

Industry Spotlight

New Phosphate Binder Lessens Pill Burden

Fresenius' North America unit this year will launch a drug approved in late November by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Velphoro (sucroferric oxyhydroxide) received approval for controlling serum phosphorus levels in dialysis patients with chronic kidney disease.

The new drug, known previously in trials as compound PA21, is a chewable form of a phosphate binder that is iron based and free of calcium. A phase 3 study showed

that Velphoro successfully controlled hyperphosphatemia with fewer pills than sevelamer carbonate (Renvela, Sanoft), which is currently used by many patients on dialysis.

Individuals on dialysis swallow on average 19 pills per day; about half of these are phosphate binder pills. By contrast, the average daily dose to control hyperphosphatemia was 3.3 Velphoro pills per day after 52 weeks. The recommended starting dose for the new medication is one tablet per meal, three times daily.

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma's chief executive Charles DeLoach said his company aimed to achieve the right balance between the pills having enough pliability to keep the tablets in one piece yet soft enough to be chewed easily. Many dialysis patients have difficulty chewing tablets.

The company reported that regulatory reviews in Europe and Singapore for drug approval were expected in the first half of 2014. ●

Home Dialysis Matures, Offering More Options

One of the latest innovations in home dialysis is a machine that weighs less and uses less water.

Switzerland-based Debiotech SA and Singapore-based AWAK Technologies have joined forces to develop and manufacture a miniaturized home hemodialysis machine they call DialEase.

DialEase uses Debiotech's mini peritoneal dialysis equipment and a novel sorbent technology for fluid purification developed by AWAK.

The companies characterize the new system as "extremely small and convenient to use, less intrusive in a patient's life and more cost effective." In a joint release, the compa-

nies said the new system would need less fluid than conventional hemodialysis machines and would be monitored in real time from the hospital via cloud computing (network-based, remote computer services).

According to Debiotech President and CEO Frédéric Neftel, "By using the sorbent fluid purification cartridge from AWAK, we will be able to save a significant amount of fluid, simplify the entire logistics and radically reduce the size of the final system," which would contribute to cost savings.

The current model of DialEase can stand on a nightstand and weighs about 4.7 kg (10.36 pounds), the compa-

nies said in a release. A laptop weighs about 6 to 8 pounds.

Earlier in 2013, AWAK partnered with Baxter International to develop wearable dialysis technology for patients with end stage renal disease. The agreement enabled AWAK to continue the development of its investigational peritoneal dialysis-based automated wearable artificial kidney, the company said.

Financial terms for the agreement weren't disclosed, but AWAK would give Baxter exclusive global manufacturing and distribution rights for AWAK's investigational, wearable artificial kidney, a minority stake in the company, and the option to purchase additional equity. ●

Classified Ads

Kidney News Classified Advertising Information

Classified space is for advertising positions available, open faculty positions, course announcements, seminars, meetings and educational courses.

Display Advertising Rates

Ad Size	1x	3x
Full Page	\$2,525	\$2,345
1/2 Page	\$1,665	\$1,485
1/3 Page	\$1,435	\$1,375
1/4 Page	\$1,205	\$1,090
1/6 Page	\$1,035	\$1,025

Line Advertising Rates

Please contact for rate information

Closing Date & Cancellations:

Copy must be received four weeks in advance of the month in which the ad is to appear. Cancellation requests must be made in written form by fax, e-mail or postal mail and will be honored for the earliest applicable issue.

**ALL ADS
MUST BE PREPAID**

Contact:

Rhonda Beamer
rhonda.beamer@wt-group.com
P: 443-512-8899 x. 106 F: 443-512-8909

BC/BE NEPHROLOGIST

Outstanding opportunity for full-time, BC/BE Nephrologist in a Single Specialty Practice. The physician will join six FT nephrologists and two non-physician providers in a well-established, physician-owned practice that began operation in 1980. The Nephrologist will work in an excellent, award-winning medical community and support patients in eight dialysis units. The compensation package is competitive with paid medical/dental benefits for physician and family, generous 401k plan, and paid malpractice insurance. There is a two year partnership track that includes a JV opportunity. A signing bonus is included in the first year salary. There will be time to enjoy Colorado with a four day work week, one call weekend per month and six weeks of annual vacation. Fort Collins is located in northern Colorado, an hour north of Denver. The city is 5000 feet above sea level and enjoys 300 days of sunshine and only 14.5 inches of precipitation a year. Fort Collins is home to Colorado State University and an outstanding public school system. Fort Collins is not in an underserved area. Send CVs to thenephrologyclinic@gmail.com or fax to 970-493-2682.

CHIEF, DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY

Newton-Wellesley Hospital (NWH), a community teaching hospital in suburban Boston and a member of the Partners HealthCare System, Inc. (founded by the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and the Brigham and Women's Hospital), seeks a clinical nephrologist who demonstrates excellence in patient care, teaching, and administration, to serve as Chief of the Division of Nephrology. This individual, who will practice nephrology at NWH while overseeing the division, will identify opportunities to grow and expand the division. NWH is home to a comprehensive Cancer Center and is developing a state-of-the-art noninvasive Cardiovascular Center, in collaboration with MGH. NWH is an affiliate of the Tufts University School of Medicine and has postgraduate training programs for both Harvard Medical School and Tufts University School of Medicine trainees. The candidate must be Board Certified in Nephrology and qualify for an academic appointment at the rank of clinical associate professor or clinical professor. Please send cover letter and CV to Lawrence S. Friedman, MD, Chair, Department of Medicine, Attn: Alison Shollock, Newton-Wellesley Hospital, 2014 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02462, FAX 617-243-6701, Email ashollock@partners.org. NWH is an equal employment opportunity employer.

Index to Advertisers

CyroLife Back Page
Genzyme Page 3