

10 February 2009

IMPORTANT DRUG WARNING
Regarding RAPTIVA® (efalizumab)

Dear Health Care Professional:

Genentech, Inc. would like to inform you of important new safety information regarding RAPTIVA (efalizumab).

- A third case of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) has been reported. This occurred in a 47-year old male patient who received RAPTIVA for approximately 3 years, 2 months for treatment of plaque psoriasis. There were no concomitant immunosuppressive drugs reported. PML was diagnosed based on clinical symptoms, MRI findings, and detection of JC viral DNA in the CSF by PCR.
- In October and November of 2008, Genentech informed healthcare professionals of two reports of fatal PML diagnosed by presence of JC Virus by PCR. These cases occurred in a 70-year old male patient and a 73-year old female patient. All 3 patients diagnosed with PML were being treated for chronic plaque psoriasis and had been treated with RAPTIVA for more than 3 years. Additionally, in October 2008, Genentech informed healthcare professionals of a previous report of one case of a 62 year old male who developed progressive neurologic symptoms in which PML was part of the differential diagnosis. This patient was treated with RAPTIVA for more than 3 years for chronic plaque psoriasis. Further diagnostic testing was not done, including a lumbar puncture and the patient subsequently died of unknown cause.
- RAPTIVA increases the risk for PML. Prolonged exposure to RAPTIVA or older age may further increase this risk.
- Physicians should consider PML in any patient being treated with RAPTIVA who presents with new onset neurologic manifestations. Consultation with a neurologist, brain MRI and lumbar puncture should be considered as clinically indicated. In patients who develop PML, RAPTIVA should be discontinued.
- Worsening of psoriasis can occur during or after discontinuation of RAPTIVA. Following discontinuation, patients should be closely observed and appropriate psoriasis treatment instituted as necessary.

PML is a rare, progressive, demyelinating disease of the central nervous system that usually leads to death or severe disability. PML is caused by activation of the JC virus. JC virus resides in latent form in up to 80% of healthy adults, typically only causing PML in immunocompromised patients. The factors leading to activation of the latent infection are not fully understood, though abnormalities in T cells have been described as important for reactivation and development of PML. PML has been reported in HIV positive patients, immunosuppressed cancer patients, transplantation patients and patients with autoimmune diseases. There are no known interventions that can reliably prevent or adequately treat PML.

A copy of the current RAPTIVA Prescribing Information is enclosed. We encourage you to review the full prescribing information and discuss this important safety information with your patients.

Should you have any questions regarding the use of RAPTIVA, please refer to the RAPTIVA Product Information at www.gene.com, or call our Medical Information/Communications Department at 1-800-821-8590.

Healthcare professionals should report any serious adverse events suspected to be associated with the use of RAPTIVA to Genentech at 1-888-835-2555. Alternatively, this information may be reported to FDA's MedWatch reporting system online (<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch/>), by phone (1-800-FDA-1088), by facsimile (1-800-FDA-0178), or mail using the MedWatch Form FDA 3500 (FDA Medical Products Reporting Program, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852-9787).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Barron', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hal Barron, M.D., FACC
Senior Vice President, Development
Chief Medical Officer
Genentech, Inc.