

DEAR PHARMACIST LETTER

APPENDIX C

IMPORTANT DRUG WARNING

Dear Pharmacist:

There is important safety information you need to know about AMPYRA[®]. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved AMPYRA[®] (dalfampridine) Extended Release Tablets, 10 mg *as a treatment to improve walking in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS). This was demonstrated by an increase walking speed.* FDA has determined that a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) is necessary to ensure that the benefits of AMPYRA outweigh the risk of seizures. AMPYRA (dalfampridine) has the same active ingredient as fampridine, 4-aminopyridine, or 4-AP.

AMPYRA is contraindicated in patients with:

- History of seizures
- Moderate or severe renal impairment

Risk of Seizure with AMPYRA

- **Clinical studies indicate doses greater than 10 mg twice daily increase the risk of seizure.**
- Patients with a history of seizures should not be prescribed AMPYRA.

Renal Impairment

AMPYRA is eliminated through the kidneys primarily as unchanged drug. Patients with renal impairment may require a dose lower than 10 mg twice daily. AMPYRA is available only as a 10 mg tablet which cannot be divided. Therefore, AMPYRA is contraindicated in patients with moderate or severe renal impairment, defined by creatinine clearance 50 mL/min or less. Because elderly patients are likely to have decreased renal function, it is particularly important to know the estimated creatinine clearance in these patients before initiating AMPYRA treatment.

AMPYRA Dispensing/Prescribing Information

Prescriptions for AMPYRA are processed through the AMPYRA Patient Support Center. AMPYRA is only available through a limited network of specialty pharmacies, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and one highly controlled HMO system (Kaiser Permanente). AMPYRA is not available through retail pharmacies.

- The approved dose of AMPYRA is 10 mg twice daily, approximately 12 hours apart, with or without food. This dose should not be exceeded. No additional benefit was demonstrated at doses greater than 10 mg twice daily and adverse events and discontinuation were more frequent at higher doses.

- **In the event that more than 10 mg twice daily is prescribed, you should contact the prescriber to verify the dosage and reinforce the dosage administration recommendation.**
- It is important to discontinue pharmacy-compounded formulations of the drug prior to initiating therapy with AMPYRA.
- It is important that a pharmacy-compounded formulation of the drug (4-aminopyridine, 4-AP, fampridine) not be substituted for AMPYRA due to the unknown pharmacokinetics of compounded formulations and the potential for overdose and increased risk of seizures.
- It is important that AMPYRA not be taken in addition to a compounded formulation of the drug (4-aminopyridine, 4-AP, fampridine).
- AMPYRA is available in 10 mg strength extended release tablets.
- Tablets should be taken whole. They should not be scored, divided, crushed, chewed or dissolved in fluids.

A Medication Guide must be given to the patient with each prescription of AMPYRA.

- A Medication Guide is included with each 60-count bottle of AMPYRA, and tear-off pads of Medication Guides will be provided with each AMPYRA shipment.
- In addition to the Medication Guide included with each bottle of AMPYRA, a separate copy of the Medication Guide, whether from the tear-off pad or printed on demand at the pharmacy, must be included with each fill.
- It is important that you counsel the patients about:
 - The risks and benefits of AMPYRA
 - The importance of taking AMPYRA as prescribed and in particular not to double-dose if a dose is missed
 - The need for patients to notify their prescribing physician and you about all medications they are taking
 - The importance of immediately discontinuing AMPYRA if a seizure occurs and reporting the event to Acorda at 1-800-367-5109 or to the FDA's MedWatch reporting system at 1-800-FDA-1088

Please carefully review the enclosed AMPYRA Prescribing Information and the Medication Guide with particular attention to the safety and prescribing information. This letter is not intended to describe all important information associated with AMPYRA use.

All of the enclosed materials are also available for download from www.AMPYRA.com and from your Acorda Therapeutics representative or field-based Medical Affairs staff. If you have any questions, please contact Acorda Therapeutics Medical Information Services at 1-800-367-5109.

Health care professionals should report any adverse events suspected to be associated with AMPYRA use to one of the following:

- Acorda Therapeutics, Inc., Hawthorne, NY 10532; 1-800-367-5109.
- FDA's MedWatch reporting system
 - By phone (1-800-FDA-1088)

- By facsimile (1-800-FDA-0178)
- Online (<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch/>)
- By mail (using the MedWatch Voluntary Reporting form 3500 to the FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program: Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852-9787).

Sincerely,

Thomas Wessel, MD, PhD
Chief Medical Officer

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Vice President – Drug Safety