IF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION CSM/80/8th Meeting

COMMITTEE ON SAFETY OF MEDICINES

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 24 July 1980

Present

Professor A Goldberg (Chairman)
Professor D G Grahame-Smith
Professor W I Cranston
Professor M Rawlins
Dr F Fish
Professor P H Elworthy
Professor K Weinbren
Professor A E A Read
Professor J Lloyd
Dr J Smith
Professor J Crooks
Professor F A Jenner
Dr J M Holt
Professor D V W Parke
Dr G Jones (Medical Assessor)
Dr J M Calderwood (Pharmaceutical Assessor)
Mr P Allen (Secretary)

Committee Secretariat

Dr J Holgate
Dr L Hill
Dr G Venning
Dr G Diggle
Dr R Corcoran
Dr N Taylor
Dr M Duncan
Mr S Stewart
Miss M C Cone
Dr R Penn
Dr Fowler
Dr Gosling
Dr Nath
Mr J Bird
Miss H Mallett

Also Present

Mr N Williams
Dr J Griffin
Mr J Long
Mr M Parke
Mr P Nilsson

1. APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.1 The Chairman reminded members that the proceedings, and the information before them, were confidential and should not be disclosed.

1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Professor Dundee, Professor Girdwood, Dr Richards and Mr Darling.

1.3 The Chairman welcomed Dr Gosling, Dr Fowler and Dr Nath who had recently joined the Professional Secretariat.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 4 JUNE AND 26 JUNE

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the following amendments. Hearing 4A Appendix I sub-paragraph 1 line 2 - to read "with macroscopic and microscopic ..." Sub Paragraph 8.2(b) after "tests" insert "where possible" Hearing 4B Appendix 1 final paragraph line 4 to read ".... to assess the evidence of the efficacy".

2.2 The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 There were no matters arising from either set of minutes.

4. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

4.1 The Committee's advice on the applications considered is recorded at Appendix A.

5. WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS

5.1 The Committee considered 2 written representation:

W.R.1. CT 0109/0084 RU 31156 Roussell

W.R.2. CT 0057/0160-161 UK-33, 274-27 Pfizer

The Committee's advice is recorded at Appendices B and C.

6. DOLOBID PL 0025/0127-0129 PAPER 1

6.1 Dolobid was granted a product licence in 1977 for use as an analgesic. Reports of the appearance of cataracts in beagle puppies were subsequently received. The significance of these reports was first considered by the Committee at their meeting in August 1978. As a result the Committee advised that the data sheet for Dolobid should be amended so that use in children and during pregnancy and breast feeding should be listed as contra-indications rather than precautions. The company were informed informally of the Committee's advice in a letter sent by Dr Jones on 29.9.78. In their reply the Company (MSD) submitted the results of two further studies in beagle puppies in the light of which they had indicated that they would be unwilling to amend their data sheets as advised by the Committee. These studies were considered by the Committee at their meeting in September 1979 when a decision was deferred pending the receipt od advice from outside experts.

6.2 In paper 1 the Committee were asked to consider the matter further in the light of the advice received. In the discussion which followed the Committee agreed to drop its earlier recommendation concerning contra-indication of the product's use in children. However the Committee upheld their advice regarding use of the product during pregnancy and breast-feeding and recommended as follows:

that action be taken in accordance with S28(1) of the Medicines Act 1968 to compulsorily vary the product particulars in the licence to contraindicate the use of the product in women who are pregnant or who are breast feeding.

6.3 The Committee noted without comment that the company intended to resume their studies in American children which they had already commenced at the time of the first report of cataracts in beagles, but had subsequently suspended.

7. EEC WORKING PARTY ON THERAPEUTIC EFFICACY PAPER 2

Members undertook to write to Dr Penn with any comments they had on this paper.

8. HYDRAZINE RESIDUES IN DRUG SUBSTANCES PAPER 3

Consideration of this paper was deferred until such time as it had been considered by the TCT Sub-Committee, at its meeting in October.

9. CLOFIBRATE AND MORTALITY PAPER 4

The Committee considered the paper. It was agreed that:

a. doctors should be warned of the hazards of using the products containing this drug in the prevention of heart disease by means of a notice in the Adverse Reactions Series;

b. the Chairman and Professor Cranston would write to the Lancet BMJ and Pharmaceutical Journal about the Committee's action on (a) above;

c. no action should be taken against the licences for the products concerned (Liprinal and Atromid S) at the present time as this might have the effect of cutting off supplies to patients who would benefit from treatment with these drugs. The Committee would consider the matter again at its September meeting by when the Secretariat would have been able to consult experts in this field on the possibility of varying the licence to restrict the current licensed indications.

10. ZANDU PHARMACEUTICALS PL 3806/0012-0014 PAPER 5

The Committee confirmed that the advice they gave at the June meeting in respect of the Zandu products PL 3806/0001-0011 applied equally to the applications for licences for the three products detailed above.

11. HUMANATE - SPEYWOOD LABORATORIES PL 3070/0004 TABLED PAPER 6

11.1 Dr Holgate spoke to this tabled paper. He explained that the protocol supplied to NIBSC by Speywood for their first batch of Humanate provided test results on the finished product, but omitted evidence on the source of the material. This was unsatisfactory since it was impossible to assess the complete safety of a blood product by finished product testing alone.

11.2 As a matter of routine, the additional conditions contained in the Schedule to the product licence issued to Speywood refer to protocols but no mention was made of the contents required in respect of such protocols.

11.3 The Committee therefore agreed that action under section 28 of the Act be taken to compulsorily vary Speywood's product licence in order to require the protocols to include evidence of the source and date of collection of the donor blood from which the product is prepared, the date of manufacture and the results of tests done during, and on completion of manufacture.

12. SECRETARY AND MEDICAL ASSESSOR'S ORAL REPORTS

There were none.

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13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Recombinant DNA-based Human Insulin

Dr Holgate drew member's attention to recent publicity relating to Recombinant DNA-based Human Insulin manufactured by Eli Lilly and Company. Recent publicity based on a press release from the Company suggested that clinical trials were being carried out with this product. Dr Holgate explained that the trial being undertaken at Guys Hospital involved the use of volunteers and that no application for a CTC had been received from the Company. He also explained that no material had yet been produced with which to undertake a clinical trial.

The Committee agreed that if such publicity continued it might become necessary to release a press notice.
It was also agreed that the question of obtaining expert genetic advice for the Sub-Committee which might have to consider an eventual application should also be explored.

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 25 September 1980 at 11.00 am.

15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Members received for information those items listed on the agenda.