients treated with pemetrexed must also receive vitamin supplementation (see section 4.4). Patients must take oral folic acid or a multivitamin containing folic acid (350 to 1000 micrograms) on a daily basis. At least five doses of folic acid must be taken during the seven days

preceding the first dose of pemetrexed, and dosing must continue during the full course of therapy and for 21 days after the last dose of pemetrexed. Patients must also receive an intramuscular injection of vitamin B12 (1000 micrograms) in the week preceding the first dose of pemetrexed and once every three cycles thereafter. Subsequent vitamin B12 injections may be given on the same day as pemetrexed.

Monitoring

Patients receiving pemetrexed should be monitored before each dose with a complete blood count, including a differential white cell count (WCC) and platelet count. Prior to each chemotherapy administration blood chemistry tests should be collected to evaluate renal and

hepatic function. Before the start of any cycle of chemotherapy, patients are required to have the following: absolute neutrophil count (ANC) should be ≥ 1500 cells/mm³ and platelets should be $\geq 100,000$ cells/mm³.

Creatinine clearance should be ≥ 45 ml/min.

The total bilirubin should be ≤ 1.5 times upper limit of normal. Alkaline phosphatase (AP), aspartate aminotransferase (AST or SGOT) and alanine aminotransferase (ALT or SGPT) should be ≤ 3 times upper limit of normal. Alkaline phosphatase, AST and ALT ≤ 5 times upper limit of normal is acceptable if liver has tumor involvement.

Dose adjustments

Dose adjustments at the start of a subsequent

cycle should be based on nadir hematologic counts or maximum non-hematologic toxicity from the preceding cycle of therapy. Treatment may be delayed to allow sufficient time for recovery. Upon recovery patients should be retreated using the guidelines in tables 1, 2 and 3, which are applicable for pemetrexed used as a single agent or in combination with cisplatin.

Table 1. Dose modification table for pemetrexed (as single agent or in combination) and cisplatin - Hematologic toxicities

Nadir ANC < 500 /mm ³ and nadir platelets ≥ 50,000 /mm ³	75% of previous dose (both pemetrexed and cisplatin)
Nadir platelets <50,000 /mm ³ regardless of nadir ANC	75% of previous dose (both pemetrexed and cisplatin)
Nadir platelets <50,000/mm ³ with bleeding ^a , regardless of nadir ANC	50% of previous dose (both pemetrexed and cisplatin)

^a These criteria meet the National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria (CTC v2.0; NCI 1998) definition of ≥ CTC Grade 2 bleeding

If patients develop non-hematologic toxicities ≥ Grade 3 (excluding neurotoxicity), pemetrexed should be withheld until resolution to less than or equal to the patient's pre-therapy value. Treatment should be resumed according to the guidelines in table 2.

Table 2. Dose modification table for pemetrexed (as single agent or in combination) and cisplatin - Non-hematologic toxicities ^{a, b}

	Dose of pemetrexed (mg/m ²)	Dose for cisplatin (mg/m ²)
Any Grade 3 or 4 toxicities except mucositis	75% of previous dose	75% of previous dose

Any diarrhea requiring hospitalization (irrespective of grade) or grade 3 or 4 diarrhea.	75% of previous dose	75% of previous dose
Grade 3 or 4 mucositis	50% of previous dose	100% of previous dose

^a National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria (CTC v2.0; NCI 1998)

^b Excluding neurotoxicity

In the event of neurotoxicity, the recommended dose adjustment for pemetrexed and cisplatin is documented in table 3. Patients should discontinue therapy if Grade 3 or 4 neurotoxicity is observed.

Table 3. Dose modification table for pemetrexed (as single agent or in combination) and cisplatin - Neurotoxicity

CTC ^a Grade	Dose of pemetrexed (mg/m ²)	Dose for cisplatin (mg/m ²)
0-1	100% of previous dose	100% of previous dose
2	100% of previous dose	50% of previous dose

^a National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria (CTC v2.0; NCI 1998)

Treatment with pemetrexed should be discontinued if a patient experiences any hematologic or non-hematologic Grade

3 or 4 toxicity after 2 dose reductions or immediately if Grade 3 or 4 neurotoxicity is observed.

Special populations

Elderly

In clinical studies, there has been no indication that patients 65 years of age or older are at increased risk of adverse reaction compared to patients younger than 65 years old. No dose reductions other than those recommended for all patients are necessary.

Pediatric population

There is no relevant use of pemetrexed in the pediatric population in malignant pleural mesothelioma and non-small cell lung cancer.

Patients with renal impairment (standard

Cockcroft and gault formula or glomerular filtration rate measured Tc99m-DPTA serum clearance method)

Pemetrexed is primarily eliminated unchanged by renal excretion. In clinical studies, patients with creatinine clearance of ≥ 45 ml/min required no dose adjustments other than those recommended for all patients. There are insufficient data on the use of pemetrexed in patients with creatinine clearance below 45 ml/min; therefore, the use of pemetrexed is not recommended (see section 4.4).

Patients with hepatic impairment

No relationships between AST (SGOT), ALT (SGPT), or total bilirubin and pemetrexed pharmacokinetics were identified. However,

patients with hepatic impairment such as bilirubin > 1.5 times the upper limit of normal and/or aminotransferase > 3.0 times the upper limit of normal (hepatic metastases absent) or > 5.0 times the upper limit of normal (hepatic metastases present) have not been specifically studied.

Method of administration

Pemetrexed is for intravenous use. Pemetrexed should be administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes on the first day of each 21-day cycle.

For precautions to be taken before handling or administering pemetrexed and for instructions on reconstitution and dilution of Alvopem® before administration, see section 6.6.

4.3. Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.
- Breast-feeding (see section 4.6).
- Concomitant yellow fever vaccine (see section 4.5).

4.4. Special warnings and precautions for use

Pemetrexed can suppress bone marrow function as manifested by neutropenia, thrombocytopenia and anemia (or pancytopenia) (see section 4.8). Myelosuppression is usually the dose-limiting toxicity. Patients should be monitored for myelosuppression during therapy and pemetrexed should not be given to patients

until absolute neutrophil count (ANC) returns to ≥ 1500 cells/mm³ and platelet count returns to $\geq 100,000$ cells/mm³. Dose reductions for subsequent cycles are based on nadir ANC, platelet count and maximum non-hematologic toxicity seen from the previous cycle (see section 4.2).

Less toxicity and reduction in Grade 3/4 hematologic and non-hematologic toxicities such as neutropenia, febrile neutropenia and infection with Grade 3/4 neutropenia were reported when pre-treatment with folic acid and vitamin B12 was administered. Therefore, all patients treated with pemetrexed must be instructed to take folic acid and vitamin B12 as a prophylactic measure to reduce treatment-related toxicity (see section 4.2).

Skin reactions have been reported in patients not pre-treated with a corticosteroid. Pre-treatment with dexamethasone (or equivalent) can reduce the incidence and severity of skin reactions (see section 4.2).

An insufficient number of patients has been studied with creatinine clearance of below 45 ml/min. Therefore, the use of pemetrexed in patients with creatinine clearance of < 45 ml/min is not recommended (see section 4.2).

Patients with mild to moderate renal insufficiency (creatinine clearance from 45 to 79 ml/min) should avoid taking non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen, and acetylsalicylic acid (> 1.3 g daily) for 2 days before, on the day of, and

2 days following pemetrexed administration (see section 4.5).

In patients with mild to moderate renal insufficiency eligible for pemetrexed therapy NSAIDs with long elimination half-lives should be interrupted for at least 5 days prior to, on the day of, and at least 2 days following pemetrexed administration (see section 4.5).

Serious renal events, including acute renal failure, have been reported with pemetrexed alone or in association with other chemotherapeutic agents. Many of the patients in whom these occurred had underlying risk factors for the development of renal events including dehydration or pre-existing hypertension or diabetes. Nephrogenic diabetes insipidus and renal

tubular necrosis were also reported in post marketing setting with pemetrexed alone or with other chemotherapeutic agents. Most of these events resolved after pemetrexed withdrawal. Patients should be regularly monitored for acute tubular necrosis, decreased renal function and signs and symptoms of nephrogenic diabetes insipidus (e.g. hypernatremia).

The effect of third space fluid, such as pleural effusion or ascites, on pemetrexed is not fully defined. A phase 2 study of pemetrexed in 31 solid tumor patients with stable third space fluid demonstrated no difference in pemetrexed dose normalized plasma concentrations or clearance compared to patients without third space fluid collections. Thus, drainage of third space fluid collection

prior to pemetrexed treatment should be considered, but may not be necessary.

Due to the gastrointestinal toxicity of pemetrexed given in combination with cisplatin, severe dehydration has been observed. Therefore, patients should receive adequate antiemetic treatment and appropriate hydration prior to and/or after receiving treatment.

Serious cardiovascular events, including myocardial infarction and cerebrovascular events have been uncommonly reported during clinical studies with pemetrexed, usually when given in combination with another cytotoxic agent. Most of the patients in whom these events have been observed had pre-existing cardiovascular risk factors

(see section 4.8).

Immunodepressed status is common in cancer patients. As a result, concomitant use of live attenuated vaccines is not recommended (see section 4.3 and 4.5).

Pemetrexed can have genetically damaging effects. Sexually mature males are advised not to father a child during the treatment and up to 6 months thereafter. Contraceptive measures or abstinence are recommended. Owing to the possibility of pemetrexed treatment causing irreversible infertility, men are advised to seek counselling on sperm storage before starting treatment.

Women of childbearing potential must use effective contraception during treatment with pemetrexed (see section 4.6).

Cases of radiation pneumonitis have been reported in patients treated with radiation either prior, during or subsequent to their pemetrexed therapy. Particular attention should be paid to these patients and caution exercised with use of other radiosensitising agents.

Cases of radiation recall have been reported in patients who received radiotherapy weeks or years previously.

Excipients

Alvopem® 100 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion

This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per vial, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

Alvopem® 500 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion

This medicinal product contains 54 mg sodium per vial, equivalent to 2.7% of the WHO recommended maximum daily intake of 2 g sodium for an adult.

4.5. Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Pemetrexed is mainly eliminated unchanged renally by tubular secretion and to a lesser extent by glomerular filtration. Concomitant administration of nephrotoxic drugs (e.g. aminoglycoside, loop diuretics, platinum compounds, cyclosporine) could potentially result in delayed clearance of pemetrexed. This combination should be used with

caution. If necessary, creatinine clearance should be closely monitored.

Concomitant administration of substances that are also tubularly secreted (e.g. probenecid, penicillin) could potentially result in delayed clearance of pemetrexed. Caution should be made when these drugs are combined with pemetrexed. If necessary, creatinine clearance should be closely monitored.

In patients with normal renal function (creatinine clearance ≥ 80 ml/min), high doses of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs, such as ibuprofen > 1600 mg/day) and acetylsalicylic acid at higher dose (≥ 1.3 g daily) may decrease pemetrexed elimination and, consequently, increase the occurrence

of pemetrexed adverse reactions. Therefore, caution should be made when administering higher doses of NSAIDs or acetylsalicylic acid, concurrently with pemetrexed to patients with normal function (creatinine clearance ≥ 80 ml/min).

In patients with mild to moderate renal insufficiency (creatinine clearance from 45 to 79 ml/min), the concomitant administration of pemetrexed with NSAIDs (e.g. ibuprofen) or acetylsalicylic acid at higher dose should be avoided for 2 days before, on the day of, and 2 days following pemetrexed administration (see section 4.4).

In the absence of data regarding potential interaction with NSAIDs having longer half-lives such as piroxicam or rofecoxib, the concomitant

administration with pemetrexed in patients with mild to moderate renal insufficiency should be interrupted for at least 5 days prior to, on the day of, and at least 2 days following pemetrexed administration (see section 4.4). If concomitant administration of NSAIDs is necessary, patients should be monitored closely for toxicity, especially myelosuppression and gastrointestinal toxicity.

Pemetrexed undergoes limited hepatic metabolism. Results from *in vitro* studies with human liver microsomes indicated that pemetrexed would not be predicted to cause clinically significant inhibition of the metabolic clearance of drugs metabolized by CYP3A, CYP2D6, CYP2C9, and CYP1A2.

Interactions common to all cytotoxics

Due to the increased thrombotic risk in patients with cancer, the use of anticoagulation treatment is frequent. The high intra-individual variability of the coagulation status during diseases and the possibility of interaction between oral anticoagulants and anticancer chemotherapy require increased frequency of INR (International Normalized Ratio) monitoring, if it is decided to treat the patient with oral anticoagulants.

- Concomitant use contraindicated: Yellow fever vaccine: risk of fatal generalized vaccine disease (see section 4.3).
- Concomitant use not recommended: Live attenuated vaccines (except yellow fever, for which concomitant use is contraindicated):

risk of systemic, possibly fatal, disease. The risk is increased in subjects who are already immunosuppressed by their underlying disease. Use an inactivated vaccine where it exists (poliomyelitis) (see section 4.4).

4.6. Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Women of childbearing potential / Contraception in males and females

Women of childbearing potential must use effective contraception during treatment with pemetrexed. Pemetrexed can have genetically damaging effects. Sexually mature males are advised not to father a child during the treatment and up to 6 months thereafter. Contraceptive measures or abstinence are recommended.

Pregnancy

There are no data from the use of pemetrexed in pregnant women but pemetrexed, like other anti-metabolites, is suspected to cause serious birth defects when administered during pregnancy. Animal studies have shown reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). Pemetrexed should not be used during pregnancy unless clearly necessary, after a careful consideration of the needs of the mother and the risk for the fetus (see section 4.4).

Breast-feeding

It is unknown whether pemetrexed is excreted in human milk and adverse reactions on the breast-feeding child cannot be excluded. Breast-feeding must be discontinued during

pemetrexed therapy (see section 4.3). Ask your doctor about the exact time required to avoid breastfeeding after stopping treatment with pemetrexed.

Fertility

Owing to the possibility of pemetrexed treatment causing irreversible infertility, men are advised to seek counselling on sperm storage before starting treatment.

4.7. Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, it has been reported that pemetrexed may cause fatigue. Therefore, patients should be cautioned against driving

or operating machines if this event occurs.

4.8. Undesirable effects

Summary of the safety profile

The most commonly reported undesirable effects related to pemetrexed, whether used as monotherapy or in combination, are bone marrow suppression manifested as anemia, neutropenia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, and gastrointestinal toxicities, manifested as anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, pharyngitis, mucositis, and stomatitis. Other undesirable effects include renal toxicities, increased aminotransferases, alopecia, fatigue, dehydration, rash, infection/sepsis and neuropathy.

Rarely seen events include Stevens-Johnson

syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

The table 4 lists the adverse drug events regardless of causality associated with pemetrexed used either as a monotherapy treatment or in combination with cisplatin from the pivotal studies (JMCH, JMEI, JMDB, JMEN and PARAMOUNT) and from the post marketing period.

ADRs are listed by MedDRA body system organ class. The following convention has been used for classification of frequency: very common: $\geq 1/10$; common: $\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$; uncommon: $\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$; rare: $\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$; very rare: $< 1/10,000$) and not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

Table 4. Frequencies of all grades adverse drug events regardless of causality from the pivotal registration studies: JMEI (Pemetrexed vs Docetaxel), JMDB (Pemetrexed and Cisplatin versus Gemcitabine and Cisplatin, JMCH (Pemetrexed plus Cisplatin versus Cisplatin), JMEN and PARAMOUNT (Pemetrexed plus Best Supportive Care versus Placebo plus Best Supportive Care) and from post-marketing period.

System Organ Class (MedDRA)	Very common	Common
Infections and infestations	Infection ^a Pharyngitis	Sepsis ^b
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Neutropenia Leukopenia Hemoglobin decreased	Febrile neutropenia Platelet count decreased
Immune system disorders	-	Hypersensitivity
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	-	Dehydration

Uncommon	Rare	Very rare	Not known
-	-	Dermohypodermatitis	-
Pancytopenia	Autoimmune hemolytic anemia	-	-
-	Anaphylactic shock	-	-
-	-	-	-

System Organ Class (MedDRA)	Very common	Common
Nervous system disorders	-	Taste disorder Peripheral motor neuropathy Peripheral sensory neuropathy Dizziness
Eye disorders	-	Conjunctivitis Dry eye Lacrimation increased Keratoconjunctivitis sicca Eyelid edema Ocular surface disease
Cardiac disorders	-	Cardiac failure Arrhythmia
Vascular disorders	-	-

	Uncommon	Rare	Very rare	Not known
Cerebrovascular accident Ischemic stroke Hemorrhage intracranial		-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
Angina Myocardial infarction Coronary artery disease Arrhythmia supraventricular		-	-	-
Peripheral ischemia ^c		--	-	-

System Organ Class (MedDRA)	Very common	Common
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	-	-
Gastrointestinal disorders	Stomatitis Anorexia Vomiting Diarrhea Nausea	Dyspepsia Constipation Abdominal pain
Hepatobiliary disorders	-	Alanine aminotransferase increased Aspartate aminotransferase increased

Uncommon	Rare	Very rare	Not known
Pulmonary embolism Interstitial pneumonitis	-	-	-
Rectal hemorrhage ^{bd} Gastrointestinal hemorrhage Intestinal perforation Esophagitis Colitis ^e	-	-	-
-	Hepatitis	-	-

System Organ Class (MedDRA)	Very common	Common
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Rash Skin exfoliation	Hyperpigmentation Pruritus Erythema multiforme Alopecia Urticaria
Renal and urinary disorders	Creatinine clearance decreased Blood creatinine increased ^e	Renal failure Glomerular filtration rate decreased

Uncommon	Rare	Very rare	Not known
-	Erythema	Stevens-Johnson syndrome ^b Toxic epidermal necrolysis ^b Pemphigoid Dermatitis bullous Acquired epidermolysis bullosa Erythematous edema ^f Pseudo cellulitis Dermatitis Eczema Prurigo	-
-	-	-	Nephrogenic diabetes insipidus Renal tubular necrosis

System Organ Class (MedDRA)	Very common	Common
General disorders and administration site condition	Fatigue	Pyrexia Pain Edema Chest pain Mucosal inflammation
Investigations	-	Gamma glutamyl transferase increased
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications	-	-

Uncommon	Rare	Very rare	Not known
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
Radiation esophagitis Radiation pneumonitis	Recall phenomenon	-	-

- a with and without neutropenia
- b in some cases fatal
- c sometimes leading to extremity necrosis
- d with respiratory insufficiency
- e seen only in combination with cisplatin
- f mainly of the lower limbs

4.9. Overdose

Reported symptoms of overdose include neutropenia, anemia, thrombocytopenia, mucositis, sensory polyneuropathy and rash. Anticipated complications of overdose include bone marrow suppression as manifested by neutropenia, thrombocytopenia and anemia. In addition, infection with or without fever, diarrhea, and/or mucositis may be seen. In the event of suspected overdose, patients should

be monitored with blood counts and should receive supportive therapy as necessary. The use of calcium folinate / folinic acid in the management of pemetrexed overdose should be considered.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1. Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Folic acid analogues

ATC code: L01BA04

Pemetrexed is a multi-targeted anti-cancer antifolate agent that exerts its action by disrupting crucial folate-dependent metabolic processes essential for cell replication.

In vitro studies have shown that pemetrexed behaves as a multitargeted antifolate by inhibiting thymidylate synthase (TS), dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyl transferase (GARFT), which are key folate-dependent enzymes for the *de novo* biosynthesis of thymidine and purine nucleotides. Pemetrexed is transported into cells by both the reduced folate carrier and membrane folate binding protein transport systems. Once in the cell, pemetrexed is rapidly and efficiently converted to polyglutamate forms by the enzyme folylpolyglutamate synthetize. The polyglutamate forms are retained in cells and are even more potent inhibitors of TS and GARFT. Polyglutamation is a time- and concentration-dependent process that occurs

in tumor cells and, to a lesser extent, in normal tissues. Polyglutamated metabolites have an increased intracellular half-life resulting in prolonged drug action in malignant cells.

Clinical efficacy

Mesothelioma

EMPHACIS, a multicenter, randomized, single-blind phase 3 study of pemetrexed plus cisplatin versus cisplatin in chemo naive patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma, has shown that patients treated with pemetrexed and cisplatin had a clinically meaningful 2.8-month median survival advantage over patients receiving cisplatin alone.

During the study, low-dose folic acid and

vitamin B12 supplementation was introduced to patients' therapy to reduce toxicity. The primary analysis of this study was performed on the population of all patients randomly assigned to a treatment arm who received study drug (randomized and treated). A subgroup analysis was performed on patients who received folic acid and vitamin B12 supplementation during the entire course of study therapy (fully supplemented). The results of these analyses of efficacy are summarized in the table below:

Table 5. Efficacy of pemetrexed plus cisplatin vs. cisplatin in malignant pleural mesothelioma

Efficacy parameter	Randomized and treated patients		Fully supplemented patients	
	Pemetrexed/ cisplatin (N = 226)	Cisplatin (N = 222)	Pemetrexed/ cisplatin (N = 168)	Cisplatin (N = 163)
Median overall survival (months)	12.1	9.3	13.3	10.0
(95% CI)	(10.0 - 14.4)	(7.8 - 10.7)	(11.4 - 14.9)	(8.4 - 11.9)
Log Rank p-value ^a	0.020		0.051	

Median time to tumor progression (months) (95% CI)	5.7 (4.9 - 6.5)	3.9 (2.8 - 4.4)	6.1 (5.3 - 7.0)	3.9 (2.8 - 4.5)
Log Rank p-value ^a	0.001		0.008	
Time to treatment failure (months) (95% CI)	4.5 (3.9 - 4.9)	2.7 (2.1 - 2.9)	4.7 (4.3 - 5.6)	2.7 (2.2 - 3.1)
Log Rank p-value ^a	0.001		0.001	
Overall response rate ^b (95% CI)	41.3 % (34.8 - 48.1)	16.7 % (12.0 - 22.2)	45.5 % (37.8 - 53.4)	19.6 % (13.8 - 26.6)
Fisher's exact p-value ^a	< 0.001		< 0.001	

Abbreviation: CI = confidence interval

^a p-value refers to comparison between arms.

^b in the pemetrexed/cisplatin arm, randomized and treated (N = 225) and fully supplemented (N = 167)

A statistically significant improvement of the clinically relevant symptoms (pain and dyspnea) associated with malignant pleural mesothelioma in the pemetrexed/cisplatin arm (212 patients) versus the cisplatin arm alone (218 patients) was demonstrated using the Lung Cancer Symptom Scale.

Statistically significant differences in pulmonary function tests were also observed. The separation between the treatment arms was achieved by improvement in lung function in the pemetrexed/cisplatin arm and deterioration of lung function over time in the

control arm.

There are limited data in patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma treated with pemetrexed alone. Pemetrexed at a dose of 500 mg/m² was studied as a single-agent in 64 chemo naive patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma. The overall response rate was 14.1%.

NSCLC, second-line treatment

A multicenter, randomized, open label phase 3 study of pemetrexed versus docetaxel in patients with locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC after prior chemotherapy has shown median survival times of 8.3 months for patients treated with pemetrexed (Intent To Treat population n = 283) and 7.9 months for patients treated with docetaxel (ITT

n = 288). Prior chemotherapy did not include pemetrexed. An analysis of the impact of NSCLC histology on the treatment effect on overall survival was in favor of pemetrexed versus docetaxel for other than predominantly squamous histologies (n = 399, 9.3 versus 8.0 months, adjusted HR = 0.78; 95% CI = 0.61-1.00, p = 0.047) and was in favor of docetaxel for squamous cell carcinoma histology (n = 172, 6.2 versus 7.4 months, adjusted HR = 1.56; 95% CI = 1.08-2.26, p = 0.018). There were no clinically relevant differences observed for the safety profile of pemetrexed within the histology subgroups.

Limited clinical data from a separate randomized, Phase 3, controlled trial, suggest that efficacy data (overall survival, progression free survival) for pemetrexed are similar

between patients previously pretreated with docetaxel (n = 41) and patients who did not receive previous docetaxel treatment (n = 540).

Table 6. Efficacy of pemetrexed vs docetaxel in NSCLC - ITT population

	Pemetrexed	Docetaxel
Survival Time (months)	(n = 283)	(n = 288)
Median (m)	8.3	7.9
95% CI for median	(7.0 - 9.4)	(6.3 - 9.2)
HR	0.99	
95% CI for HR	(0.82 - 1.20)	
Non-inferiority p-value (HR)	0.226	

Progression free survival (months)	(n = 283)	(n = 288)
Median	2.9	2.9
HR (95% CI)	0.97 (0.82 - 1.16)	
Time to treatment failure (TTTF - months)	(n = 283)	(n = 288)
Median	2.3	2.1
HR (95% CI)	0.84 (0.71 - 0.997)	
Response (n: qualified for response)	(n = 264)	(n = 274)
Response rate (%) (95% CI)	9.1 (5.9 - 13.2)	8.8 (5.7 - 12.8)
Stable disease (%)	45.8	46.4

Abbreviations: CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio; ITT = intent to treat; n = total population size.

NSCLC, first-line treatment

A multicenter, randomized, open-label, Phase 3 study of pemetrexed plus cisplatin versus gemcitabine plus cisplatin in chemo naive patients with locally advanced or metastatic (Stage IIIb or IV) non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) showed that pemetrexed plus cisplatin (Intent-To-Treat [ITT] population n = 862) met its primary endpoint and showed similar clinical efficacy as gemcitabine plus cisplatin (ITT n = 863) in overall survival (adjusted hazard ratio 0.94; 95% CI = 0.84-1.05). All patients included in this study had an ECOG performance status 0 or 1.

The primary efficacy analysis was based on

the ITT population. Sensitivity analyses of main efficacy endpoints were also assessed on the Protocol Qualified (PQ) population. The efficacy analyses using PQ population are consistent with the analyses for the ITT population and support the non-inferiority of AC versus GC.

Progression free survival (PFS) and overall response rate were similar between treatment arms: median PFS was 4.8 months for pemetrexed plus cisplatin versus 5.1 months for gemcitabine plus cisplatin (adjusted hazard ratio 1.04; 95% CI = 0.94-1.15), and overall response rate was 30.6% (95% CI = 27.3-33.9) for pemetrexed plus cisplatin versus 28.2% (95% CI = 25.0-31.4) for gemcitabine plus cisplatin. PFS data were partially confirmed by an independent review (400/1725 patients

were randomly selected for review).

The analysis of the impact of NSCLC histology on overall survival demonstrated clinically relevant differences in survival according to histology, see table below.

Table 7. Efficacy of pemetrexed + cisplatin vs. gemcitabine + cisplatin in first-line non-small cell lung cancer - ITT population and histology subgroups.

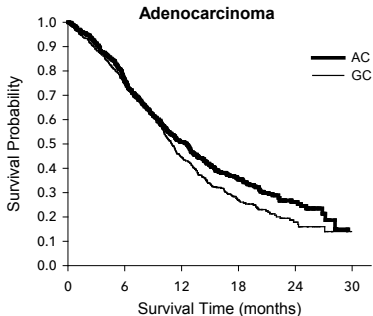
ITT population and histology subgroups	Median overall survival in months (95% CI)				Adjusted hazard ratio (HR) (95% CI)	Superiority p-value
	Pemetrexed + cisplatin		Gemcitabine + cisplatin			
ITT population (N=1725)	10.3 (9.8-11.2)	N=862	10.3 (9.6-10.9)	N=863	0.94 ^a (0.84-1.05)	0.259
Adenocarcinoma (N=847)	12.6 (10.7-13.6)	N=436	10.9 (10.2-11.9)	N=411	0.84 (0.71-0.99)	0.033
Large cell (N=153)	10.4 (8.6-14.1)	N=76	6.7 (5.5-9.0)	N=77	0.67 (0.48-0.96)	0.027

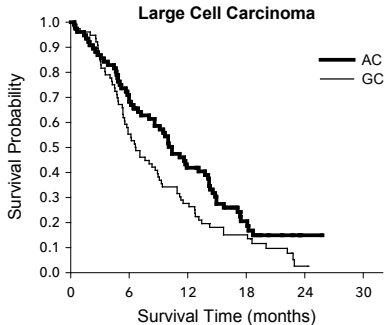
Other (N=252)	8.6 (6.8-10.2)	N=106	9.2 (8.1-10.6)	N=146	1.08 (0.81-1.45)	0.586
Squamous cell (N=473)	9.4 (8.4-10.2)	N=244	10.8 (9.5-12.1)	N=229	1.23 (1.00-1.51)	0.050

Abbreviations: CI = confidence interval; ITT = intent-to-treat; N = total population size.

^a Statistically significant for noninferiority, with the entire confidence interval for HR well below the 1.17645 noninferiority margin ($p < 0.001$).

Kaplan Meier plots of overall survival by histology





There were no clinically relevant differences observed for the safety profile of pemetrexed plus cisplatin within the histology subgroups.

Patients treated with pemetrexed and cisplatin required fewer transfusions (16.4% versus 28.9%, $p < 0.001$), red blood cell transfusions (16.1% versus 27.3%, $p < 0.001$) and platelet transfusions (1.8% versus 4.5%, $p = 0.002$). Patients also required lower administration of erythropoietin/darbopoietin (10.4% versus 18.1%, $p < 0.001$), G-CSF/GM-CSF (3.1% versus 6.1%, $p = 0.004$), and iron preparations (4.3% versus 7.0%, $p = 0.021$).

NSCLC, maintenance treatment

JMEN

A multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase 3 study (JMEN), compared the efficacy and safety of maintenance treatment with pemetrexed plus best supportive care (BSC) (n = 441) with that of placebo plus BSC (n = 222) in patients with locally advanced (Stage IIIB) or metastatic (Stage IV) Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) who did not progress after 4 cycles of first line doublet therapy containing cisplatin or carboplatin in combination with gemcitabine, paclitaxel, or docetaxel. First line doublet therapy containing pemetrexed was not included. All patients included in this study had an ECOG performance status 0 or 1.

Patients received maintenance treatment until disease progression. Efficacy and safety were measured from the time of randomization after completion of first line (induction) therapy. Patients received a median of 5 cycles of maintenance treatment with pemetrexed and 3.5 cycles of placebo. A total of 213 patients (48.3%) completed ≥ 6 cycles and a total of 103 patients (23.4%) completed ≥ 10 cycles of treatment with pemetrexed.

The study met its primary endpoint and showed a statistically significant improvement in PFS in the pemetrexed arm over the placebo arm (n = 581, independently reviewed population; median of 4.0 months and 2.0 months, respectively) (hazard ratio = 0.60, 95% CI = 0.49-0.73, $p < 0.00001$). The independent review of patient scans confirmed the findings

of the investigator assessment of PFS. The median OS for the overall population (n = 663) was 13.4 months for the pemetrexed arm and 10.6 months for the placebo arm, hazard ratio = 0.79 (95% CI = 0.65-0.95, p = 0.01192).

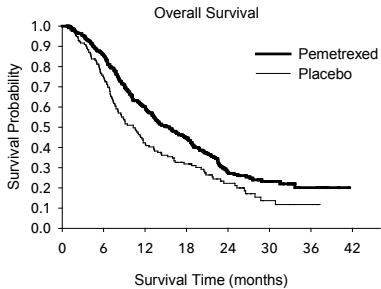
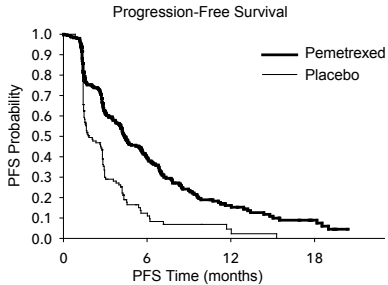
Consistent with other pemetrexed studies, a difference in efficacy according to NSCLC histology was observed in JMEN. For patients with NSCLC other than predominantly squamous cell histology (n = 430, independently reviewed population) median PFS was 4.4 months for the pemetrexed arm and 1.8 months for the placebo arm, hazard ratio = 0.47 (95% CI = 0.37-0.60, p = 0.00001). The median OS for patients with NSCLC other than predominantly squamous cell histology (n = 481) was 15.5 months for the pemetrexed arm and 10.3 months for the placebo arm, hazard ratio = 0.70 (95% CI

= 0.56-0.88, p = 0.002). Including the induction phase the median OS for patients with NSCLC other than predominantly squamous cell histology was 18.6 months for the pemetrexed arm and 13.6 months for the placebo arm, hazard ratio = 0.71 (95% CI = 0.56-0.88, p = 0.002).

The PFS and OS results in patients with squamous cell histology suggested no advantage for pemetrexed over placebo.

There were no clinically relevant differences observed for the safety profile of pemetrexed within the histology subgroups.

JMEN: Kaplan Meier plots of progression-free survival (PFS) and overall survival pemetrexed versus placebo in patients with NSCLC other than predominantly squamous cell histology



PARAMOUNT

A multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase 3 study (PARAMOUNT), compared the efficacy and safety of continuation maintenance treatment with pemetrexed plus BSC (n = 359) with that of placebo plus BSC (n = 180) in patients with locally advanced (Stage IIIB) or metastatic (Stage IV) NSCLC other than predominantly squamous cell histology who did not progress after 4 cycles of first line doublet therapy of pemetrexed in combination with cisplatin. Of the 939 patients treated with pemetrexed plus cisplatin induction, 539 patients were randomized to maintenance treatment with pemetrexed or placebo. Of the randomized patients, 44.9% had a complete/partial response and 51.9% had

a response of stable disease to pemetrexed plus cisplatin induction. Patients randomized to maintenance treatment were required to have an ECOG performance status 0 or 1. The median time from the start of pemetrexed plus cisplatin induction therapy to the start of maintenance treatment was 2.96 months on both the pemetrexed arm and the placebo arm. Randomized patients received maintenance treatment until disease progression. Efficacy and safety were measured from the time of randomization after completion of first line (induction) therapy. Patients received a median of 4 cycles of maintenance treatment with pemetrexed and 4 cycles of placebo. A total of 169 patients (47.1%) completed ≥ 6 cycles maintenance treatment with pemetrexed, representing at

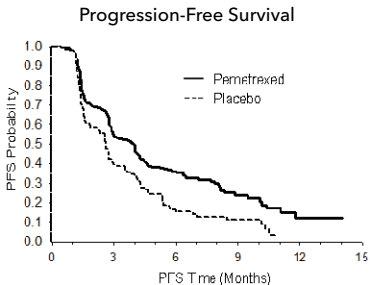
least 10 total cycles of pemetrexed.

The study met its primary endpoint and showed a statistically significant improvement in PFS in the pemetrexed arm over the placebo arm (n = 472, independently reviewed population; median of 3.9 months and 2.6 months, respectively) (hazard ratio = 0.64, 95% CI = 0.51-0.81, p = 0.0002). The independent review of patient scans confirmed the findings of the investigator assessment of PFS. For randomized patients, as measured from the start of pemetrexed plus cisplatin first line induction treatment, the median investigator-assessed PFS was 6.9 months for the pemetrexed arm and 5.6 months for the placebo arm (hazard ratio = 0.59 95% CI = 0.47-0.74).

Following pemetrexed plus cisplatin induction (4 cycles), treatment with pemetrexed was statistically superior to placebo for OS (median 13.9 months versus 11.0 months, hazard ratio = 0.78, 95%CI=0.64-0.96, p=0.0195). At the time of this final survival analysis, 28.7% of patients were alive or lost to follow up on the pemetrexed arm versus 21.7% on the placebo arm. The relative treatment effect of pemetrexed was internally consistent across subgroups (including disease stage, induction response, ECOG PS, smoking status, gender, histology and age) and similar to that observed in the unadjusted OS and PFS analyses. The 1-year and 2-year survival rates for patients on pemetrexed were 58% and 32% respectively, compared to 45% and 21% for patients on placebo. From

the start of pemetrexed plus cisplatin first line induction treatment, the median OS of patients was 16.9 months for the pemetrexed arm and 14.0 months for the placebo arm (hazard ratio= 0.78, 95% CI= 0.64-0.96). The percentage of patients that received post study treatment was 64.3% for pemetrexed and 71.7% for placebo.

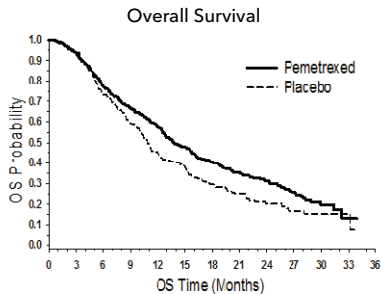
PARAMOUNT: Kaplan Meier plot of progression-free survival (PFS) and Overall Survival (OS) for continuation pemetrexed maintenance versus placebo in patients with NSCLC other than predominantly squamous cell histology (measured from randomization)



The pemetrexed maintenance safety profiles from the two studies JMEN and PARAMOUNT were similar.

5.2. Pharmacokinetic properties

The pharmacokinetic properties of pemetrexed following single-agent administration have been evaluated in 426 cancer patients with a variety of solid tumors at doses ranging from 0.2 to 838 mg/m² infused over a 10-minute period. Pemetrexed has a steady-state volume of distribution of 9 l/m². *In vitro* studies indicate that pemetrexed is approximately 81% bound to plasma proteins. Binding was not notably affected by varying degrees of renal impairment. Pemetrexed undergoes limited hepatic metabolism. Pemetrexed is



primarily eliminated in the urine, with 70% to 90% of the administered dose being recovered unchanged in urine within the first 24 hours following administration. *In vitro* studies indicate that pemetrexed is actively secreted by OAT3 (organic anion transporter). Pemetrexed total systemic clearance is 91.8 ml/min and the elimination half-life from plasma is 3.5 hours in patients with normal renal function (creatinine clearance of 90 ml/min). Between patient variability in clearance is moderate at 19.3%. Pemetrexed total systemic exposure (AUC) and maximum plasma concentration increase proportionally with dose. The pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed are consistent over multiple treatment cycles.

The pharmacokinetic properties of pemetrexed are not influenced by concurrently administered

cisplatin. Oral folic acid and intramuscular vitamin B12 supplementation do not affect the pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed.

5.3. Preclinical safety data

Administration of pemetrexed to pregnant mice resulted in decreased fetal viability, decreased fetal weight, incomplete ossification of some skeletal structures and cleft palate.

Administration of pemetrexed to male mice resulted in reproductive toxicity characterized by reduced fertility rates and testicular atrophy. In a study conducted in beagle dog by intravenous bolus injection for 9 months, testicular findings (degeneration/necrosis of the seminiferous epithelium) have been observed. This suggests that pemetrexed

may impair male fertility. Female fertility was not investigated.

Pemetrexed was not mutagenic in either the *in vitro* chromosome aberration test in Chinese hamster ovary cells, or the Ames test. Pemetrexed has been shown to be clastogenic in the *in vivo* micronucleus test in the mouse.

Studies to assess the carcinogenic potential of pemetrexed have not been conducted.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1. List of excipients

- Mannitol
- Hydrochloric acid
- Sodium hydroxide

6.2. Incompatibilities

Pemetrexed is physically incompatible with diluents containing calcium, including lactated Ringer's injection and Ringer's injection. In the absence of other compatibility studies this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

6.3. Shelf life

Unopened vial

2 years.

Reconstituted and infusion solutions

When prepared as directed, reconstituted and infusion solutions of pemetrexed contain no antimicrobial preservatives. Reconstituted pemetrexed should be administered

immediately after preparation because of microbiological concerns. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions prior to use are the responsibility of the user.

6.4. Special precautions for storage

- Store below 30°C. Store in the original package in order to protect from light.
- For storage conditions after reconstitution of the medicinal product, see section 6.3.
- Cytotoxic agent. Must be transported, stored and used according to guidelines for handling of cytotoxic compounds.

6.5. Nature and contents of container

Transparent colorless glass vial sealed with rubber and cap containing 100 or 500 mg

pemetrexed (as pemetrexed disodium) powder. Each vial packaged with a leaflet in a box. Not all strengths may be marketed.

6.6. Special precautions for disposal and other handling

1. Use aseptic technique during the reconstitution and further dilution of pemetrexed for intravenous infusion administration.
2. Calculate the dose and the number of Alvopem® vials needed. Each vial contains an excess of pemetrexed to facilitate delivery of label amount.
3. *Alvopem® 100 mg*
Reconstitute 100-mg vials with 4.2 ml of

sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection, without preservative, resulting in a solution containing 25 mg/ml pemetrexed.

Alvopem® 500 mg

Reconstitute 500-mg vials with 20 ml of sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection, without preservative, resulting in a solution containing 25 mg/ml pemetrexed.

Gently swirl each vial until the powder is completely dissolved. The resulting solution is clear and ranges in color from colorless to yellow or green-yellow without adversely affecting product quality. The pH of the reconstituted solution is between 6.6 and 7.8. Further dilution is required.

4. The appropriate volume of reconstituted

pemetrexed solution must be further diluted to 100 ml with sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection, without preservative, and administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes.

5. Pemetrexed infusion solutions prepared as directed above are compatible with polyvinyl chloride and polyolefin lined administration sets and infusion bags.

6. Parenteral medicinal products must be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration. If particulate matter is observed, do not administer.

7. Pemetrexed solutions are for single use only. Any unused medicinal product or waste material must be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

Preparation and administration precautions

As with other potentially toxic anticancer agents, care should be exercised in the handling and preparation of pemetrexed infusion solutions. The use of gloves is recommended. If a pemetrexed solution contacts the skin, wash the skin immediately and thoroughly with soap and water. If pemetrexed solutions contact the mucous membranes, flush thoroughly with water. Pemetrexed is not a vesicant. There is not a specific antidote for extravasation of pemetrexed. There have been few reported cases of pemetrexed extravasation, which were not assessed as serious by the investigator.

Extravasation should be managed by local standard practice as with other non-vesicants.

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