PUBLIC COMMUNICATION
Health Canada Endorsed Important Safety Information on SPRYCEL* (dasatinib) and Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH)

Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada

30 August 2011

Subject: Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension reported with SPRYCEL* (dasatinib)

Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada (BMS), in collaboration with Health Canada, would like to inform patients and healthcare professionals of important new safety information regarding reports of serious pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) in patients treated with SPRYCEL* (dasatinib).

SPRYCEL* (dasatinib) is used to treat adult patients with a particular form (Philadelphia chromosome positive or Ph +) of newly diagnosed chronic myeloid leukemia (CML). It is also used to treat adult patients who have the same condition or acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) showing resistance or intolerance to previous therapies.

Pulmonary hypertension (PH) is an increased blood pressure in the pulmonary arteries. These arteries carry blood from the heart to the lungs to pick up oxygen. Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH), a subtype of pulmonary hypertension, is a rare, severe and progressive disease with no apparent cause.

- A total of 60 serious pulmonary hypertension (PH) cases have been reported worldwide, between June 2006 and June 2011, including 12 cases of confirmed pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), in association with SPRYCEL* treatment. No Canadian cases of PH or PAH have been reported during this time period.
- Patients should tell their healthcare professional if they have or have had any medical conditions, such as heart problem and/or lung disease before starting SPRYCEL* treatment.
- Patients should not stop treatment with SPRYCEL* or lower the dosage, without discussing their condition with their healthcare professional.
- The treating physician should be contacted if patients develop shortness of breath and/or fatigue, while being treated with SPRYCEL*. These could be signs of pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH).
- PAH can only be diagnosed by a healthcare professional. SPRYCEL* should be permanently discontinued if the diagnosis of PAH is confirmed.

Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) can lead to severe fluid retention in the body, shock and even death. It is important that patients recognize the following signs and symptoms of PAH while receiving SPRYCEL* (dasatinib): shortness of breath during routine activity, tiredness, chest pain, racing heartbeat, pain on the upper right side of the abdomen, swelling or weight gain. Patients should contact their healthcare professional, if they experience any of these signs and symptoms.

BMS Canada has worked with Health Canada to include the new safety information regarding SPRYCEL* (dasatinib) associated with PH or PAH into the Canadian Product Monograph (CPM), the reference document that healthcare professionals use when prescribing a drug, and the Consumer Information Leaflet (CIL). These documents can be found at www.bmscanada.ca or by contacting Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada, at 1-866-463-6267.

Managing marketed health product-related adverse reactions depends on health care professionals and consumers reporting them. Reporting rates determined on the basis of spontaneously reported post-marketing adverse reactions are generally presumed to underestimate the risks associated with health product treatments. Any case of PH or PAH and other serious or unexpected adverse drug reactions in patients receiving SPRYCEL* (dasatinib) should be reported to BMS Canada or Health Canada at the following addresses:

Any suspected adverse drug reactions can be reported to:

Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada
2344 Alfred-Nobel, suite 300
Montréal, Canada
H4S 0A4
Tel: 866-463-6267

You can also report any suspected adverse reactions associated with the use of health products to Health Canada Vigilance Program by one of the following ways:

- Report online at www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect
- Call toll-free at 1-866-234-2345 or 613-957-0337
- Complete a Reporting Form and Fax toll-free to 1-866-678-6789,
- Email: CanadaVigilance@hc-sc.gc.ca
- Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program
  Health Canada
  Postal Locator 0701E
  Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9
  Tel: 613-957-0337 or Fax: 613-957-0335

The Canada Vigilance Adverse Reaction Reporting Form, postage paid labels, and the Adverse Reaction Guidelines can be found on the MedEffect™ Health Canada Web site or in the *Canadian Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties:*

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/medeff/report-declaration/ar-ei_form-eng.php
http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/pubs/medeff/_fs-if/2009-ar-ei-guide-prof/index-eng.php

For other health product inquiries related to this communication, please contact Health Canada at:
Marketed Health Products Directorate (MHPD)
E-mail: mhpd_dpsc@hc-sc.gc.ca
Telephone: 613-954-6522
Fax: 613-952-7738

Sincerely,

original signed by

H. Mitchell Shulman, MDCM, FRCPC, CSPQ
Vice-President, Medical

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