

Cover photo taken by Noel McManus

products associated with PR prolongation and those treated with class I antiarrhythmic drugs. Strong enzyme inducers such as rifampicin or St John's Wort may moderately reduce the systemic exposure of lacosamide. No significant effect on plasma concentrations of carbamazepine and valproic acid. Lacosamide plasma concentrations were not affected by carbamazepine and valproic acid. No clinically relevant interaction with ethinylestradiol and levonorgestrel. No effect on pharmacokinetics of digoxin. Pregnancy and lactation: Should not be used during pregnancy. For precautionary measures, breast feeding should be discontinued during treatment with lacosamide. Driving etc.: Patients are advised not to drive a car or operate other potentially hazardous machinery until they are familiar with the effects of VIMPAT on their ability to perform such activities.

Adverse Effects: Very common ($\geq 10\%$): Dizziness, headache, diplopia, nausea. Common (between 1%-10%): Depression, balance disorder, abnormal coordination, memory impairment, cognitive disorder, somnolence, tremor, nystagmus, blurred vision, vertigo, vomiting, constipation, flatulence, purpura, gait disturbance, asthenia, fatigue, fall, skin laceration. Adverse reactions associated with PR prolongation may occur. Consult SPC in relation to other side effects.

Pharmaceutical Precautions: Tablets: None. Syrup: Do not store above 30°C. Use within 4 weeks of first opening. Solution for infusion: Do not store above 25°C. Use immediately.

Legal Category: POM. Product Licence Numbers: 50 mg x 14 tabs: EU/1/08/470/001; 100 mg x 14 tabs: EU/1/08/470/004; 150 mg x 56 tabs: EU/1/08/470/005; 150 mg x 14 tabs: EU/1/08/470/007; 150 mg x 56 tabs: EU/1/08/470/008; 200 mg x 56 tabs: EU/1/08/470/011; Syrup (15 mg/ml) x 200 ml: EU/1/08/470/014; Solution for infusion (10 mg/ml) x 20 ml: EU/1/08/470/016.

Name and Address of PL Holder: UCB Pharma S.A., Allee de la Recherche 60, B-1070 Bruxelles, Belgium. Further information is available on request from: UCB Pharma Ireland Ltd, United Drug House, Magna Business Park, Citywest Road, Dublin 24.

Tel: 01 4637395. **Fax:** 01 4637396. **Email:** medicalinformation@ucb-group.com. **Date of Revision:** February 2009. VIMPAT is a registered trade name.

ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

(Please consult the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) before prescribing.)

VIMPAT 50 mg, 100 mg, 150 mg and 200 mg film-coated tablets

VIMPAT 15 mg/ml syrup

VIMPAT 10 mg/ml solution for infusion

Active ingredient: Tablets: lacosamide 50 mg, 100 mg, 150 mg and 200 mg film-coated tablets. Syrup: lacosamide 15 mg/ml. Solution for infusion: lacosamide 10 mg/ml.

Therapeutic Indications: VIMPAT is indicated as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalisation in patients with epilepsy aged 16 years and older. Dosage and Administration: Adults and adolescents from 16 years: Recommended starting dose is 50 mg twice a day which should be increased to an initial therapeutic dose of 100 mg twice a day after 1 week. Maximum daily dose of 400 mg (in two 200 mg doses). For solution for infusion: Infused over a period of 15 to 60 minutes twice daily. Can be administered i.v. without further dilution. Elderly: No dose reduction necessary. Age associated decreased renal clearance with an increase in AUC levels should be considered. Paediatric patients: Not recommended. Patients with renal impairment: No dose adjustment necessary in mild and moderate renal impairment. Dose adjustment is recommended in SPC for patients with severe renal impairment and patients with end-stage renal disease. Dose titration should be performed with caution. Patients with hepatic impairment: No dose adjustment needed in mild to moderate impairment. In accordance with current clinical practice, if VIMPAT has to be discontinued, it is recommended this be done gradually (e.g. taper the daily dose by 200 mg/week). **Contraindications, Warnings etc.:** Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to lacosamide or to any of the excipients. Known second- or third-degree atrioventricular conduction problems, severe cardiac disease or in elderly. Excipients in the syrup may cause allergic reactions (possibly delayed), should not be taken by those with fructose intolerance and may be harmful to patients with phenylketonuria. Monitor patients for signs of suicidal ideation and behaviour. Advise patients and carers to seek medical advice should such signs emerge. **Interactions:** Prolongations in PR interval with lacosamide have been observed in clinical studies. Use with caution in patients treated with

Advancing Epilepsy Management: Asking the Right Questions?



UCD Health Science Building

17th September 2009 Registration and buffet dinner at 18:15.
Meeting starts at 18:45 and will close at 20:15.
Chaired by Dr. Norman Delanty, Consultant Neurologist,
Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, Ireland

Please **save the date** and **register** your place at www.vervebookings.com/epilepsy
(See reverse for more details)



UCB (Pharma) Ireland is pleased to invite you to an educational meeting on 17th September at the UCD Health Science Building in Dublin. This meeting will focus on advances in epilepsy management by providing different views and experience from epilepsy colleagues from outside of Ireland.

We are pleased to include two esteemed international epilepsy specialists;

Dr William Rosenfeld, Comprehensive Epilepsy Care Center for Children & Adults, St Louis, USA

“Anti Epileptic Drugs: Past, Present and Lacosamide”

&

Professor Bernhard Steinhoff, Kork Epilepsy Center, Kork, Germany.

“New AED’s: Can we make a difference in the learning disability patient?”

The meeting will provide an opportunity for health care professionals to discuss and debate uses of new add-on anti-epileptic drugs with particular focus on clinical experiences with Lacosamide*.

We look forward to seeing you at what promises to be a highly informative and enjoyable meeting.

**To register your attendance please log onto
www.vervebookings.com/epilepsy**

**For more information about this meeting please contact
UCB at 01 4637395**

For your convenience transport to Dublin city centre will be provided after the meeting.

**See Reverse for Prescribing Information.*

This meeting is sponsored by

