# TNF Blockers' Infection Risk Greatest in First Year

### BY BRUCE JANCIN

Denver Bureau

AMSTERDAM — Rheumatoid arthritis patients on a tumor necrosis factor antagonist in clinical practice have an increased rate of hospitalization for serious, non-TB infections, but that risk appears to be considerably less than previously reported, Dr. Lars Klareskog said at the annual European Congress of Rheumatology.

Moreover, the Swedish national clinical

experience indicates that the rate of hospitalization for serious infections doesn't escalate with increasing time spent on the tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitor. The risk is greatest during the first year; thereafter, it drops off and remains fairly static, according to Dr. Klareskog, professor of rheumatology at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm.

He presented data from the Swedish Biologics Register, a national populationbased registry of all patients on a TNF inhibitor for rheumatoid arthritis (RA). The analysis included 2,465 patients given a TNF inhibitor during 1999-2003. The comparison group consisted of 35,450 Swedish RA patients not treated with an anti-TNF agent; this group included historical controls treated for RA as early as 1964.

It's widely recognized that anti-TNF therapy increases the risk of TB. But that risk remains small, on the order of 0.1 case per 100 person-years on the drug.

Of much greater practical concern is the

potential for increased risk of other, more common serious infections. That risk has not been well defined. Some relatively small observational studies have quoted a twofold elevation in risk, while others have found no increase.

A recent metaanalysis of randomized clinical trials reported a twofold increased risk of serious infection in RA patients on TNF inhibitors (JAMA 2006;295:2275-85). However, those trials were of relatively short duration and included a narrow spectrum of patients.

The new analysis of Swedish registry data was designed to help clarify the picture using a large real-world patient expe-



The rate of hospitalization for serious infection did not escalate with increasing time on the drugs.

DR. KLARESKOG

rience, Dr. Klareskog said at the meeting, which was sponsored by the European League Against Rheumatism.

With 253 hospitalizations for infection in Swedish patients during 4,471 personyears of therapy with their first TNF inhibitor, the crude rate of infection was 5.7 per 100 person-years, compared with 5.3 per 100 person-years in patients not treated with a TNF antagonist. After adjustment for sex, age, comorbidities, and propensity for hospitalization, patients on their first TNF inhibitor had a significant 28% increased relative risk of hospitalization for serious infection, compared with RA patients who had never taken a TNF antagonist.

In the smaller group of 528 patients on their second TNF inhibitor because their first was ineffective or poorly tolerated, the hospitalization rate for infection was 7.1 per 100 person-years. This represented an adjusted 64% increase in relative risk over that of RA patients who never received a TNF antagonist.

No particular type of infection predominated; the risks of hospitalization for skin, articular, bloodstream, and other infection sites were similarly increased in users of TNF antagonists. The data revealed no big surprises. These data fill out the picture of the risks associated with these agents in real-world practice.

## Side-by-Side Online Clinical Guidelines

he National Guideline Clearinghouse The National Guideline

Web site presents clinical practice guidelines with standardized abstracts and tables that allow physicians to make comparison of practice guidelines on similar topics. The clearinghouse was created by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in partnership with the American Medical Association and the America's Health Insurance Plans. For more information, visit www.guideline.gov.

Brief Summary of Prescribing Information (Nos. 1541, 1543, 1544, 3046, 7309, 7311) 03-5366-R24-Brf, Rev. July, 2004

 $\textbf{PREVACID}^{\circledR} \ (\textbf{lansoprazole}) \ \ \textbf{Delayed-Release Capsules}$ 

 $\textbf{PREVACID}^{\circledR} \ (lansoprazole) \ \textit{For Delayed-Release Oral Suspension}$ 

PREVACID® SoluTab<sup>TM</sup> (lansoprazole) Delayed-Release Orally

Rx only
PREVACID Delayed-Release Capsules, PREVACID SoluTab Delayed-Release Orally
Disintegrating Tablets and PREVACIO For Delayed-Release Oral Suspension are indicated

or.

Abort-Term Treatment (4 weeks) of Active Duodenal Ulcer

1. pylori Eradication to Reduce the Risk of Duodenal Ulcer Recurrence 
riple Therapy: PREVACID/amoxicillin/clarithromycin 
usul Therapy: PREVACID/amoxicillin

Who are either allergic or intolerant to clarithromycin or in whom resistance to 
larithromycin is known or suspected.

Alaintenance of Headed Duodenal Ulcers 
controlled studies do not extend beyond 12 months.

Continues studies on the extent beginn 12 months.

Short-Term Treatment (up to 8 weeks) of Active Benign Gastric Ulcer
Healing of NSAID-Associated Gastric Ulcer
In patients who continue NSAID use. Controlled studies did not extend beyond 8 weeks.
Risk Reduction of NSAID-Associated Gastric Ulcer

n patients with a history of a documented gastric ulcer who require the use of an NSAID. Controlled studies did not extend beyond 12 weeks.

Controlled studies did not extend beyond 12 weeks.

Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

Short-Term Treatment of Symptomatic GERD

Short-Term Treatment (up to 8 weeks) of Erosive Esophagitis

For patients who do not heal with PREVACID for 8 weeks (5-10%), it may be helpful to give

an additional 8 weeks of treatment. If there is a recurrence of erosive esophagitis an

additional 8-week course of PREVACID may be considered.

Maintenance of Healing of Erosive Esophagitis

Controlled studies did not extend beyond 12 months.

ecretory Conditions Including Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ated in patients with known hypersensitivity to any component of

the formulation of PREVACID.

Amoxicillin is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to any penicillin.

Clarithromycin is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to clarithromycin, eyrthomycin, and may of the macrotide antibiotics.

Concomitant administration of clarithromycin with cisapride, pimozide, astemizole, or terfenadine is contraindicated. There have been post-marketing reports of drug interactions when clarithromycin and/or erythromycin are condiministered with cisapride, pimozide, astemizole, or terfenadine resulting in cardiac arrhythmias (QT protongation, ventricular attorycardia, ventricular fibrillation, and torsades de pointes) most likely due to inhibition of metabolism of these drugs by erythromycin and clarithromycin. Fatalities have been reported.

(Please refer to full prescribing information for amoxicillin and clarithromycin before prescribing.)

WARNINGS
CLARITHROMYCIN SHOULD NOT BE USED IN PREGNANT WOMEN EXCEPT IN CLINICAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE NO ALTERNATIVE THERAPY IS APPROPRIATE. IF PREGNANCY OCCURS WHILE TAKING CLARITHROMYCIN, THE PATIENT SHOULD BE APPRISED OF THE DITENTIAL HAZARD TO THE FETUS. (SEE WARNINGS IN PRESCRIBING INFORMATION FOR CLARITHROMYCIN.)

PSEUdomembranous colitis has been reported with nearly all antibacterial agents, including clarithromycin and amoxicillin, and may range in severity from mild to life threatening. Therefore, it is important to consider this diagnosis in patients who present with diarrhea subsequent to the administration of antibacterial agents. Treatment with antibacterial agents alters the normal flora of the colon and may permit overgrowth of clostridis. Studies indicate that a toxin produced by Clostridium difficile is a primary cause of "antibiotic associated colitis".

Affer the diagnosis of pseudomembranous colitis has been established, therapeutic measures should be initiated. Mild cases of pseudomembranous colitis usually respond to discontinuation of the drug alone. In moderate to severe cases, consideration should be given to management with fluids and electrolytes, protein supplementation, and treatment with an antibacterial drug clinically effective against Clostridium difficile colitis.

Serious Andrews and the administration of individuals with a history of penicillin hypersensitivity and/or a history of sensitivity or multiple altergens. There have been well-documented reports of individuals with a history of penicillin hypersensitivity reactions who have experienced severe hypersensitivity reactions when the proposition of individuals with a history of penicillin hypersensitivity reactions who have experienced severe hypersensitivity reactions when the proposition of individuals with a history of penicillin hypersensitivity reactions who have experienced severe hypersensitivity reactions when the

PRECAUTIONS

gastric malignancy. Information for Patients
PREVACID is available as a capsule, orally disintegrating tablet and oral suspension, and is available in 15 mg and 30 mg strengths. Directions for use specific to the route and available methods of administration for each of these dosage forms is presented below. PREVACID should be taken before eating. PREVACID products SHOULD NOT BE CRUSHED OR CHEWED.

urics: Contains Phenylalanine 2.5 mg per 15 mg Tablet and 5.1 mg per

0 mg Tablet.

dministration Options
1. PREVACID Delayed-Release Capsules
PREVACID Delayed-Release Capsules should be swallowed whole.

Alternatively, for patients who have difficulty swallowing capsules, PREVACID Delayed-

Open capsule.

Sprinkle intact granules on one tablespoon of either applesauce, ENSURE® pudding, cottage cheese, yogurt or strained pears.

Swallow immediately. Swallow immediately.
 PREVACID Delayed-Release Capsules may also be emptied into a small volume of either apple juice, orange juice or tomato juice and administered as follows:

Sprinkle intact granules into a small volume of either apple juice, orange juice or tomato juice (60 mL – approximately 2 ounces).

Lince (60 mL – approximatory 2 outcome).

Not briefly.

Swallow immediately,

To ensure complete delivery of the dose, the glass should be rinsed with two or more volumes of juice and the contents swallowed immediately.

USE IN OTHER FOODS AND LIQUIDS HAS NOT BEEN STUDIED CLINICALLY AND IS THEREFORE NOT RECOMMENDED.

2. PREVACIO Solu'ab Delayed-Release Orally Disintegrating Tablets
PREVACIO Solu'ab should not be chewed. Place the tablet on the tongue and allow it to disintegrate, with or without water, until the particles can be swallowed. The tablet typically disintegrates in less than 1 minute.
Alternatively, for children or other patients who have difficulty swallowing tablets, PREVACIO Solu'ab can be delivered in two different ways.
PREVACIO Solu'ab — Oral Syringe PREVACIO Solu'ab can be administered as follows:
Place a 15 mg tablet in oral syringe and draw up approximately 4 mL of water, or place a 30 mg tablet in oral syringe and draw up approximately 4 mL of water.
Shake gently to allow for a quick dispersal.
After the tablet has dispersed, administer the contents within 15 minutes.

Refill the syringe with approximately 2 mL (5 mL for the 30 mg tablet) of water, shake gently, and administer any remaining contents.

PREVACID SoluTab – Nasogastric Tube Administration (≥ 8 French)
For administration via a nasogastric tube, PREVACID SoluTab can be administered as

follows:

Place a 15 mg tablet in a syringe and draw up 4 mL of water, or place a 30 mg tablet in a syringe and draw up 10 mL of water.

Shake gently to allow for a quick dispersal.

After the tablet has dispersed, inject through the nasogastric tube into the stomach within

15 minutes.

Refill the syringe with approximately 5 mL of water, shake gently, and flush the nasogastric tube.

tube.
3. PREVACID for Delayed-Release Oral Suspension
REVACID for Delayed-Release Oral Suspension should be administered as follows:
Open packet

open packet.

To prepare a dose, empty the packet contents into a container containing 2 tablespoons of WATER. DO NOT USE OTHER LIQUIDS OR FOODS.

WAIEH. DO NOT USE OTHER LIQUIDS ON POODS.

Stir well, and drink immediately.

If any material remains after drinking, add more water, stir, and drink immediately.

This product should not be given through enteral administration tubes.

• This product should not be given through enteral administration tubes.

Purg Interactions

Lansoprazole is metabolized through the cytochrome P<sub>450</sub> system, specifically through the CYP3A and CYP2C19 sozymes. Studies have shown that lansoprazole does not had clinically significant interactions with other drugs metabolized by the cytochrome P<sub>45</sub> system, such as warfarin, antipyrine, indomethacin, bupprofen, phenyfoin, propranotic predinsione, diazepann, or clarithromycin in healthy subjects. These compounds a metabolized through various cytochrome P<sub>450</sub> isozymes including CYP1A2, CYP2C CYP2C19, CYP2D6, and CYP3A. When lansoprazole was administered concomitantly wit theophylline (CYP1A2, CYP2G3), a minor increase (10%) in the clearance of theophylline was seen. Because of the small magnitude and the direction of the effect on theophylline clearance, this interaction is unlikely to be of clinical concern. Nonetheless, individu patients may require additional trattation of their theophylline dosage when lansoprazole started or stopped to ensure clinically effective blood levels.

clearance, this interaction is unlikely to be of clinical concern. Nonetheless, individual patients may require additional titration of their theophylline dosage when lansoprazole is started or stopped to ensure clinically effective blood levels.

In a study of healthy subjects neither the planmacokinetics of warfarin enantitomers nor prothrombin time were affected following single or multiple 60 mg doses of lansoprazole, experimentally in the state of the proton pump inhibitors, including lansoprazole, and warfarin concomitants receiving proton pump inhibitors, including lansoprazole, and warfarin concomitants receiving proton pump inhibitors, including lansoprazole, and warfarin concomitant, increases in IRR and prothrombin time may lead to abnormal bleeding and even death. Patients treated with proton pump inhibitors and warfarin concomitantly increases in IRR and prothrombin time. Lansoprazole has also been shown to have no clinically significant interaction with amoxicillin. In a single-dose crossover study examining lansoprazole 30 mg and omerazole 20 mg eadministered alone and concomitantly with sucrelate 1 gram, absorption of the proton pump inhibitors was delayed and their bioavailability was reduced by 17% and 16%, respectively, when administered concomitantly with sucrelate. Therefore, proton pump inhibitors should be taken at least 30 minutes prior to sucrelate. In clinical trials, antacids were administered concomitantly with PREVACID Delayed-Release Capsules; this did not interfere with its effect.

Lansoprazole causes a profound and long-lasting inhibition of gastric acid secretion; therefore, it is theoretically possible that lansoprazole may interfere with the absorption of drugs where gastric pit is an important determinant of bioavailability (e.g., ketoconazole, ampicillin esters, iron salts, digoxin).

Carcinogenesis, Mulagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

In two 24-month carcinogenicity studies. Sprague-Dawley rats were treated orally with doses of 5 to 150 mg/kg/day, about 11 o40 times the

50 mg/kg/day (13 times the recommended human dose based on bod visurface area) in a 1-year fuxicity study.

In a 24-month carcinogenicity study, CD-1 mice were treated orally with doses of 15 to 600 mg/kg/day, 2 to 80 times the recommended human dose based on body surface area. Lansoprazole produced a dose-related increased incidence of gastrice CC. cell hyperplasia. It also produced an increased incidence of oliver tumors (hepatocellular adenoma plus carcinoma). The tumor incidences in male mice treated with 500 and 600 mg/kg/day (40 to 80 times the recommended human dose based on body surface area) and female mice treated with 510 600 mg/kg/day (20 to 80 times the recommended human dose based on body surface area) exceeded the ranges of background incidences in historical controls for this strain of mice. Lansoprazole treatment produced adenoma of ret testisis in male receiving 75 to 600 mg/kg/day (10 to 80 times the recommended human dose based on body surface area).

Lansoprazole was not genotoxic in the Ames test, the *ex vivo* rat hepatocyte unscheduled NA synthesis (UDS) test, the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test or the rat bone marrow cell chromosomal aberration test. It was positive in *in vitro* human hymphocyte chromosomal aberration assays.

Lansoprazole at oral doses up to 150 mg/kg/day (40 times the recommended human dose based on body surface area) was found to have no effect on fertility and reproductive performance of male and female rats.

Pregnancy: Teratogenic Effects.

Pregnancy: Teratogenic Effects.

Pregnancy: Studies have been performed in pregnazit rate at oral doses up to 150 mg/kg/day (12 to 150 mg/kg/day).

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There are, however, no adequate or well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed. gnancy Category C

MARNINGS (above) and full prescribing information for clarithromycin before using in

rsing Mothers soprazole or its metabolites are excreted in the milk of rats. It is not known whether soprazole is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, acuse of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from lansprazole, the because of the potential for tumorigenicity shown for lansoprazole in rat carcinogenicity dies, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the g, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

dilatric Use
e safety and effectiveness of PREVACID have been established in pediatric patients 1 to
years of age for short-term treatment of symptomatic GERD and erosive esophagitis. Use
PREVACID in this population is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled
ulies of PREVACID in adults with additional clinical, pharmacokinetic, and
armacodynamic studies performed in pediatric patients. The adverse events profile in
diatric patients is similar to that of adults. There were no adverse events profile in
diatric patients is similar to that of adults. There were no adverse events profile in
EVACID in patients <1 year of age have not been established.

On 11 veriars of active.

PREVACID in patients <1 year of age have not been established.

11 of 1 years of age
The pediatric safety of PREVACID Delayed-Release Capsules has been assessed in 66 pediatric patients aged 1 to 11 years of age. Of the 66 patients with GERD 85% (56(66) took PREVACID for 8 weeks and 15% (10/66) took it for 12 weeks.

The most frequently reported (2 or more patients) treatment-related adverse events in patients 1 to 11 years of age (He-66) were constipation (3%) and headache (3%).

patients 1 to 11 years or age (N=bb) were constipation (5%) and headache (3%).

12 to 17 years of age

The safety of PREVACID Delayed-Release Capsules has been assessed in these

R7 adolescent patients. Of the 87 adolescent patients with GERD, 6% (5/87) took PREVACID

for <6 weeks, 93% (8/1/87) for 6-10 weeks, and 1% (1/87) for 5-10 weeks.

The most frequently reported (at least 3%) treatment-related adverse events in these
patients were headache (7%), adominal pain (5%), nausea (3%) and dizziness (5%).

Treatment-related dizziness, reported in this spackage insert as occurring in <1% of adult

patients, was reported in this study by 3 adolescent patients with noncrosive GERD, who
had dizziness concurrently with other events (such as migraine, dyspnea, and vomitting).

Uces in Geriatric Patients
Ulcer healing rates in elderly patients are similar to those in a younger age group. The

eater rate in PRÉVACID-treated patients than placebo-treate Incidence of Possibly or Probably Treatment-Related Adverse Events in Short-Term, Place PREVACID (N= 1023) 12

and long-term trials.

The following adverse events were reported by the treating physician to have a possible or probable relationship to drug in 1% or more of PREVACID-treated patients and occurred at a greater rate in PREVACID-treated patients than placebo-treated patients.

Additional adverse experiences occurring in <1% of patients or subjects in domestic trials are shown below. Refer to Postmarkeling for adverse reactions occurring since the drug was marketed.

Body as a Whole – abdomen enlarged, allergic reaction, asthenia, back pain, candidiasis, carcinoma, chest pain (not otherwise specified), chills, edema, fever, flu syndrome, haltiosis, infection (not otherwise specified), malaise, neck pain, neck rigidity, pain, pelvic pain; arritythmia, pradycardia, cerebrovascular accident/cerebral infarction, hypertension/hypotension, migraine, myocardial infarction, palpitations, shock circulatory failure), syncope, tachycardia, vasodilation; Digestive System – ahonornal stools, anorexia, bezoar, cardiospasm, cholelithiasis, cotilist, dry mouth, dyspepsia, drysphagia, entertiis, eructation, esophageal storensis, esophageal ulcer, esophagilis, fecal discoloration, flatulence, gastric nodules/fundic gland polyps, gastritis, gastroenteritis, drysphagia, entertiis, eructation, esophageal storensis, esophageal ulcer, esophagilis, fecal discoloration, flatulence, gastric nodules/fundic gland polyps, gastritis, sgastroenteritis, guruta hemorrhage, hematemesis, increased appetite, increased salivation, melena, mouth ulceration, nauses and vomiting, nauses and vomiting, gastrointestinal enormage, pstomatitis, tensemus, thirst, tongue disorder, ulcerative colitis, current and Lymphatic System – anemia, hemolysis, lymphadenopathy, Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders – gout, delivdration, hyperplocensih/propolycenia, peripheral edema, weight gairnloss; Musculoskeletal System – anemia, hemolysis, lymphadenopathy, Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders – gout, delivdration, hyperplocensih/propolycenia, peripheral edema, weight gairnloss; Musculoskeletal System – athralgia, arthritis, bone disorder, joint disorder, general disorder, peripheral edema, synotivis, Mervous System – ahonormal drams, agitation, armesia, anxiety, apathy, contusion, convulsion, depersonalization, depression, diplopa, dizzness,

dysuria, gynecomastia, impotence, kidney calculus, kidney pain, leukorrhea, menorrhagia, camestrual disorder, penisi disorder, polyuria, testis disorder, uteritar pain, urinary frequency, urinary tract infection, urinary urgency, urination impaired, vaginitis.

Postmarketing
On-poing Safety Surveillance: Additional adverse experiences have been reported since lansoprazole has been marketed. The majority of these cases are foreign-sourced and a relationship to lansoprazole has not been established. Because these events were reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events are listed below by COSTART body system.

Body as a Whole- anaphylactoid-like reaction; Digastive System - hepatotoxicity, pancreatitis, vomiting; Hermic and Lymphatic System - agnanulocytosis, aplastic anemia, hemolytic anemia, leukopenia, neutropenia, pancytopenia, thrombocytopenia, and thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura; Skin and Appendages - severe dermatologic reactions including erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis (some tatal); Special Senses - Speech disorder, Urogarial System - urinary retention.

Combination Therapy with Amoxicillin and Clarithromycin
In clinical trials using combination share have concurred have been imitted to those that had been previously reported with PREVACID plus amoxicillin, or clarithromycin.

Triple Therapy: PREVACID plus amoxicillin, no adverse reactions speculiar to these drug combinations were observed. Adverse reactions that have occurred have been imitted to those that had been previously reported with PREVACID, amoxicillin, or clarithromycin.

Triple Therapy: PREVACID/amoxicillin/clarithromycin frequently reported adverse events for patients who received triple therapy for 14 days were diarrhea (7%), headache (6%), and taste perversion (5%). There were no statistically significantly higher rates with triple therapy trapient. Dual Therapy: PREVACID/amoxicillin

The most frequently reported adverse events for

wents:
Abnormal liver function tests, increased SGOT (AST), increased SGPT (ALT), increased reatinine, increased alkaline phosphatase, increased globulins, increased GGTP, creased/decreased/abnormal WBC, abnormal AG ratio, abnormal RBC, bilirubinemia, sosinophilla, hyperlipemia, increased/decreased electrolytes, increased/decreased/abnormal AG lation, abnormal AG lation, abnormal AG lation, and increased/abnormal content and lation and

and nematuria were aiso reported. Incomment of the proportion of the properties of t

particular to these drug combinations were observed.

For more information on laboratory value changes with amoxicillin or clarithromycin, refer to their package inserts, ADVERSE REACTIONS section.

overdose, the patient consumed 600 mg of lansoprazole with no adverse reaction.

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to their package inserts, ADVENSE REAUTIONS

OVERDOSAGE

Overage of the state of th