HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION
These highlights do not include all the information needed to use Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection for Intravenous Use safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection

PALONOSETRON hydrochloride Injection for Intravenous Use

Initial U.S. Approval: 2003

RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Indication (1.2)	05/2014
Dosage and Administration, Pediatric Cancer Patients (2.1)	05/2014
Warnings and Precautions (5.2)	09/2014

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is a serotonin-3 (5-HT_3) receptor antagonist indicated in adults for:
- Moderately emetogenic cancer chemotherapy -- prevention of acute and delayed nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses (1.1)
- Highly emetogenic cancer chemotherapy -- prevention of acute nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses (1.1)
- Prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) for up to 24 hours following surgery. Efficacy beyond 24 hours has not been demonstrated (1.3)

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is indicated in pediatric patients aged 1 month to less than 17 years for:
- Prevention of acute nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses of emetogenic cancer chemotherapy, including highly emetogenic cancer chemotherapy (1.2)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting (2.1)

Age	Dose*	Infusion Time
Adults	**0.25 mg** x 1	Infuse over **30 seconds** beginning approx. 30 min before the start of chemo
Pediatrics (1 month to less than 17 years)	**20 micrograms per kilogram** (max 1.5 mg) x 1	Infuse over **15 minutes** beginning approx. 30 min before the start of chemo

*Note different dosing units in pediatrics

Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting (2.1)
- Adult Dosage: a single 0.075 mg intravenous dose administered over 10 seconds immediately before the induction of anesthesia.

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

0.25 mg/5mL (free base) single-use vial (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is contraindicated in patients known to have hypersensitivity to the drug or any of its components (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylaxis, have been reported with or without known hypersensitivity to other selective 5-HT_3 receptor antagonists (5.1)
- Serotonin syndrome has been reported with 5-HT_3 receptor antagonists alone but particularly with concomitant use of serotonergic drugs (5.2)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The most common adverse reactions in chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting in adults (incidence ≥5%) are headache and constipation (6.1).

The most common adverse reactions in postoperative nausea and vomiting (incidence ≥ 2%) are QT prolongation, bradycardia, headache, and constipation (6.2).

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Accord Healthcare Inc. at 1-866-941-7875 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

The potential for clinically significant drug interactions with palonosetron appears to be low (7)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting
Pediatric use: Safety and effectiveness in neonates (less than 1 month of age) have not been established (8.4)
Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting
Safety and Effectiveness in patients below the age of 18 years have not been established (8.4)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved Patient Labeling

Revised: 08/2015

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS*

* Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

1.1 Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting in Adults

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is indicated for:
- Moderately emetogenic cancer chemotherapy -- prevention of acute and delayed nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses
- Highly emetogenic cancer chemotherapy -- prevention of acute nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses

1.2 Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting in Pediatric Patients Aged 1 Month to Less than 17 Years

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is indicated for prevention of acute nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses of emetogenic cancer chemotherapy, including highly emetogenic cancer chemotherapy.

1.3 Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting in Adults

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is indicated for prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) for up to 24 hours following surgery. Efficacy beyond 24 hours has not been demonstrated.

As with other antiemetics, routine prophylaxis is not recommended in patients in whom there is little expectation that nausea and/or vomiting will occur postoperatively. In patients where nausea and vomiting must be avoided during the postoperative period, Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is recommended even where the incidence of postoperative nausea and/or vomiting is low.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Recommended Dosing

Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting

Age	Dose*	Infusion Time
Adults	**0.25 mg** x 1	Infuse over **30 seconds** beginning approx. 30 min before the start of chemo
Pediatrics (1 month to less than 17 years)	**20 micrograms per kilogram** (max 1.5 mg) x 1	Infuse over **15 minutes** beginning approx. 30 min before the start of chemo

*Note different dosing units in pediatrics

Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting

Dosage for Adults - a single 0.075 mg intravenous dose administered over 10 seconds immediately before the induction of anesthesia.

2.2 Instructions for Intravenous Administration

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is supplied ready for intravenous administration at a concentration of 0.05 mg/mL (50 mcg/ mL). Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection should not be mixed with other drugs. The infusion line should be flushed with normal saline before and after administration of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection. Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration before administration, whenever solution and container permit.

3 DOSAGE FORM AND STRENGTHS

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is supplied as a single-use sterile, clear, colorless solution in glass vials that provide:
- 0.25 mg (free base) per 5 mL (concentration: 0.05 mg/mL, 50 mcg/mL)

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is contraindicated in patients known to have hypersensitivity to the drug or any of its components [*see Adverse Reactions (6.2)*].

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Hypersensitivity

Hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylaxis, have been reported with or without known hypersensitivity to other 5-HT_3 receptor antagonists.

5.2 Serotonin Syndrome

The development of serotonin syndrome has been reported with 5-HT_3 receptor antagonists. Most reports have been associated with concomitant use of serotonergic drugs (e.g., selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), monoamine oxidase inhibitors, mirtazapine, fentanyl, lithium, tramadol, and intravenous methylene blue). Some of the reported cases were fatal. Serotonin syndrome occurring with overdose of another 5-HT_3 receptor antagonist alone has also been reported. The majority of reports of serotonin syndrome related to 5-HT_3 receptor antagonist use occurred in a post-anesthesia care unit or an infusion center.

Symptoms associated with serotonin syndrome may include the following combination of signs and symptoms: mental status changes (e.g., agitation, hallucinations, delirium, and coma), autonomic instability (e.g., tachycardia, labile blood pressure, dizziness, diaphoresis, flushing, hyperthermia), neuromuscular symptoms (e.g., tremor, rigidity, myoclonus, hyperreflexia, incoordination), seizures, with or without gastrointestinal symptoms (e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhea). Patients should be monitored for the emergence of serotonin syndrome, especially with concomitant use of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and other serotonergic drugs. If symptoms of serotonin syndrome occur, discontinue Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and initiate supportive treatment. Patients should be informed of the increased risk of serotonin syndrome, especially if Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is used concomitantly with other serotonergic drugs [*see Drug Interactions (7), Patient Counseling Information (17)*].

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

6.1 Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting

Adults

In clinical trials for the prevention of nausea and vomiting induced by moderately or highly emetogenic chemotherapy, 1374 adult patients received palonosetron. Adverse reactions were similar in frequency and severity with Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and ondansetron or dolasetron. Following is a listing of all adverse reactions reported by ≥ 2% of patients in these trials (Table 1).

Table 1: Adverse Reactions from Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting Studies ≥2% in any Treatment Group

Event	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg (N=633)	Ondansetron 32 mg I.V. (N=410)	Dolasetron 100 mg I.V. (N=194)
Headache	60 (9%)	34 (8%)	32 (16%)
Constipation	29 (5%)	8 (2%)	12 (6%)
Diarrhea	8 (1%)	7 (2%)	4 (2%)
Dizziness	8 (1%)	9 (2%)	4 (2%)
Fatigue	3 (< 1%)	4 (1%)	4 (2%)
Abdominal Pain	1 (< 1%)	2 (< 1%)	3 (2%)
Insomnia	1 (< 1%)	3 (1%)	3 (2%)

In other studies, 2 subjects experienced severe constipation following a single palonosetron dose of approximately 0.75 mg, three times the recommended dose. One patient received a 10 mcg/kg oral dose in a post-operative nausea and vomiting study and one healthy subject received a 0.75 mg I.V. dose in a pharmacokinetic study.

In clinical trials, the following infrequently reported adverse reactions, assessed by investigators as treatment-related or causality unknown, occurred following administration of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection to adult patients receiving concomitant cancer chemotherapy:

Cardiovascular: 1%: non-sustained tachycardia, bradycardia, hypotension, < 1%: hypertension, myocardial ischemia, extrasystoles, sinus tachycardia, sinus arrhythmia, supraventricular extrasystoles and QT prolongation. In many cases, the relationship to Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection was unclear.
Dermatological: < 1%: allergic dermatitis, rash.
Hearing and Vision: < 1%: motion sickness, tinnitus, eye irritation and amblyopia.
Gastrointestinal System: 1%: diarrhea, < 1%: dyspepsia, abdominal pain, dry mouth, hiccups and flatulence.
General: 1%: weakness, < 1%: fatigue, fever, hot flash, flu-like syndrome.
Liver: < 1%: transient, asymptomatic increases in AST and/or ALT and bilirubin. These changes occurred predominantly in patients receiving highly emetogenic chemotherapy.
Metabolic: 1%: hyperkalemia, < 1%: electrolyte fluctuations, hyperglycemia, metabolic acidosis, glycosuria, appetite decrease, anorexia.
Musculoskeletal: < 1%: arthralgia.
Nervous System: 1%: dizziness, < 1%: somnolence, insomnia, hypersomnia, paresthesia.
Psychiatric: 1%: anxiety, < 1%: euphoric mood.
Urinary System: < 1%: urinary retention.
Vascular: < 1%: vein discoloration, vein distention.

Pediatrics

In a pediatric clinical trial for the prevention of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting 163 cancer patients received a single 20 mcg/kg (maximum 1.5 mg) intravenous infusion of palonosetron 30 minutes before beginning the first cycle of emetogenic chemotherapy. Patients had a mean age of 8.4 years (range 2 months to 16.9 years) and were 46% male; and 93% white.

The following adverse reactions were reported for palonosetron:
Nervous System: <1%: headache, dizziness, dyskinesia.
General: <1%: infusion site pain.
Dermatological: <1%: allergic dermatitis, skin disorder.
In the trial, adverse reactions were evaluated in pediatric patients receiving palonosetron for up to 4 chemotherapy cycles.

6.2 Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting

The adverse reactions cited in Table 2 were reported in ≥ 2% of adults receiving I.V. Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.075 mg immediately before induction of anesthesia in one phase 2 and two phase 3 randomized placebo-controlled trials. Rates of events between palonosetron and placebo groups were similar. Some events are known to be associated with, or may be exacerbated by concomitant perioperative and intraoperative medications administered in this surgical population. Please refer to Section 12.2, thorough QT/QTc study results, for data demonstrating the lack of palonosetron effect on QT/QTc.

Table 2: Adverse Reactions from Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting Studies ≥ 2% in any Treatment Group

Event	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.075 mg (N=336)	Placebo (N=369)
Electrocardiogram QT prolongation	16 (5%)	11 (3%)
Bradycardia	13 (4%)	16 (4%)
Headache	11 (3%)	14 (4%)
Constipation	8 (2%)	11(3%)

In these clinical trials, the following infrequently reported adverse reactions, assessed by investigators as treatment-related or causality unknown, occurred following administration of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection to adult patients receiving concomitant perioperative and intraoperative medications including those associated with anesthesia:

Cardiovascular: 1%: electrocardiogram QTc prolongation, sinus bradycardia, tachycardia, < 1%: blood pressure decreased, hypotension, hypertension, arrhythmia, ventricular extrasystoles, generalized edema, ECG T wave amplitude decreased, platelet count decreased. The frequency of these adverse effects did not appear to be different from placebo.
Dermatological: 1%: pruritus.
Gastrointestinal System: 1%: flatulence, < 1%: dry mouth, upper abdominal pain, salivary hypersecretion, dyspepsia, diarrhea, intestinal hypomotility, anorexia.
General: < 1%: chills.
Liver: 1%: increases in AST and/or ALT, < 1%: hepatic enzyme increased.
Metabolic: < 1%: hypokalemia, anorexia.
Nervous System: < 1%: dizziness.
Respiratory: < 1%: hypoventilation, laryngospasm.
Urinary System: 1%: urinary retention.

6.3 Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse reactions have been identified during postapproval use of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Very rare cases (<1/10,000) of hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis and anaphylactic shock and injection site reactions (burning, induration, discomfort and pain) were reported from postmarketing experience of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg in the prevention of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting.

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

Palonosetron is eliminated from the body through both renal excretion and metabolic pathways with the latter mediated via multiple CYP enzymes. Further *in vitro* studies indicated that palonosetron is not an inhibitor of CYP1A2, CYP2A6, CYP2B6, CYP2C9, CYP2D6, CYP2E1 and, CYP3A4/5 (CYP2C19 was not investigated) nor does it induce the activity of CYP1A2, CYP2D6, or CYP3A4/5. Therefore, the potential for clinically significant drug interactions with palonosetron appears to be low.

Serotonin syndrome (including altered mental status, autonomic instability, and neuromuscular symptoms) has been described following the concomitant use of 5-HT_3 receptor antagonists and other serotonergic drugs, including selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and serotonin and noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Coadministration of 0.25 mg I.V. palonosetron and 20 mg I.V. dexamethasone in healthy subjects revealed no pharmacokinetic drug-interactions between palonosetron and dexamethasone.

In an interaction study in healthy subjects where palonosetron 0.25 mg (I.V. bolus) was administered on day 1 and oral aprepitant for 3 days (125 mg/80 mg/80 mg), the pharmacokinetics of palonosetron were not significantly altered (AUC: no change, C_{max}: 15% increase).

A study in healthy volunteers involving single-dose I.V. palonosetron (0.75 mg) and steady state oral metoclopramide (10 mg four times daily) demonstrated no significant pharmacokinetic interaction.

In controlled clinical trials, Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection has been safely administered with corticosteroids, analgesics, antiemetics/antinauseants, antispasmodics and anticholinergic agents.

Palonosetron did not inhibit the antitumor activity of the five chemotherapeutic agents tested (cisplatin, cyclophosphamide, cytarabine, doxorubicin, and mitomycin c) in murine tumor models.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Pregnancy Category B

Risk Summary

Adequate and well controlled studies with Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection have not been conducted in pregnant women. In animal reproduction studies, no effects on embryo-fetal development were observed with the administration of oral palonosetron during the period of organogenesis at doses up to 1894 and 3789 times the recommended human intravenous dose in rats and rabbits, respectively. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Animal Data

In animal studies, no effects on embryo-fetal development were observed in pregnant rats given oral palonosetron at doses up to 60 mg/kg/day (1894 times the recommended human intravenous dose based on body surface area) or pregnant rabbits given oral doses up to 60 mg/kg/day (3789 times the recommended human intravenous dose based on body surface area) during the period of organogenesis.

8.3 Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is present in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk and because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants and the potential for tumorigenicity shown for palonosetron in the rat carcinogenicity study *[see Nonclinical Toxicology (13.1)]*, 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.

8.4 Pediatric Use

Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting

Safety and effectiveness of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection have been established in pediatric patients aged 1 month to less than 17 years for the prevention of acute nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses of emetogenic cancer chemotherapy, including highly emetogenic cancer chemotherapy. Use is supported by a clinical trial where 165 pediatric patients aged 2 months to <17 years were randomized to receive a single dose of palonosetron 20 mcg/kg (maximum 1.5 mg) administered as an intravenous infusion 30 minutes prior to the start of emetogenic chemotherapy [*see Clinical Studies (14.2)]*. While this study demonstrated that pediatric patients require a higher palonosetron dose than adults to prevent chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting, the safety profile is consistent with the established profile in adults [*see Adverse Reactions (6.1)]*.

Safety and effectiveness of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection in neonates (less than 1 month of age) have not been established.

Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting Studies

Safety and efficacy have not been established in pediatric patients for prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting. Two pediatric trials were performed.

Pediatric Study 1, a dose finding study, was conducted to compare two doses of palonosetron, 1 mcg/kg (max 0.075 mg) versus 3 mcg/kg (max 0.25 mg). A total of 150 pediatric surgical patients participated, age range 1 month to <17 years. No dose response was observed.

Pediatric Study 2, a multicenter, double-blind, double-dummy, randomized, parallel group, active control, single-dose non-inferiority study, compared I.V. palonosetron (1 mcg/kg, max 0.075 mg) versus I.V. ondansetron. A total of 670 pediatric surgical patients participated, age 30 days to <17 years. The primary efficacy endpoint, Complete Response (CR: no vomiting, no retching, and no antiemetic rescue medication) during the first 24 hours postoperatively was achieved in 78.2% of patients in the palonosetron group and 82.7% in the ondansetron group. Given the pre-specified non-inferiority margin of -10%, the stratum adjusted Mantel-Haenszel statistical non-inferiority confidence interval for the difference in the primary endpoint, complete response (CR), was [-10.5, 1.7%], therefore non-inferiority was not demonstrated. Adverse reactions to palonosetron were similar to those reported in adults (Table 2).

8.5 Geriatric Use

Population pharmacokinetics analysis did not reveal any differences in palonosetron pharmacokinetics between cancer patients ≥ 65 years of age and younger patients (18 to 64 years). Of the 1374 adult cancer patients in clinical studies of palonosetron, 316 (23%) were ≥ 65 years old, while 71 (5%) were ≥ 75 years old. No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects and the younger subjects, but greater sensitivity in some older individuals cannot be ruled out. No dose adjustment or special monitoring are required for geriatric patients.

Of the 1520 adult patients in Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection PONV clinical studies, 73 (5%) were ≥65 years old. No overall differences in safety were observed between older and younger subjects in these studies, though the possibility of heightened sensitivity in some older individuals cannot be excluded. No differences in efficacy were observed in geriatric patients for the CINV indication and none are expected for geriatric PONV patients. However, Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection efficacy in geriatric patients has not been adequately evaluated.

8.6 Renal Impairment

Mild to moderate renal impairment does not significantly affect palonosetron pharmacokinetic parameters. Total systemic exposure increased by approximately 28% in severe renal impairment relative to healthy subjects. Dosage adjustment is not necessary in patients with any degree of renal impairment.

8.7 Hepatic Impairment

Hepatic impairment does not significantly affect total body clearance of palonosetron compared to the healthy subjects. Dosage adjustment is not necessary in patients with any degree of hepatic impairment.

8.8 Race

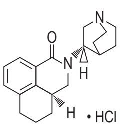
Intravenous palonosetron pharmacokinetics was characterized in twenty-four healthy Japanese subjects over the dose range of 3 – 90 mcg/kg. Total body clearance was 25% higher in Japanese subjects compared to Whites, however, no dose adjustment is required. The pharmacokinetics of palonosetron in Blacks has not been adequately characterized.

10 OVERDOSAGE

There is no known antidote to Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection. Overdose should be managed with supportive care. Fifty adult cancer patients were administered palonosetron at a dose of 90 mcg/kg (equivalent to 6 mg fixed dose) as part of a dose ranging study. This is approximately 25 times the recommended dose of 0.25 mg. This dose group had a similar incidence of adverse events compared to the other dose groups and no dose response effects were observed. Dialysis studies have not been performed, however, due to the large volume of distribution, dialysis is unlikely to be an effective treatment for palonosetron overdose. A single intravenous dose of palonosetron at 30 mg/kg (947 and 474 times the human dose for rats and mice, respectively, based on body surface area) was lethal to rats and mice. The major signs of toxicity were convulsions, gasping, pallor, cyanosis, and collapse.

11 DESCRIPTION

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is an antiemetic and antinauseant agent. It is a serotonin-3 (5-HT_3) receptor antagonist with a strong binding affinity for this receptor. Chemically, palonosetron hydrochloride is: (3aS)-2-[(S)-1-Azabicyclo [2.2.2]oct-3-yl]-2,3,3a,4,5,6-hexahydro-1-oxo-1*H*benz[*de*]isoquinoline hydrochloride. The empirical formula is $C_{19}H_{24}N_2O.HCl$, with a molecular weight of 332.87. Palonosetron hydrochloride exists as a single isomer and has the following structural formula:



Palonosetron hydrochloride is a white to off-white crystalline powder. It is freely soluble in water, soluble in propylene glycol, and slightly soluble in ethanol and 2-propanol.

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is a sterile, clear, colorless, nonpyrogenic, isotonic, buffered solution for intravenous administration. Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is available as 5 mL single use vial. Each 5 mL vial contains 0.25 mg palonosetron base as 0.28 mg palonosetron hydrochloride, 207.5 mg mannitol, disodium edetate and citrate buffer in water for intravenous administration.

The pH of the solution in the 5 mL vials is 4.5 to 5.5.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Palonosetron is a 5-HT_3 receptor antagonist with a strong binding affinity for this receptor and little or no affinity for other receptors.

Cancer chemotherapy may be associated with a high incidence of nausea and vomiting, particularly when certain agents, such as cisplatin, are used. 5-HT_3 receptors are located on the nerve terminals of the vagus in the periphery and centrally in the chemoreceptor trigger zone of the area postrema. It is thought that chemotherapeutic agents produce nausea and vomiting by releasing serotonin from the enterochromaffin cells of the small intestine and that the released serotonin then activates 5-HT_3 receptors located on vagal afferents to initiate the vomiting reflex.

Postoperative nausea and vomiting is influenced by multiple patient, surgical, and anesthesia related factors and is triggered by release of 5-HT in a cascade of neuronal events involving both the central nervous system and the gastrointestinal tract. The 5-HT_3 receptor has been demonstrated to selectively participate in the emetic response.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

The effect of palonosetron on blood pressure, heart rate, and ECG parameters including QTc were comparable to ondansetron and dolasetron in CINV clinical trials. In PONV clinical trials the effect of palonosetron on the QTc interval was no different from placebo. In non-clinical studies palonosetron possesses the ability to block ion channels involved in ventricular de- and re-polarization and to prolong action potential duration.

The effect of palonosetron on QTc interval was evaluated in a double blind, randomized, parallel, placebo, and positive (moxifloxacin) controlled trial in adult men and women. The objective was to evaluate the ECG effects of I.V. administered palonosetron at single doses of 0.25, 0.75, or 2.25 mg in 221 healthy subjects. The study demonstrated no significant effect on any ECG interval including QTc duration (cardiac repolarization) at doses up to 2.25 mg.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

After intravenous dosing of palonosetron in healthy subjects and cancer patients, an initial decline in plasma concentrations is followed by a slow elimination from the body. Mean maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) and area under the concentration-time curve ($AUC_{0-\infty}$) are generally dose-proportional over the dose range of 0.3–90 mcg/kg in healthy subjects and in cancer patients. Following single I.V. dose of palonosetron at 3 mcg/kg (or 0.21 mg/70 kg) to six cancer patients, mean (±SD) maximum plasma concentration was estimated to be 5630 ± 5480 ng/L and mean AUC was 35.8 ± 20.9 h•mcg/L.

Following I.V. administration of palonosetron 0.25 mg once every other day for 3 doses in 11 cancer patients, the mean increase in plasma palonosetron concentration from Day 1 to Day 5 was 42±34%. Following I.V. administration of palonosetron 0.25 mg once daily for 3 days in 12 healthy subjects, the mean (±SD) increase in plasma palonosetron concentration from Day 1 to Day 3 was 110±45%.

After intravenous dosing of palonosetron in patients undergoing surgery (abdominal surgery or vaginal hysterectomy), the pharmacokinetic characteristics of palonosetron were similar to those observed in cancer patients.

Distribution

Palonosetron has a volume of distribution of approximately 8.3 ± 2.5 L/kg. Approximately 62% of palonosetron is bound to plasma proteins.

Metabolism

Palonosetron is eliminated by multiple routes with approximately 50% metabolized to form two primary metabolites: N-oxide-palonosetron and 6-S-hydroxy-palonosetron. These metabolites each have less than 1% of the 5-HT_3 receptor antagonist activity of palonosetron. *In vitro* metabolism studies have suggested that CYP2D6 and to a lesser extent, CYP3A4 and CYP1A2 are involved in the metabolism of palonosetron. However, clinical pharmacokinetic parameters are not significantly different between poor and extensive metabolizers of CYP2D6 substrates.

Elimination

After a single intravenous dose of 10 mcg/kg [^{14}C]-palonosetron, approximately 80% of the dose was recovered within 144 hours in the urine with palonosetron representing approximately 40% of the administered dose. In healthy subjects, the total body clearance of palonosetron was 0.160 ± 0.035 L/h/kg and renal clearance was 0.067± 0.018 L/h/kg. Mean terminal elimination half-life is approximately 40 hours.

Specific Populations

Pediatric Patients

Single-dose I.V. Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection pharmacokinetic data was obtained from a subset of pediatric cancer patients that received 10 mcg/kg or 20 mcg/kg. When the dose was increased from 10 mcg/kg to 20 mcg/kg a dose-proportional increase in mean AUC was observed. Following single dose intravenous infusion of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 20 mcg/kg, peak plasma concentrations (CT) reported at the end of the 15 minute infusion were highly variable in all age groups and tended to be lower in patients < 6 years than in older patients. Median half-life was 29.5 hours in overall age groups and ranged from about 20 to 30 hours across age groups after administration of 20 mcg/kg.

The total body clearance (L/h/kg) in patients 12 to 17 years old was similar to that in healthy adults. There are no apparent differences in volume of distribution when expressed as L/kg.

Table 3: Pharmacokinetics Parameters in Pediatric Cancer Patients Following Intravenous Infusion of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection at 20 mcg/kg over 15 min

PK Parameter [a]	Pediatric Age Group			
	<2 y	**2 to <6 y**	**6 to <12 y**	**12 to <17 y**
	N=12	**N=42**	**N=38**	**N=44**
C_T [b], ng/L	9025 (197)	9414 (252)	16275 (203)	11831 (176)
		N=5	**N=7**	**N=10**
$AUC_{0-\infty}$, h·mcg/L		103.5 (40.4)	98.7 (47.7)	124.5 (19.1)
	N=6	**N=14**	**N=13**	**N=19**
Clearance [c], L/h/kg	0.31 (34.7)	0.23 (51.3)	0.19 (46.8)	0.16 (27.8)
Vss [c], L/kg	6.08 (36.5)	5.29 (57.8)	6.26 (40.0)	6.20 (29.0)

[a] Geometric Mean (CV) except for t1/2 which is median values.
[b] C_T is the plasma palonosetron concentration at the end of the 15 minute infusion.
[c] Clearance and Vss calculated from 10 and 20 mcg/kg and are weight adjusted.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

In a 104-week carcinogenicity study in CD-1 mice, animals were treated with oral doses of palonosetron at 10, 30, and 60 mg/kg/day. Treatment with palonosetron was not tumorigenic. The highest tested dose produced a systemic exposure to palonosetron (Plasma AUC) of about 150 to 289 times the human exposure (AUC= 29.8 h•mcg/L) at the recommended intravenous dose of 0.25 mg. In a 104-week carcinogenicity study in Sprague-Dawley rats, male and female rats were treated with oral doses of 15, 30, and 60 mg/kg/day and 15, 45, and 90 mg/kg/day, respectively. The highest doses produced a systemic exposure to palonosetron (Plasma AUC) of 137 and 308 times the human exposure at the recommended dose. Treatment with palonosetron produced increased incidences of adrenal benign pheochromocytoma and combined benign and malignant pheochromocytoma, increased incidences of pancreatic Islet cell adenoma and combined adenoma and carcinoma and pituitary adenoma in male rats. In female rats, it produced hepatocellular adenoma and carcinoma and increased the incidences of thyroid C-cell adenoma and combined adenoma and carcinoma.

Palonosetron was not genotoxic in the Ames test, the Chinese hamster ovarian cell (CHO/HGPRT) forward mutation test, the *ex vivo* hepatocyte unscheduled DNA synthesis (UDS) test, or the mouse micronucleus test. It was, however, positive for clastogenic effects in the Chinese hamster ovarian (CHO) cell chromosomal aberration test.

Palonosetron at oral doses up to 60 mg/kg/day (about 1894 times the recommended human intravenous dose based on body surface area) was found to have no effect on fertility and reproductive performance of male and female rats.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting in Adults

Efficacy of single-dose palonosetron injection in preventing acute and delayed nausea and vomiting induced by both moderately and highly emetogenic chemotherapy was studied in three Phase 3 trials and one Phase 2 trial. In these double-blind studies, complete response rates (no emetic episodes and no rescue medication) and other efficacy parameters were assessed through at least 120 hours after administration of chemotherapy. The safety and efficacy of palonosetron in repeated courses of chemotherapy was also assessed.

Moderately Emetogenic Chemotherapy

Two Phase 3, double-blind trials involving 1132 patients compared single-dose I.V. Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection with either single-dose I.V. ondansetron (study 1) or dolasetron (study 2) given 30 minutes prior to moderately emetogenic chemotherapy including carboplatin, cisplatin ≤ 50 mg/m², cyclophosphamide < 1500 mg/m², doxorubicin > 25 mg/m², epirubicin, irinotecan, and methotrexate > 250 mg/m². Concomitant corticosteroids were not administered prophylactically in study 1 and were only used by 4-6% of patients in study 2. The majority of patients in these studies were women (77%), White (65%) and naïve to previous chemotherapy (54%). The mean age was 55 years.

Highly Emetogenic Chemotherapy

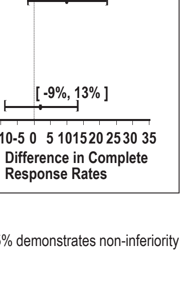
A Phase 2, double-blind, dose-ranging study evaluated the efficacy of single-dose I.V. palonosetron from 0.3 to 90 mcg/kg (equivalent to < 0.1 mg to 6 mg fixed dose) in 161 chemotherapy-naïve adult cancer patients receiving highly-emetogenic chemotherapy (either cisplatin ≥ 70 mg/m² or cyclophosphamide > 1100 mg/m²). Concomitant corticosteroids were not administered prophylactically. Analysis of data from this trial indicates that 0.25 mg is the lowest effective dose in preventing acute nausea and vomiting induced by highly emetogenic chemotherapy.

A Phase 3, double-blind trial involving 667 patients compared single-dose I.V. Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection with single-dose I.V. ondansetron (study 3) given 30 minutes prior to highly emetogenic chemotherapy including cisplatin ≥ 60 mg/m², cyclophosphamide > 1500 mg/m², and dacarbazine. Corticosteroids were co-administered prophylactically before chemotherapy in 67% of patients. Of the 667 patients, 51% were women, 60% White, and 59% naïve to previous chemotherapy. The mean age was 52 years.

Efficacy Results

The antiemetic activity of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection was evaluated during the acute phase (0-24 hours) [Table 4], delayed phase (24-120 hours) [Table 5], and overall phase (0-120 hours) [Table 6] post-chemotherapy in Phase 3 trials.

Table 4: Prevention of Acute Nausea and Vomiting (0-24 hours):
Complete Response Rates

Chemotherapy	Study	Treatment Group	N [a]	% with Complete Response	p-value [b]	97.5% Confidence Interval Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection minus Comparator [c]
Moderately Emetogenic	1	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg	189	81	0.009	
		Ondansetron 32 mg I.V.	185	69		
	2	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg	189	63	NS	
		Dolasetron 100 mg I.V.	191	53		
Highly Emetogenic	3	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg	223	59	NS	
		Ondansetron 32 mg I.V.	221	57		

a Intent-to-treat cohort
b 2-sided Fisher's exact test. Significance level at α=0.025.
c These studies were designed to show non-inferiority. A lower bound greater than –15% demonstrates non-inferiority between Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and comparator.

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These studies show that Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection was effective in the prevention of acute nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses of moderately and highly emetogenic cancer chemotherapy. In study 3, efficacy was greater when prophylactic corticosteroids were administered concomitantly. Clinical superiority over other 5-HT_3 receptor antagonists has not been adequately demonstrated in the acute phase.

Table 5: Prevention of Delayed Nausea and Vomiting (24-120 hours):
Complete Response Rates

Chemotherapy	Study	Treatment Group	N [a]	% with Complete Response	p-value [b]	97.5% Confidence Interval Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection minus Comparator [c]
Moderately Emetogenic	1	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg	189	74	<0.001	
		Ondansetron 32 mg I.V.	185	55		[8%, 30%]
	2	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg	189	54	0.004	
		Dolasetron 100 mg I.V.	191	39		[3%, 27%]

-10 -5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35
Difference in Complete Response Rates

a Intent-to-treat cohort
b 2-sided Fisher's exact test. Significance level at α=0.025.
c These studies were designed to show non-inferiority. A lower bound greater than –15% demonstrates non-inferiority between Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and comparator.

These studies show that Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection was effective in the prevention of delayed nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses of moderately emetogenic chemotherapy.

Table 6: Prevention of Overall Nausea and Vomiting (0-120 hours):
Complete Response Rates

Chemotherapy	Study	Treatment Group	N [a]	% with Complete Response	p-value [b]	97.5% Confidence Interval Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection minus Comparator [c]
Moderately Emetogenic	1	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg	189	69	<0.001	
		Ondansetron 32 mg I.V.	185	50		[7%, 31%]
	2	Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg	189	46	0.021	
		Dolasetron 100 mg I.V.	191	34		[0%, 24%]

-10 -5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35
Difference in Complete Response Rates

a Intent-to-treat cohort
b 2-sided Fisher's exact test. Significance level at α=0.025.
c These studies were designed to show non-inferiority. A lower bound greater than –15% demonstrates non-inferiority between Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and comparator.

These studies show that Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection was effective in the prevention of nausea and vomiting throughout the 120 hours (5 days) following initial and repeat courses of moderately emetogenic cancer chemotherapy.

14.2 Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting in Pediatrics

One double-blind, active-controlled clinical trial was conducted in pediatric cancer patients. The total population (N = 327) had a mean age of 8.3 years (range 2 months to 16.9 years) and were 53% male; and 96% white. Patients were randomized and received a 20 mcg/kg (maximum 1.5 mg) intravenous infusion of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 30 minutes prior to the start of emetogenic chemotherapy (followed by placebo infusions 4 and 8 hours after the dose of palonosetron) or 0.15 mg/kg of intravenous ondansetron 30 minutes prior to the start of emetogenic chemotherapy (followed by ondansetron 0.15 mg/kg infusions 4 and 8 hours after the first dose of ondansetron, with a maximum total dose of 32 mg). Emetogenic chemotherapies administered included doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide (<1500 mg/m^2), ifosfamide, cisplatin, dactinomycin, carboplatin, and daunorubicin. Adjuvant corticosteroids, including dexamethasone, were administered with chemotherapy in 55% of patients.

Complete Response in the acute phase of the first cycle of chemotherapy was defined as no vomiting, no retching, and no rescue medication in the first 24 hours after starting chemotherapy. Efficacy was based on demonstrating non-inferiority of intravenous palonosetron compared to intravenous ondansetron. Non-inferiority criteria were met if the lower bound of the 97.5% confidence interval for the difference in Complete Response rates of intravenous palonosetron minus intravenous ondansetron was larger than -15%. The non-inferiority margin was 15%.

Efficacy Results

As shown in Table 7, intravenous Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 20 mcg/kg (maximum 1.5 mg) demonstrated non-inferiority to the active comparator during the 0 to 24 hour time interval.

Table 7: Prevention of Acute Nausea and Vomiting (0-24 hours): Complete Response Rates

I.V. Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 20 mcg/kg (N=165)	I.V. Ondansetron 0.15 mg/kg x 3 (N=162)	Difference [97.5% Confidence Interval]*: I.V. Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection minus I.V. Ondansetron Comparator
59.4%	58.6%	0.36% [-11.7%, 12.4%]

* To adjust for multiplicity of treatment groups, a lower-bound of a 97.5% confidence interval was used to compare to -15%, the negative value of the non-inferiority margin.

In patients that received Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection at a lower dose than the recommended dose of 20 mcg/kg, non-inferiority criteria were not met.

14.3 Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting

In one multicenter, randomized, stratified, double-blind, parallel-group, phase 3 clinical study (Study 1), palonosetron was compared with placebo for the prevention of PONV in 546 patients undergoing abdominal and gynecological surgery. All patients received general anesthesia. Study 1 was a pivotal study conducted predominantly in the US in the out-patient setting for patients undergoing elective gynecologic or abdominal laparoscopic surgery and stratified at randomization for the following risk factors: gender, non-smoking status, history of post operative nausea and vomiting and/or motion sickness.

In Study 1 patients were randomized to receive palonosetron 0.025 mg, 0.050 mg or 0.075 mg or placebo, each given intravenously immediately prior to induction of anesthesia. The antiemetic activity of palonosetron was evaluated during the 0 to 72 hour time period after surgery.

Of the 138 patients treated with 0.075 mg palonosetron in Study 1 and evaluated for efficacy, 96% were women; 66% had a history of PONV or motion sickness; 85% were non-smokers. As for race, 63% were White, 20% were Black, 15% were Hispanic, and 1% were Asian. The age of patients ranged from 21 to 74 years, with a mean age of 37.9 years. Three patients were greater than 65 years of age.

Co-primary efficacy measures were Complete Response (CR) defined as no emetic episode and no use of rescue medication in the 0-24 and in the 24-72 hours postoperatively.

Secondary efficacy endpoints included:

- Complete Response (CR) 0-48 and 0-72 hours
- Complete Control (CC) defined as CR and no more than mild nausea
- Severity of nausea (none, mild, moderate, severe)

The primary hypothesis in Study 1 was that at least one of the three palonosetron doses were superior to placebo.

Results for Complete Response in Study 1 for 0.075 mg palonosetron versus placebo are described in the following table.

Table 8: Prevention of Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting: Complete Response (CR), Study 1, Palonosetron 0.075 mg Vs Placebo

Treatment	n/N (%)	Palonosetron Vs Placebo	
		Δ	p-value*
Co-primary Endpoints			
CR 0-24 hours			
Palonosetron	59/138 (42.8%)	16.8%	0.004
Placebo	35/135 (25.9%)		
CR 24-72 hours			
Palonosetron	67/138 (48.6%)	7.8%	0.188
Placebo	55/135 (40.7%)		

* To reach statistical significance for each co-primary endpoint, the required significance limit for the lowest p-value was p<0.017.

Δ Difference (%): palonosetron 0.075 mg minus placebo

Palonosetron 0.075 mg reduced the severity of nausea compared to placebo. Analyses of other secondary endpoints indicate that palonosetron 0.075 mg was numerically better than placebo, however, statistical significance was not formally demonstrated.

A phase 2 randomized, double-blind, multicenter, placebo-controlled, dose ranging study was performed to evaluate I.V. palonosetron for the prevention of post-operative nausea and vomiting following abdominal or vaginal hysterectomy. Five I.V. palonosetron doses (0.1, 0.3, 1.0, 3.0, and 30 μg/kg) were evaluated in a total of 381 intent-to-treat patients. The primary efficacy measure was the proportion of patients with CR in the first 24 hours after recovery from surgery. The lowest effective dose was palonosetron 1 μg/kg (approximately 0.075 mg) which had a CR rate of 44% versus 19% for placebo, p=0.004. Palonosetron 1 μg/kg also significantly reduced the severity of nausea versus placebo, p=0.009.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

NDC # 16729-365-66, Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection 0.25 mg/5 mL (free base) single-use vial individually packaged in a carton.

Storage

- Store at controlled temperature of 20–25°C (68°F–77°F). Excursions permitted to 15–30°C (59-86°F).
- Protect from freezing.
- Protect from light.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

See FDA-approved patient labelling (Patient Information).

Instructions for Patients

Patients should be advised to report to their physician all of their medical conditions, including any pain, redness, or swelling in and around the infusion site *[see Adverse Reactions (6.3)]*.

Advise patients of the possibility of serotonin syndrome, especially with concomitant use of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and another serotonergic agent such as medications to treat depression and migraines. Advise patients to seek immediate medical attention if the following symptoms occur: changes in mental status, autonomic instability, neuromuscular symptoms with or without gastrointestinal symptoms [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]. Patients should be instructed to read the Patient Information.

Patient Information

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection

for Intravenous Use

Read this Patient Information before you receive Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection and each time you receive Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or your treatment.

What is Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection?

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is a prescription medicine called an "antiemetic."

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is used in adults to help prevent the nausea and vomiting that happens:

- right away or later with certain anti-cancer medicines (chemotherapy)
- up to 24 hours while recovering from anesthesia after surgery

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is used in children 1 month old to less than 17 years of age to help prevent the nausea and vomiting that happens right away with certain anti-cancer medicines (chemotherapy).

- It is not known if Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is safe and effective in children less than 1 month old to help prevent nausea and vomiting after chemotherapy.
- It is not known if Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is safe and effective in children for the prevention of nausea and vomiting while recovering from anesthesia after surgery.

Who should not receive Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection?

Do not receive Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection if you are allergic to palonosetron hydrochloride or any of the ingredients in Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection.

What should I tell my doctor before receiving Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection?

Before receiving Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection, tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have had an allergic reaction to another medicine for nausea or vomiting
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection will harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection passes into your breast milk. You and your doctor should decide if you will receive Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection if you breastfeed.

Tell your doctor about all of the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

How will I receive Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection?

- Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection will be given to you in your vein by intravenous (I.V.) injection.
- Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection is usually given about 30 minutes before you receive your anti-cancer medicine (chemotherapy) or right before anesthesia for surgery.

What are the possible side effects of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection?

Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection can cause allergic reactions that can sometimes be serious. Tell your doctor or nurse right away if you have any of the following symptoms of a serious allergic reaction with Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection:

- hives
- swollen face
- breathing trouble
- chest pain

The most common side effects of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection in adults are headache and constipation.

These are not all the possible side effects from Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

General information about the safe and effective use of Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for information about Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in Palonosetron Hydrochloride Injection?

Active ingredient: palonosetron hydrochloride

Inactive ingredients: mannitol, disodium edetate, and citrate buffer in water.

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This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Revised: 08/2015

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