RILUZOLE LUPIN 50 MG FILM-COATED TABLETS
PL 35507/0120

UKPAR

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LAY SUMMARY

On 12 July 2013, the MHRA granted Lupin (Europe) Limited a Marketing Authorisation (licence) for the medicinal product Riluzole Lupin 50 mg film-coated tablets (PL 35507/0120).

This is a prescription-only medicine (legal status POM) containing the active ingredient riluzole, which acts on the nervous system. Riluzole is used in patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). ALS is a form of motor neurone disease, where destruction of the nerve cells responsible for sending instructions to the muscles leads to weakness, muscle wasting and paralysis. Nerve cell destruction in motor neurone disease may be caused by too much glutamate (a chemical messenger) in the brain and spinal cord. Riluzole stops the release of glutamate and this may help to prevent nerve cells being damaged.

No new or unexpected safety concerns arose from this application and it was, therefore, judged that the benefits of taking Riluzole Lupin 50 mg film-coated tablets outweigh the risks; hence a Marketing Authorisation has been granted.

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SCIENTIFIC DISCUSSION

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INTRODUCTION

Based on the review of the data on quality, safety and efficacy, the UK granted a Marketing Authorisation to Lupin (Europe) Limited for the medicinal product Riluzole Lupin 50 mg film-coated tablets (PL 35507/0120) on 12 July 2013. This product is a prescription-only medicine (legal status POM) and is used in patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

This was submitted as an abridged simple application according to Article 10c of Directive 2001/83/EC, as amended, cross-referring to Riluzole Actavis 50 mg Film-coated Tablets (PL 30306/0105), which was originally granted to Actavis Group PTC ehf on 23 February 2009.

The product contains the active substance riluzole. Although the pathogenesis of ALS is not completely elucidated, it is suggested that glutamate (the primary excitatory neurotransmitter in the central nervous system) plays a role for cell death in the disease. Riluzole is proposed to act by inhibiting glutamate processes; however, the mode of action is unclear.

PHARMACEUTICAL ASSESSMENT

LICENCE NO:	PL 35507/0120
PROPRIETARY NAME:	Riluzole Lupin 50 mg film-coated tablets
ACTIVE(S):	Riluzole
COMPANY NAME:	Lupin (Europe) Limited
E.C. ARTICLE:	Article 10c
LEGAL STATUS:	POM

1. INTRODUCTION

This is a simple, piggyback application for Riluzole Lupin 50 mg film-coated tablets, submitted under Article 10c of Directive 2001/83/EC, as amended. The proposed MA holder is Lupin (Europe) Limited, Victoria Court, Bexton Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PF, UK.

The application cross-refers to Riluzole Actavis 50 mg Film-coated Tablets (PL 30306/0105), which was originally granted to Actavis Group PTC ehf on 23 February 2009.

The current application is considered valid.

2. MARKETING AUTHORISATION APPLICATION FORM

2.1 Name(s)

The proposed name of the product is Riluzole Lupin 50 mg film-coated tablets. The product has been named in-line with current requirements.

2.2 Strength, pharmaceutical form, route of administration, container and pack sizes

Each film-coated tablet contains 50 mg of riluzole.

The finished product is packaged in aluminium/aluminium or aluminium/polyvinylchloride (PVC) blisters, in pack sizes of 28, 30, 56 and 60 film-coated tablets.

The proposed shelf-life (3 years) and storage conditions (aluminium/aluminium blisters: no special storage conditions; aluminium/PVC blisters: “Keep the blister in the outer carton in order to protect from light. This medicinal product does not require any special temperature storage conditions.”) are consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference product.

2.3 Legal status

On approval, the product will be available as a prescription-only medicine (POM).

2.4 Marketing authorisation holder/Contact Persons/Company

Lupin (Europe) Limited, Victoria Court, Bexton Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PF, UK.

The QP responsible for pharmacovigilance is stated and their CV is included.

2.5 Manufacturers
The proposed manufacturing sites are consistent with those registered for the cross-reference product and evidence of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) compliance has been provided.

2.6 Qualitative and quantitative composition
The proposed composition is consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference product.

2.7 Manufacturing process
The proposed manufacturing process is consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference product.

2.8 Finished product/shelf-life specification
The proposed finished product specification is in line with the details registered for the cross-reference product.

2.9 Drug substance specification
The proposed drug substance specification is consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference product.

2.10 TSE Compliance
No materials of animal or human origin are included in this product. This is consistent with the cross-reference product.

2.11 Bioequivalence
No bioequivalence data are required to support this informed consent application, as the proposed product is manufactured to the same formula utilising the same process as the reference product Riluzole Actavis 50 mg Film-coated Tablets (PL 30306/0105).

3. EXPERT REPORTS
The applicant has included detailed expert reports in Module 2 of the application. Signed declarations and copies of the experts' CVs are enclosed in Module 1.4 for the quality, non-clinical and clinical experts. All are considered to have sufficient experience for their responsibilities.

4. PRODUCT NAME & APPEARANCE
See 2.1 for details of the proposed product name. The appearance of the product is identical to the cross-reference product.

5. SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS (SmPC)
The proposed SmPC is consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference product.

6. PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET (PIL)/LABEL

PIL

The patient information leaflet has been prepared in line with the details registered for the cross-reference product.

A package leaflet has previously been submitted to the MHRA for Riluzole Actavis 50 mg Film-coated Tablets (PL 30306/0105), along with the results of consultations with target patient groups ('user testing'), in accordance with Article 59 of Council Directive 2001/83/EC, amended. The results indicate that the package leaflet is well-structured and organised, easy to understand and written in a comprehensive manner. The test shows that the patients/users are able to act upon the information that it contains. As the proposed PIL for Riluzole Lupin 50 mg film-coated tablets (PL 35507/0120) is consistent with the approved PIL for Riluzole Actavis 50 mg Film-coated Tablets (PL 30306/0105) in its content and layout, additional readability testing is not deemed necessary.

Carton and blister

The proposed artwork is comparable with the artwork registered for the cross-reference product and complies with statutory requirements. The applicant has included sufficient space for a standard UK pharmacy dispensing label.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The data submitted with the application is acceptable. From a quality perspective, a Marketing Authorisation should be granted.

NON-CLINICAL ASSESSMENT

No new non-clinical data have been supplied with this application and none are required for applications of this type.

An Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) has not been provided. As this product is intended for substitution with a product that is already marketed, no increase in environmental burden is anticipated.

The grant of a Marketing Authorisation is recommended.

CLINICAL ASSESSMENT

No new clinical data have been supplied with this application and none are required for applications of this type.

The Pharmacovigilance System, as described by the applicant, fulfils the requirements and provides adequate evidence that the applicant has the services of a qualified person responsible for pharmacovigilance, and has the necessary means for the notification of any adverse reaction suspected of occurring either in the Community or in a third country.

A suitable risk management plan has been provided for this product.
The grant of a Marketing Authorisation is recommended.

OVERALL CONCLUSION AND BENEFIT/RISK ASSESSMENT

QUALITY

The data provided for this application are consistent with that previously assessed for the cross-reference product and as such have been judged to be satisfactory. There are no outstanding quality issues that would have a negative impact on the benefit/risk balance.

NON-CLINICAL

No new non-clinical data were submitted and none are required for applications of this type.

EFFICACY

This application is identical to the previously granted application for Riluzole Actavis 50 mg Film-coated Tablets (PL 30306/0105), which was originally granted to Actavis Group PTC ehf on 23 February 2009. No new clinical pharmacology/efficacy data have been submitted with this application and none are required for applications of this type.

SAFETY

No new safety data have been submitted with this application and none are required for applications of this type.

No new or unexpected safety concerns arise from this application.

PRODUCT LITERATURE

The SmPC, PIL and labelling are satisfactory and consistent with the reference product.

Colour mock-ups of the labelling have been provided and are satisfactory. The approved labelling artwork complies with statutory requirements.

BENEFIT-RISK ASSESSMENT

The quality of the product is acceptable and no new non-clinical or clinical safety concerns have been identified. Extensive clinical experience with riluzole is considered to have demonstrated the therapeutic value of the compound. The benefit/risk is, therefore, considered to be positive.

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STEPS TAKEN FOR ASSESMENT

1	The MHRA received the marketing authorisation application on 28 January 2013.
2	Following standard checks and communication with the applicant, the MHRA considered the application valid on 22 February 2013.
3	Following assessment of the application, the MHRA requested further information relating to the dossier on 23 May 2013 and 12 June 2013.
4	The applicant responded to the MHRA's requests, providing further information on 05 June 2013 and 21 June 2013.
5	The application was determined on 12 July 2013.

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STEPS TAKEN AFTER AUTHORISATION - SUMMARY

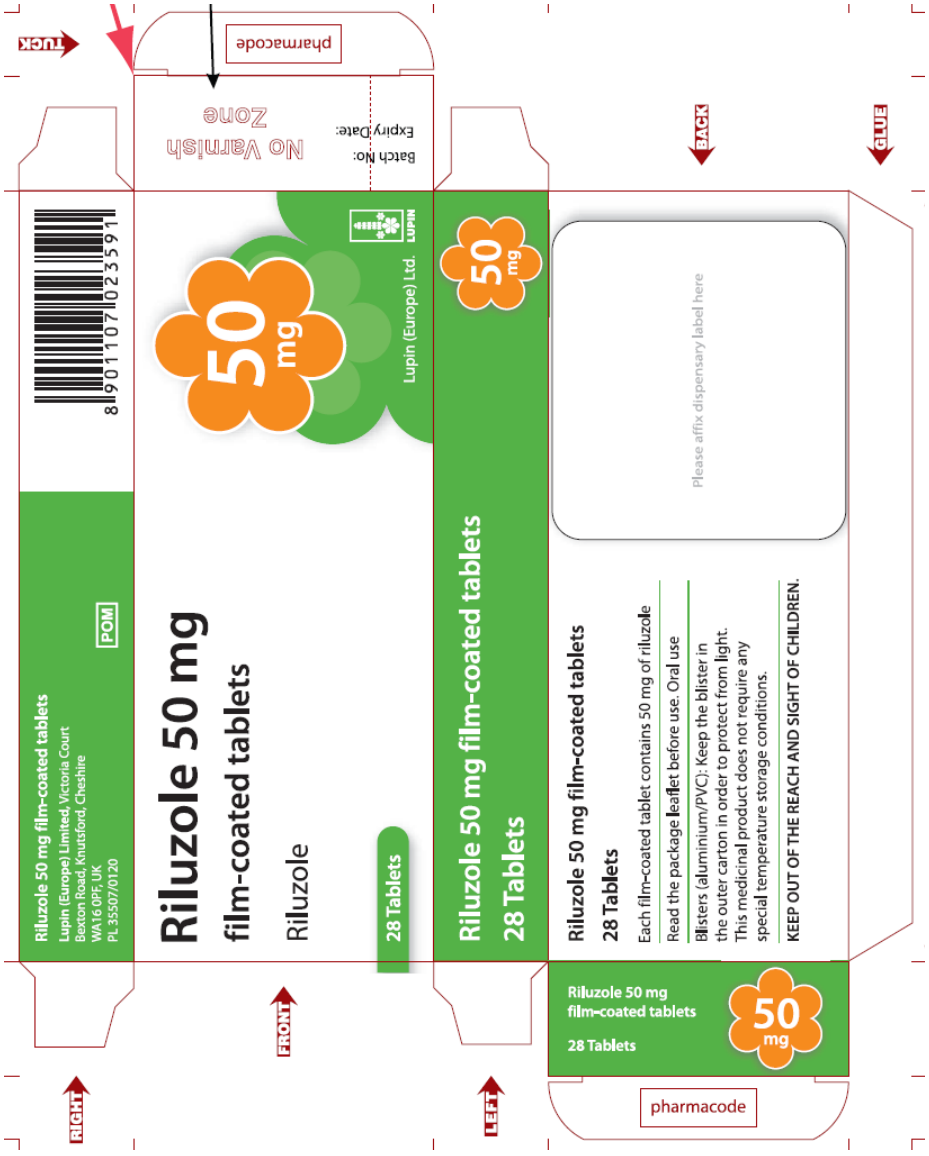
Date submitted	Application type	Scope	Outcome

Summary of Product Characteristics and Patient Information Leaflet

In accordance with Directive 2010/84/EU, the current approved UK versions of the Summaries of Product Characteristics (SmPC) and Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) for this product are available on the MHRA website.

Labelling

Carton for 28 Tablet pack size:



Carton for 30 Tablet pack size:

Carton for 56 Tablet pack size:

Carton for 60 Tablet pack size:

Braille:

Blister: