



January 20, 2006

Re: Zanaflex Capsules™ (tizanidine hydrochloride) Reporting of Dispensing and Medication Errors

Dear Colleague:

As part of a comprehensive program agreed to with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Acorda Therapeutics continues to educate healthcare professionals and patients about the important differences between Zanaflex Capsules™ (tizanidine hydrochloride) and tizanidine tablets or Zanaflex® tablets (tizanidine hydrochloride). Because the capsule and tablet formulations of tizanidine hydrochloride are not the same product and are not therapeutically equivalent, Acorda has implemented a Safety and Surveillance System to monitor dispensing errors associated with these two products.

Zanaflex Capsules are not AB rated to Zanaflex or tizanidine tablets. The pharmacokinetic differences between these products can result in clinically significant differences when switching between these formulations. The highest probability of an unanticipated change in patient tolerability is when a patient is switched from Zanaflex Capsules to tablets while taking the medication with food. The likelihood of this event occurring is increased by physician-instituted therapy with Zanaflex Capsules samples. Dosage form substitution should only be done after consultation with the prescribing physician. Please see the accompanying full prescribing information on Zanaflex Capsules for further information.

Since the launch of Zanaflex Capsules in April 2005, Acorda's Safety and Surveillance System continues to receive reports of dispensing errors resulting from unauthorized substitution of tizanidine tablets when Zanaflex Capsules were prescribed. Whether the dispensing error results in an adverse event or not, Acorda recommends that healthcare professionals and patients report the incident to the Food and Drug Administration.

If you become aware of a dispensing error, please report it to the Acorda Therapeutics Safety and Surveillance System at (800) 367-5109. In addition, healthcare professionals have been provided with FDA MedWatch forms so that an event can be reported directly to FDA. The FDA MedWatch website can be found at <http://www.fda.gov/medwatch>.

Thank you for your efforts to ensure the safety of those patients using Zanaflex Capsules and tizanidine tablets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Henney III", written over a horizontal line.

Herbert R. Henney III, Pharm D
Vice President, Medical Affairs

Enclosures: Zanaflex Capsules™ (tizanidine hydrochloride) Package Insert
Medical Information Request Form
FDA MedWatch Form