Drugs & Therapy Perspectives

Paliperidone palmitate intramuscular 6-monthly formulation: Adis Evaluation

Clinical Considerations

- Long-acting injectable (LAI) formulation of the atypical antipsychotic paliperidone
- Administered intramuscularly once every 6 months
- Noninferior to 3-monthly paliperidone palmitate in preventing relapse
- Generally well tolerated, with a tolerability profile similar to that of 3-monthly paliperidone palmitate

Plain Language Summary

Background and rationale

- Patients with schizophrenia often have poor adherence to antipsychotic medication. One approach to improve adherence is the use of LAI antipsychotics that only need to be administered every few weeks or months, rather than daily.
- LAI antipsychotics are associated with better clinical outcomes, including lower rates of relapse, discontinuation and hospitalization.
- Paliperidone palmitate is an LAI formulation of the atypical antipsychotic paliperidone that is administered once a month or once every 3 months. A new 6-monthly formulation [INVEGA HAFYERA™ (USA); BYANNLI® (EU)] has recently been developed.

Clinical findings

- In a phase 3 clinical trial, 6-monthly paliperidone palmitate was not inferior to the 3-monthly formulation in preventing relapse and improving symptoms.
- Six-monthly paliperidone palmitate was generally well tolerated.

Conclusion

The 6-monthly formulation of intramuscular paliperidone palmitate is a useful and convenient treatment option which may further improve medication adherence in patients with schizophrenia.

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