

## **Otsuka and Lundbeck Announce Initiation of Two Phase 3 Trials of Brexpiprazole in Patients with Bipolar I Disorder**

**Tokyo, Japan and Deerfield, Ill. – October 12, 2017** - Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Otsuka) and Lundbeck announce that patient enrollment has been initiated in two global Phase 3 clinical trials to evaluate brexpiprazole for the treatment of patients with manic episodes associated with bipolar I disorder.

The Phase 3 trials will evaluate the efficacy and safety of brexpiprazole in patients with bipolar I disorder who are experiencing an acute manic episode, with or without mixed features, that requires hospitalization. The characterization of mixed features indicates that at least three symptoms of depression accompany the manic episode.

The trials are multicenter, randomized, double-blind studies of brexpiprazole versus placebo. The primary endpoint is the mean change from baseline to Day-21 endpoint in the Young-Mania Rating Scale (YMRS) total score. The YMRS score is a widely used clinician rating scale to assess mania symptoms based on a patient's subjective reports of their condition and clinical observations made during interviews.

The key secondary endpoint is the change from baseline to Day 21 in the double-blind treatment period in Clinical Global Impression – Bipolar (CGI BP) severity-of-illness score in mania. The studies also include a number of other endpoints, including monitoring of safety and tolerability.

### **About brexpiprazole**

Brexpiprazole was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in July 2015 to treat patients with schizophrenia and as an adjunctive treatment for patients with MDD. Brexpiprazole was also approved in February 2017 by Health Canada, and in May 2017 by the Australian Department of Health, for the treatment of schizophrenia. In the three countries brexpiprazole is distributed and marketed under the brand name REXULTI®.

Brexpiprazole was discovered by Otsuka and is being co-developed by Otsuka and Lundbeck. The mechanism of action for brexpiprazole in the adjunctive treatment of major depressive disorder or schizophrenia is unknown. However, the efficacy of brexpiprazole may be mediated through a combination of partial agonist activity at serotonin 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> and dopamine D<sub>2</sub> receptors, and antagonist activity at serotonin 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> receptors. Brexpiprazole exhibits high affinity (sub-nanomolar) for these receptors as well as for noradrenaline alpha<sub>1B/2C</sub> receptors.

## **INDICATIONS AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION for REXULTI® (brexpiprazole)**

### **INDICATIONS**

REXULTI is indicated for:

- Use as an adjunctive therapy to antidepressants in adults with major depressive disorder
- Treatment of schizophrenia in adults

### **IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION**

#### **WARNING: INCREASED MORTALITY IN ELDERLY PATIENTS WITH DEMENTIA-RELATED PSYCHOSIS**

**Elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic drugs are at increased risk of death. REXULTI is not approved for the treatment of patients with dementia-related psychosis.**

#### **WARNING: SUICIDAL THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIORS**

**Antidepressants increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviors in patients aged 24 years and younger. Monitor for clinical worsening and emergence of suicidal thoughts and behaviors. The safety and effectiveness of REXULTI have not been established in pediatric patients.**

**Contraindication:** In patients with known hypersensitivity reaction to brexpiprazole or any of its components. Reactions have included: rash, facial swelling, urticaria and anaphylaxis.

**Cerebrovascular Adverse Events, Including Stroke:** In clinical trials, elderly patients with dementia randomized to risperidone, aripiprazole, and olanzapine had a higher incidence of stroke and transient ischemic attack, including fatal stroke. REXULTI is not approved for the treatment of patients with dementia-related psychosis.

**Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS):** NMS is a potentially fatal symptom complex reported in association with administration of antipsychotic drugs. Clinical signs of NMS are hyperpyrexia, muscle rigidity, altered mental status and evidence of autonomic instability. Additional signs may include elevated creatinine phosphokinase, myoglobinuria (rhabdomyolysis), and acute renal failure. Manage NMS with immediate discontinuation of REXULTI, intensive symptomatic treatment, and monitoring.

**Tardive Dyskinesia (TD):** Risk of TD, and the potential to become irreversible, are believed to increase with duration of treatment and total cumulative dose of antipsychotic drugs. TD can develop after a relatively brief treatment period, even at low doses, or after discontinuation of treatment. For chronic treatment, use the lowest dose and shortest duration of REXULTI needed to produce a clinical response. If signs and symptoms of TD appear, drug discontinuation should be considered.

**Metabolic Changes:** Atypical antipsychotic drugs have caused metabolic changes including:

- **Hyperglycemia/Diabetes Mellitus:** Hyperglycemia, in some cases extreme and associated with ketoacidosis or hyperosmolar coma or death, has been reported in patients treated with atypical antipsychotics. Assess fasting plasma glucose before or soon after initiation of antipsychotic medication, and monitor periodically during long-term treatment.
- **Dyslipidemia:** Atypical antipsychotics cause adverse alterations in lipids. Before or soon after initiation of antipsychotic medication, obtain a fasting lipid profile at baseline and monitor periodically during treatment.
- **Weight Gain:** Weight gain has been observed in patients treated with REXULTI. Monitor weight at baseline and frequently thereafter.

**Leukopenia, Neutropenia, and Agranulocytosis:** Leukopenia and neutropenia have been reported with antipsychotics. Agranulocytosis (including fatal cases) has been reported with other agents in this class. Monitor complete blood count in patients with pre-existing low white blood cell count (WBC)/absolute neutrophil count or history of drug-induced leukopenia/neutropenia. Discontinue REXULTI at the first sign of a clinically significant decline in WBC and in severely neutropenic patients.

**Orthostatic Hypotension and Syncope:** Atypical antipsychotics cause orthostatic hypotension and syncope. Generally, the risk is greatest during initial dose titration and when increasing the dose. Monitor in patients vulnerable to hypotension, and those with cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases.

**Falls:** Antipsychotics may cause somnolence, postural hypotension, motor and sensory instability, which may lead to falls causing fractures or other injuries. For patients with diseases, conditions, or medications that could exacerbate these effects, complete fall risk assessments when initiating treatment and recurrently during therapy.

**Seizures:** REXULTI may cause seizures and should be used with caution in patients with a history of seizures or with conditions that lower the seizure threshold.

**Body Temperature Dysregulation:** Use REXULTI with caution in patients who may experience conditions that increase body temperature (e.g., strenuous exercise, extreme heat, dehydration, or concomitant use with anticholinergics).

**Dysphagia:** Esophageal dysmotility and aspiration have been associated with antipsychotics, including REXULTI, and should be used with caution in patients at risk for aspiration.

**Potential for Cognitive and Motor Impairment:** REXULTI has the potential to impair judgment, thinking, or motor skills. Patients should not drive or operate hazardous machinery until they are reasonably certain REXULTI does not affect them adversely.

**Concomitant Medication:** Dosage adjustments are recommended in patients who are known cytochrome P450 (CYP) 2D6 poor metabolizers and in patients taking concomitant CYP3A4 inhibitors or CYP2D6 inhibitors or strong CYP3A4 inducers.

**Most commonly observed adverse reactions:** In clinical trials, the most common adverse reactions were:

- **Major Depressive Disorder (MDD)** (adjunctive treatment to antidepressant therapy;  $\geq 5\%$  incidence and at least twice the rate of placebo for REXULTI vs. placebo, respectively): akathisia (9% vs. 2%) and weight increase (7% vs. 2%)
- **Schizophrenia** ( $\geq 4\%$  incidence and twice incidence of placebo for REXULTI vs. placebo, respectively): weight increased (4% vs. 2%)

**Dystonia:** Symptoms of dystonia may occur in susceptible individuals during the first days of treatment and at low doses.

**Pregnancy:** Adequate and well-controlled studies to assess the risks of REXULTI during pregnancy have not been conducted. REXULTI should be used during pregnancy only if the benefit justifies the risk to the fetus.

**Lactation:** It is not known if REXULTI is excreted in human breast milk. A decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. at 1-800- 438-9927 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 ([www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch)).

Please see accompanying [FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION](#), including **BOXED WARNING**.

### **About Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.**

Otsuka Pharmaceutical is a global healthcare company with the corporate philosophy: “Otsuka-people creating new products for better health worldwide.” Otsuka researches, develops, manufactures and markets innovative products, with a focus on pharmaceutical products for the treatment of diseases and nutraceutical products for the maintenance of everyday health.

In pharmaceuticals, Otsuka is a leader in the challenging area of mental health and also has research programs on several under-addressed diseases including tuberculosis, a significant global public health issue. These commitments illustrate how Otsuka is a “big venture” company at heart, applying a youthful spirit of creativity in everything it does.

Otsuka Pharmaceutical is a subsidiary of Otsuka Holdings Co., Ltd. headquartered in Tokyo, Japan. The Otsuka group of companies employed 45,000 people worldwide and had consolidated sales of approximately USD 11 billion (€ 9.9 billion) in 2016.

All Otsuka stories start by taking the road less travelled. Learn more about Otsuka Pharmaceutical Company on its global website at <https://www.otsuka.co.jp/en>. Learn more about Otsuka in the U.S. at [www.otsuka-us.com](http://www.otsuka-us.com) and connect with us on Twitter at @OtsukaUS.

### **About Lundbeck**

H. Lundbeck A/S (LUN.CO, LUN DC, HLUYY) is a global pharmaceutical company specialized in psychiatric and neurological disorders. For more than 70 years, we have been at the forefront of research within neuroscience. Our key areas of focus are depression, schizophrenia, Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease.

An estimated 700 million people worldwide are living with psychiatric and neurological disorders and far too many suffer due to inadequate treatment, discrimination, a reduced number of working days, early retirement and other unnecessary consequences. Every day, we strive for improved treatment and a better life for people living with psychiatric and neurological disorders — we call this Progress in Mind.

Read more at [www.lundbeck.com/global/about-us/progress-in-mind](http://www.lundbeck.com/global/about-us/progress-in-mind). Our approximately 5,000 employees in 55 countries are engaged in the entire value chain throughout research, development, production, marketing and sales. Our pipeline consists of several late-stage development programmes and our products are available in more than 100 countries. We have research centres in China and Denmark and production facilities in China, Denmark, France and Italy. Lundbeck generated revenue of DKK 15.6 billion in 2016 (EUR 2.1 billion; USD 2.3 billion).

For additional information, we encourage you to visit our corporate site [www.lundbeck.com](http://www.lundbeck.com) and connect with us on Twitter at @Lundbeck.

### **About Lundbeck in the U.S.**

In the U.S., Lundbeck employs nearly 900 people focused solely on accelerating therapies for brain disorders. With a special commitment to the lives of patients, families and caregivers, Lundbeck U.S. actively engages in hundreds of initiatives each year that support our patient communities.

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