

New Gout Drug Krystexxa Exceeds Target

There is increased hope for the roughly 3% of chronic, **severe gout** sufferers who do not respond to current **gout** medications. Within recent period III trials of the new gout medication Krystexxa, a good impressive 42% of refractory **gout patients** achieved statistically significant reductions in **uric acid** levels, as well as sustained these for six months. This exceeded the target amount set for the study by the drug's manufacturer, Savient Pharmaceuticals. Compared, those gout patients in the trial that received a placebo saw no reduction in **uric acid levels**.



When you could have seriously ill people who have no options, 40 percent will be pretty good," said Dr. Michael Becker from the University of Chicago," author of the latest study, which was published in the Journal of the American Medical Association. "Gout can be a sincere about and disabling disease."

Krystexxa (generic name plegloticase) had been FDA approved in 2010 based on earlier clinical trials. The newest gout treatment, which is administered by intravenous infusion, is derived from an animal hormone. The pegloticase mechanism of action is different than that of other **gout drugs** - it converts **uric acid** to a nontoxic byproduct that is easily excreted in the urine.

- High levels of uric acid tend to be the cause of gout, an extremely painful form of arthritis.
- The excess acid crystallizes into needle sharp build up in the joints, usually at the base of the big toe.
- The uric acid can also form knobby, chalky mounds called tophi.
- Tophi can be reabsorbed back into the body if uric acid levels are reduced.
- Forty percent of the trial members with tophi skilled a resolution of one or more of the lumpy deposits.

Krystexxa Emerged Intravenously Over At Least Two Hours Every Two Weeks

The Fda has warned that patients should be given a corticosteroid and antihistamine before infusions due to a high risk of allergic reaction. Other common side effects of Krystexxa are **gout flare ups** (which occurred in 80% of the recent trial participants), nausea and vomiting, chest pain, constipation, nasal irritation and bruising at the injection site.

*" Krystexxa is not intended for use in the typical **gouty arthritis** patient, most of which can be treated with more traditional gout medications such as Colcrlys (generic colchicine) or Zyloprim (generic allopurinol). Currently, the new injectable gout drug costs about \$5000 a month. It's hoped that gout patients who respond well to the treatment could at some point use cheaper gout drugs.*



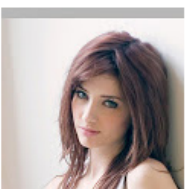
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Armed with these impressive new results, Savient Pharmaceuticals intends to amp up advertising of its new gout drug in the US and other countries. Up to now, their marketing and advertising efforts have largely been aimed at rheumatologists, but they now plan to expand their own efforts to include primary care physicians. "This really today is the foundation for our launch of period 2 straight into the primary care audience," said Savient Chief Executive Officer John Johnson.

Johnson says the pharmaceutical company "expects to see some velocity in sales" as a result of their increased target market. The organization is said to be disappointed in the \$1.4 million dollars in net sales the gout medicine generated in the first six months after receiving Fda approval.

Alex Ray Advocates for Affordable Access to Healthcare and Medication

She recommends Big Mountain Drugs as a reliable online Canadian pharmacy from which to buy colchicine as well as allopurinol regarding gout. For more information about gout and gout medication, visit the online resource www.colchicine.ca.



Susie Hart

Susie is a leading curator at omex3.com, a resource about alternative natural health. Last year, Susie worked as a post curator at a well-known tech web site. When she's not sourcing web posts, Susie enjoys working out and skateboarding.

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