



U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION

FDA Keynote – A Focus on Office of Prescription Drug Promotion Updates

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Office of Prescription Drug Promotion | OMP | CDER | FDA

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Agenda

- Compliance Activities
- Guidances Activities
- OPDP Resources

OPDP Compliance Actions 2023

Compliance Actions

- Untitled Letter for Recorlev (levoketoconazole) tablets
– June 7, 2023
- Warning Letter for Breztri (budesonide, glycopyrrolate, and formoterol fumarate) inhalation aerosol
– August 4, 2023
- Untitled Letter for Slynd (drospirenone) tablets
– August 11, 2023

Recorlev (levoketoconazole) tablets

Untitled Letter

June 7, 2023

Recorlev - Indication

Recorlev is
indicated

- For the treatment of endogenous hypercortisolemia in adult patients with Cushing's syndrome for whom surgery is not an option or has not been curative.

Recorlev - Indication

Limitation of Use

- Recorlev is not approved for the treatment of fungal infections. The safety and effectiveness of Recorlev for the treatment of fungal infections have not been established.

Recorlev – Risk Profile

Boxed Warning: Hepatotoxicity

- Cases of hepatotoxicity with a fatal outcome or requiring liver transplantation have been reported with oral ketoconazole. Some patients had no obvious risk factors for liver disease. Recorlev is associated with serious hepatotoxicity.
- Evaluate liver enzymes prior to and during treatment.

Recorlev – Risk Profile (cont.)

Boxed Warning: QT Prolongation

- Recorlev is associated with dose-related QT interval prolongation. QT interval prolongation may lead to life-threatening ventricular dysrhythmias such as torsades de pointes.
- Perform an ECG prior to and during treatment.

Recorlev – Risk Profile (cont.)

**Recorlev is
contraindicated
in patients:**

- With cirrhosis, acute liver disease or poorly controlled chronic liver disease, baseline AST or ALT > 3 times the upper limit of normal, recurrent symptomatic cholelithiasis, a prior history of drug induced liver injury due to ketoconazole or any azole antifungal therapy that required discontinuation of treatment, or extensive metastatic liver disease.
- Taking drugs that cause QT prolongation associated with ventricular arrhythmias, including torsades de pointes.
- With a prolonged QTcF interval > 470 msec at baseline, history of torsades de pointes, ventricular tachycardia, ventricular fibrillation, or prolonged QT syndrome.
- With known hypersensitivity to levoketoconazole, ketoconazole or any excipient in Recorlev.
- Taking certain drugs that are sensitive substrates of CYP3A4 or CYP3A4 and P-gp.

Recorlev – Risk Profile (cont.)

Warnings & Precautions

- **Hypocortisolism:** Hypocortisolism has been reported with Recorlev. Monitor patients for hypocortisolism. Dosage reduction or interruption may be necessary.
- **Hypersensitivity Reactions:** Hypersensitivity to Recorlev has been reported. Anaphylaxis has been reported with oral ketoconazole.
- **Risks Related to Decreased Testosterone:** Recorlev may lower serum testosterone in men and women. Inform patients to report associated symptoms.

Recorlev – Risk Profile (cont.)

**Most Common
Adverse
Reactions**
(incidence > 20%)

- Nausea/vomiting, hypokalemia, hemorrhage/contusion, systemic hypertension, headache, hepatic injury, abnormal uterine bleeding, erythema, fatigue, abdominal pain/dyspepsia, arthritis, upper respiratory infection, myalgia, arrhythmia, back pain, insomnia/sleep disturbances, and peripheral edema

Recorlev (levoketoconazole) tablets



– Untitled Letter

- Webpages of the Recorlev consumer-directed website
 - “What is Recorlev®?”
 - “Taking Recorlev®”
- False or misleading claims and representations regarding efficacy
- False or misleading risk presentation

SONICS Study – Design

- Three study phases
 - Dose titration
 - Maintenance
 - Extended evaluation
- Primary efficacy endpoint
 - Proportion of patients with normalization of mean urinary free cortisol (mUFC) – “normal cortisol levels”
 - Assessed at the end of the 6-month maintenance phase

SONICS Study – Details

- Therapeutic dose:
 - mUFC level \leq Upper Limit of Normal (ULN), **or**
 - Maximum allowed dose of 600mg twice daily, **or**
 - Clinically meaningful partial responses based on clinical judgement **and** the maximum tolerated dose had been reached

SONICS Study – Results

63 pts

- **Dose Titration Phase** (2 to 21 weeks)
- Enrolled 94 patients
- 63 patients (63 of 94 patients, 67%) had normal cortisol levels at the end of this phase

29 pts

- **Maintenance Phase** (6 months)
- 77 patients continued into this phase
- 29 patients (29 of 77 patients, 38%) met the primary endpoint

16 pts

- **Extended Evaluation Phase** (6 months)
- 60 patients continued into this phase
- 16 patients (16 of 77 patients, 21%) had normal cortisol levels

SONICS Study - Limitation

**51% of patients
discontinued treatment
prematurely due to
adverse reaction, lack
of efficacy, or other
reasons.**

Webpage – “What is Recorlev®?”


FDA

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Recorlev®
(levoketoconazole)

[About Cushing's](#) [What is Recorlev?](#) [Taking Recorlev](#) [One-on-one support ▼](#)

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 **What is Recorlev®?**

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets



What is Recorlev?

- Recorlev is a prescription medicine used to treat high cortisol (endogenous hypercortisolemia) levels in adult patients with Cushing's syndrome who cannot have surgery or who have had surgery that did not cure their Cushing's syndrome.

Webpage – “What is Recorlev®?”



What does it do?

Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) is a medicine taken by mouth that can help normalize your cortisol levels.

How does Recorlev work?

Recorlev blocks the key steps in the making of cortisol and testosterone in the body. This is important because the goal of managing Cushing's is to get your cortisol levels back to normal.

Recorlev has been studied in clinical trials for more than 3 years

In the LOGICS clinical study, Recorlev was proven to lower cortisol levels*

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets



What is Recorlev?

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- It is not known if Recorlev is safe and effective for the treatment of fungal infections. Recorlev is not to be used for treatment of fungal infections.

Webpage – “What is Recorlev®?”

Recorlev

More patients (52%) who were on a stable and steady dose of Recorlev had normal cortisol levels*

Placebo

(a medicine with no effect)

Patients who stopped taking Recorlev and started taking a placebo lost control of their cortisol levels* (6% had normal cortisol levels*)

The SONICS clinical study supported the efficacy and safety results from LOGICS

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets



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Webpage – “What is Recorlev®?”

31%

of patients had normal cortisol levels*
after taking Recorlev for 6 months
without changing their dose

67%

of patients who moved on to the second
part of the study had normal cortisol
levels* by the end of the study

The clinical study had a strict rule not to change patients' doses during those 6 months. This may not be your experience. Your doctor may change your dose of Recorlev during treatment, which is completely normal.

*Cortisol levels were measured with a urine test.

How to get Recorlev

Recorlev is only available with a doctor's prescription. PANTHERx Rare Pharmacy is the only pharmacy that carries Recorlev and will have it delivered right to you. Your support team will help make sure you receive your treatment.

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets



What is Recorlev?

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False or Misleading Claims about Efficacy

- Overstates the efficacy of Recorlev
- Dose titration phase
 - 94 → 77 patients
- Maintenance phase
 - 77 → 29 patients
- Extended Evaluation Phase
 - 29 → 16 patients

67%

of patients who moved on to the second part of the study had normal cortisol levels* by the end of the study

Webpage – “What is Recorlev®?”

The FDA logo is a blue square with the white letters "FDA" inside.

Talk to your doctor about starting Recorlev if you have symptoms of Cushing's or want to try a different medicine for Cushing's.

LEARN HOW TO MONITOR YOUR PROGRESS >

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets

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- It is not known if Recorlev is safe and effective for the treatment of fungal infections. Recorlev is not to be used for treatment of fungal infections.

Do not take Recorlev if you:

- have or have had liver problems.
- take certain other medicines that cause QT prolongation.
- have a history of certain heart problems which may include one of the following conditions: torsades de pointes, ventricular tachycardia, ventricular fibrillation, or long QT syndrome.
- are allergic to levoketoconazole, ketoconazole, or any of the ingredients in Recorlev, or take certain medicines that may affect how your liver works. If you are not sure if you take these medicines, ask your healthcare provider.

Before taking Recorlev, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have or have had liver problems.
- have any heart problems, including a condition called long QT syndrome.
- have a history of low blood levels of potassium or magnesium.

False or Misleading Claims about Efficacy

- Omission of material information
- The information is necessary to interpret any study results from the SONICS study

51% of patients discontinued treatment prematurely due to adverse reaction, lack of efficacy, or other reasons.

Webpage – “What is Recorlev®?”



Recorlev

More patients (52%) who were on a stable and steady dose of Recorlev had normal cortisol levels*

Placebo

(a medicine with no effect)

Patients who stopped taking Recorlev and started taking a placebo lost control of their cortisol levels* (6% had normal cortisol levels*)

The SONICS clinical study supported the efficacy and safety results from LOGICS

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets



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LOGICS Study – Design

- Two study phases
 - Open-label dose titration & maintenance phase
 - 8-week double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized withdrawal phase
- Key secondary efficacy endpoint
 - Proportion of patients with mUFC normalization - “normal cortisol levels”
 - Defined as a patient with $mUFC \leq$ the ULN at the end of the randomized withdrawal phase **without** meeting a requirement for early rescue during the randomized withdrawal phase

LOGICS Study – Details

Dose Titration & Maintenance Phase

(14 to 19 weeks)



Randomized Withdrawal Phase

(~ 8 weeks)

- Enrolled 79 patients
 - Dose increased if mUFC was \geq ULN; dose reduced based on individual tolerability
 - Patients with a stable therapeutic dose for at least 4 weeks + normal mUFC at the end of the phase → eligible for randomization in withdrawal phase
-
- 39 patients continued into this phase
 - 37 patients from the dose titration & maintenance phase + 2 patients directly from SONICS Study
 - Randomized to either continue Recorlev (n = 21) or placebo (n = 18)
 - Treated for ~ 2 months or until early rescue was necessary

LOGICS Study – Results

Recorlev Group (n = 21)

- Percent of patients with normal cortisol levels at the end of the randomized withdrawal phase:
 - 11/21 (52.4%)
- 7 patients with normal cortisol levels throughout the randomized-withdrawal phase

Placebo (n = 18)

- Percent of patients with normal cortisol levels at the end of the randomized withdrawal phase:
 - 1/18 (5.6%)
- Majority of patients rescued early due to high cortisol levels

False or Misleading Claim about Efficacy

- Claim implies that the results represent the general patient experience


Recorlev

More patients (52%) who were on a stable and steady dose of Recorlev had normal cortisol levels*

- Results are based on a small, select subset of patients enrolled in the study with prior demonstration of tolerability and response to Recorlev


Webpage – “Taking Recorlev®”

For Patients [Prescribing Information](#) [Medication Guide](#) [Important Safety Information](#) [Healthcare Professionals Site](#)

 **Recorlev®**
(levoketoconazole)


[About Cushing's](#) [What is Recorlev?](#) [Taking Recorlev](#) [One-on-one support ▼](#)

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Taking Recorlev®

Recorlev is a prescription medicine taken by mouth twice a day with or without food



INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets

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Webpage – “Taking Recorlev[®]”



Personalized dosing

- Your doctor will personalize your dose to ensure you're taking the right amount for you
- Personalizing means your dose may change more than once while you're taking Recorlev[®] (levoketoconazole). This is normal. Your doctor is trying to find the right dose of Recorlev for you to manage your cortisol levels and side effects



A clinical pharmacist
from PANTHERx Rare Pharmacy will
check in with you regularly to see how
you're feeling and answer any
questions you may have

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev[®] (levoketoconazole) tablets



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Webpage – “Taking Recorlev®”

Monitoring and side effects

Monitoring

As with other medicines for Cushing's, monitoring by your doctor is important so they know how you're doing



Measuring your cortisol during treatment with Recorlev helps your doctor tell if it is under control



Heart and liver tests before and during treatment with Recorlev will help your doctor avoid side effects



INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev® (levoketoconazole) tablets



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Webpage – “Taking Recorlev[®]?”



Possible side effects

Side effects can occur with Recorlev, including some that are serious



While you're on Recorlev, your doctor will test you regularly.

Remember to tell your doctor or pharmacist how you're feeling while taking Recorlev so they can find the right dose for you.

It's important to share with your doctor what medicines you're taking, including vitamins and over-the-counter medicine.

GET TO KNOW YOUR TRUE SUPPORT PARTNER IN CARE >

INDICATION AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR Recorlev[®] (levoketoconazole) tablets

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Misleading Risk Presentation

- Minimizes the serious and significant risks
 - No discussion of the boxed warning or specific side effects (some potentially fatal) associated with the drug
- Misleading suggestion that heart and liver tests alone will enable patients to “avoid” side effects

Webpage – “Taking Recorlev®?”



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Webpage – “Taking Recorlev®”



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Do not take Recorlev if you:

- have or have had liver problems.
- take certain other medicines that cause QT prolongation.
- have a history of certain heart problems which may include one of the following conditions: torsades de pointes, ventricular tachycardia, ventricular fibrillation, or long QT syndrome.
- are allergic to levoketoconazole, ketoconazole, or any of the ingredients in Recorlev, or take certain medicines that may affect how your liver works. If you are not sure if you take these medicines, ask your healthcare provider.

Before taking Recorlev, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have or have had liver problems.
- have any heart problems, including a condition called long QT syndrome.
- have a history of low blood levels of potassium or magnesium.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Recorlev and other medicines may affect each other causing side effects.

What is the most important information I should know about Recorlev?

Recorlev can cause serious side effects, including:

- **Liver damage (hepatotoxicity).** Hepatotoxicity can happen in people who take Recorlev. Some people who are treated with ketoconazole, a medicine like the active ingredient in Recorlev, had serious liver problems that required a liver transplant or led to death.

Call your healthcare provider right away if you have: pain on the upper right side of your stomach area associated with nausea, unusual fatigue, yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes, or unusual bruising or bleeding.

Recorlev should not be used if you have: cirrhosis, active or poorly controlled liver disease, frequent stones in your gallbladder, or history of liver problems due to use of a drug.

Your healthcare provider will do liver tests before and during treatment with Recorlev.

- **Heart rhythm problems (QT prolongation).** Recorlev can cause a heart problem called QT interval prolongation, or QT prolongation. QT prolongation can cause irregular heartbeats that can be life threatening.

Call your healthcare provider right away if you: feel severe lightheadedness or if you faint during treatment with Recorlev.

Webpage – “Taking Recorlev®”



Low blood electrolyte levels of potassium and magnesium can increase your chances of QT prolongation during treatment with Recorlev.

Your healthcare provider will check your heart with a test called an electrocardiogram (ECG) and do blood tests to check your blood electrolyte levels before and during treatment with Recorlev.

Recorlev should not be taken with certain other medicines that cause QT prolongation. Talk to your healthcare provider about the medicines you are taking before you start taking Recorlev.

- **Low cortisol levels (adrenal insufficiency).** Adrenal insufficiency is a condition in which the adrenal glands do not make enough steroid hormones, such as cortisol. Recorlev may cause adrenal function insufficiency by excessively lowering production of cortisol.
- **Call your healthcare provider right away** if you have one or more of the following symptoms, as these may be symptoms of reduced adrenal function: nausea or vomiting, unusual fatigue, unexplained stomach pain, loss of appetite, body aches, dizziness, low blood pressure, abnormal electrolyte levels, or low blood sugar.

Your healthcare provider will collect blood or urine samples to measure your cortisol.

How should I take Recorlev?

- Take Recorlev exactly as your healthcare provider tells you. Your healthcare provider will tell you how much Recorlev to take and when to take it.
- If you miss a dose of Recorlev, take the next dose at your regular scheduled time.
- If you take too much Recorlev, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

What should I avoid while taking Recorlev?

- Drinking alcohol to excess while taking Recorlev may increase your chances of having serious side effects.

What are the possible side effects of Recorlev?

Recorlev may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Hypersensitivity reactions.** Serious allergic reactions can happen in people who take Recorlev. Call your healthcare provider right away, or visit an emergency center, if you get a rash, itching, hives, fever, swelling of the lips or tongue, chest pain, or have trouble breathing. These could be signs of a serious allergic reaction.
- **Decreased testosterone.** Recorlev may lower testosterone levels in males (breast enlargement, erectile dysfunction) and females (low desire for sex and mood changes).

The most common side effects of Recorlev include nausea/vomiting, low potassium, easy bleeding/easy bruising, high blood pressure, headache, liver injury, abnormal uterine bleeding, redness of the skin, fatigue, upset stomach, arthritis, upper respiratory infection, muscle pain, abnormal heart rhythm, back pain, sleep disturbances, and fluid retention.

Recorlev may cause fertility problems, which may affect your ability to have children. Talk to your healthcare provider if you have concerns about fertility.

These are not all the possible side effects of Recorlev.

Webpage – “Taking Recorlev®”



Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

For more information, please see the [Full Prescribing Information](#) and [Medication Guide](#), including Boxed Warning, for Recorlev.

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OPDP Guidance Activities 2023

Guidance Activities – “Quant Info”

- ***Final Guidance*** – “Presenting Quantitative Efficacy and Risk Information in Direct-to-Consumer (DTC) Promotional Labeling and Advertisements”
 - June 27, 2023
- Finalizes the draft guidance issued in October 2018
- Provides recommendations for presenting quantitative efficacy and risk information in DTC promotional labeling and advertisements
- Recommendations are informed by current research findings related to communicating health information

Quant Info – Recommendations

- Covers the following topics:
 - Providing quantitative efficacy or risk information from the control group, when applicable
 - Presenting probability information in terms of absolute frequencies, percentages, and relative frequencies
 - Formatting quantitative efficacy or risk information
 - Using visual aids to illustrate quantitative efficacy or risk information

Guidance Activities – “SIUU”

- ***Revised Draft Guidance*** – “Communications From Firms to Health Care Providers Regarding Scientific Information on Unapproved Uses of Approved/Cleared Medical Products: Questions and Answers”
 - October 23, 2023
- Supersedes the revised draft guidance issued in 2014 entitled “Distributing Scientific and Medical Publications on Unapproved New Uses – Recommended Practices”

SIUU Guidance – Introduction

- When final, this guidance will describe FDA's current thinking on common questions regarding certain communications by firms to health care providers (HCPs) of scientific information on unapproved use(s) of approved or cleared medical products

SIUU Communications – Scope

- Guidance relates to firms' sharing the following types of communications with HCPs:
 - Published scientific or medical journal articles (reprints)
 - Published clinical reference resources, as follows:
 - Clinical practice guidelines (CPGs)
 - Scientific or medical reference texts (reference texts)
 - Materials from independent clinical practice resources
 - Firm-generated presentations of scientific information from an accompanying published reprint

SIUU Communications – Definition

- These specific types of communications from firms to HCPs of scientific information on unapproved use(s) of approved or cleared medical products, in combination with the disclosures recommended in this guidance, are referred to as **SIUU communications**.
- SIUU communications are from firms to HCPs engaged in making clinical practice decisions for the care of an individual patient.
- If a firm shares an SIUU communication with HCPs in a manner that is consistent with the recommendations in the guidance, FDA does not intend to use such communication standing alone as evidence of a new intended use.

SIUU Guidance – Summary of Recommendations



- SIUU communications should be:
 - Truthful, non-misleading, factual and unbiased
 - Provide all information necessary for HCPs to interpret the strengths & weaknesses, and validity & utility of the information
- Any study or analysis described in a source publication that serves as the basis for an SIUU communication should be scientifically sound
- The study or analysis should also provide information that is relevant to HCPs engaged in making clinical practice decisions for the care of an individual patient (as used in this guidance, clinically relevant)
- Critically consider the manner of presentation of SIUU communications

OPDP Resources

- OPDP Website:
 - <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/center-drug-evaluation-and-research-cder/office-prescription-drug-promotion-opdp>
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 - Register at the bottom of the OPDP Homepage

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