

SFDA

Safety communication

[12/06/2023]

Possible Voriconazole and Flucloxacillin Drug Interaction: Leading to Sub-Therapeutic Voriconazole Levels

The Saudi Food and Drug authority (SFDA) would like to notify healthcare professionals about the potential risk of sub-therapeutic level of voriconazole associated with possible drug interaction with flucloxacillin.

Voriconazole is a triazole antifungal agent, approved by the SFDA for treatment of invasive aspergillosis, candidaemia in non-neutropenic patients and in serious fungal infections caused by *Scedosporium* spp. and *Fusarium* spp. Flucloxacillin is a penicillin beta-lactam antibiotic used in the treatment of bacterial infections caused by susceptible, usually gram-positive, organisms.

We reviewed the current evidence including published literature and post marketing data to assess the potential interaction of voriconazole with flucloxacillin. Our review found three published case reports suggesting a probable association of sub-therapeutic concentration of voriconazole with flucloxacillin concomitant treatment. Furthermore, two retrospective studies showed flucloxacillin co-treatment was independently decrease voriconazole exposure to significant sub therapeutic levels in most patients. In addition, 19 cases were identified in the World Health Organization (WHO) database reported possible interaction between flucloxacillin and voriconazole. Of retrieved cases, 8 were females, 7 males and the gender was not reported in 4 cases. Most of them were elderly (> 65 years old). The majority of the cases were considered serious. Sub-therapeutic antibiotic level was the outcome of interaction in 12 cases.

The SFDA requested a comprehensive signal evaluation report from the Marketing Authorization Holder (MAH) of voriconazole to assess the potential interaction of voriconazole with flucloxacillin. The MAH concluded that there is a potential drug interaction of voriconazole with flucloxacillin leading to sub-therapeutic voriconazole levels.

Based on the current evidence, the SFDA with MAH agreed to update the current product information with adding the aforementioned interaction in the “Drug Interactions” section for voriconazole and flucloxacillin containing products.

- **Please see the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) for further information.**

Generic Name	Trade Name	Dosage Form	MAH
Voriconazole	VORICET	Film-Coated Tablet	SANDOZ GMBH
		Powder For Solution For Infusion	
Voriconazole	VOSTIFAZ	Film-Coated Tablet	ALPHA PHARMA INDUSTRY
Voriconazole	VOCONZA	Oral Suspension	SAUDI AMAROX
Voriconazole	VORIOLE	Powder For Solution For Infusion	BOSTON ONCOLOGY ARABIA
Voriconazole	VFEND	Powder For Oral Suspension	PFIZER EUROPE MA EEIG
		Powder For Solution For Infusion	
Voriconazole	VORICAN	Powder For Solution For Infusion	SAJA
Voriconazole	VORIC	Powder For Solution For Infusion	AJA PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES
Voriconazole	VULTERA	Film Coated Tablet	SPIMACO
Voriconazole	VOLCON	Film-Coated Tablet	PHARMA INTERNATIONAL CO.
Voriconazole	VFONAZ	Film-Coated Tablet	TABUK PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING CO.
		Powder For Solution For Infusion	
Flucloxacillin	FLOXAPEN	Capsule	SMITHKLINE BEECHAM
		Syrup	
		Powder For Oral Suspension	

Call for reporting:

The SFDA urges both healthcare professionals and patients to report ADRs related to use of any medication to the SFDA using the following contact information:

The National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPC):

Fax: +966-11-205-7662 SFDA

Call Center: 19999

E-mail: npc.drug@sfda.gov.sa

Website: <https://ade.sfda.gov.sa>

RMM: