

**This amendment:** Safety-related package insert notification (SR-PINs) in line with CCDS (version 4)  
Notification of implementation of Regulation 10 and revised PI Guidelines

**Date of submission:** 2 October 2017

## PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET FOR AUBAGIO

**SCHEDULING STATUS:** S4

AUBAGIO may cause serious side effects, including:

1. Liver problems: AUBAGIO may cause serious liver problems that may lead to death. Your risk of liver problems may be higher if you take other medicines that also affect your liver.

Your doctor should do blood tests to check your liver function:

- within 6 months before you start taking AUBAGIO
- once a month for 6 months after you start taking AUBAGIO.

Tell your doctor right away if you have any of the following symptoms of liver problems:

- nausea
- vomiting
- stomach pain
- loss of appetite
- tiredness
- your skin or whites of your eyes turn yellow
- dark urine.

2. Harm to your unborn baby: AUBAGIO may cause harm to your unborn baby. Do not take AUBAGIO if you are pregnant. Do not take AUBAGIO unless you are using effective birth control.

- If you are a female, you should have a pregnancy test before you start taking AUBAGIO. Use effective birth control during your treatment with AUBAGIO.
- After stopping AUBAGIO, continue using effective birth control until you have blood tests to make sure your blood levels of AUBAGIO are low enough. If you become pregnant while taking AUBAGIO or within 2 years after you stop taking it, tell your doctor right away.

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- **For men taking AUBAGIO:**

If your female partner plans to become pregnant, you should stop taking AUBAGIO and ask your doctor how to quickly lower the levels of AUBAGIO in your blood. If your female partner does not plan to become pregnant, you and your female partner should use effective birth control during your treatment with AUBAGIO. AUBAGIO remains in your blood after you stop taking it, so continue using effective birth control until AUBAGIO blood levels have been checked and they are low enough.

## **PROPRIETARY NAME, STRENGTH AND PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

AUBAGIO 14 mg film-coated tablets

### **Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using AUBAGIO.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, please ask your doctor or your pharmacist.
- AUBAGIO has been prescribed for you personally and you should not share your medicine with other people. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

## **WHAT AUBAGIO CONTAINS**

The active substance is teriflunomide.

Each film-coated tablet contains 14 mg of teriflunomide.

The other ingredients are: hypromellose, hydroxypropylcellulose, indigo carmine aluminium lake (E132), lactose monohydrate, macrogol, magnesium stearate, maize starch, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium starch glycollate (Type A), talc, titanium dioxide (E171).

Contains sugar (lactose monohydrate).

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## **WHAT AUBAGIO IS USED FOR**

AUBAGIO is used in adults to treat relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (MS).

AUBAGIO does not cure MS, but it helps to reduce the number of relapses and to slow down the progression of physical disabilities due to MS.

## **BEFORE YOU TAKE AUBAGIO**

### **Do not take AUBAGIO:**

- If you are hypersensitive (allergic) to teriflunomide or leflunomide, or any of the other ingredients of AUBAGIO (see WHAT AUBAGIO CONTAINS).
- If you have severe liver problems.
- If you are taking leflunomide.
- If you are a woman who is pregnant or planning to become pregnant.
- If you are able to become pregnant and not using effective birth control methods.
- Mothers who are breastfeeding their babies must not take AUBAGIO.

### **Take special care with AUBAGIO:**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking AUBAGIO:

- If you have liver problems.
- If you have high blood pressure (hypertension) and whether it is controlled or not with medicines.
- If you suffer from a serious problem which affects your immune system or if you suffer from a serious infection.
- If you plan to get vaccinated.

### *Liver function tests:*

If you have severe liver problems, you should not take AUBAGIO.

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AUBAGIO may cause abnormal results of liver function tests.

If you notice yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes, abnormal darkening of the urine or unexplained nausea and vomiting, tell your doctor straight away.

If you get any of these symptoms after starting AUBAGIO, **tell your doctor right away.**

During the treatment your doctor will periodically request blood tests to monitor your liver function.

If your test results indicate a problem with your liver you may have to interrupt treatment with AUBAGIO.

*High blood pressure:*

As AUBAGIO causes elevation of blood pressure, your doctor should check your blood pressure before you start taking AUBAGIO and while you are taking AUBAGIO.

*Infections:*

While you are taking AUBAGIO, you may get infections more easily.

Any infection that you already have may get worse. Infections could be serious and life-threatening.

If you think you have an infection, have fever, or feel like you have the flu, call your doctor right away.

*Blood count:*

AUBAGIO reduces the amount of white blood cells in your blood.

If you need to have any blood tests, tell the doctor that you are taking AUBAGIO. Otherwise, it may not be possible for the doctor to understand the results of the test.

Before you start AUBAGIO, your doctor will confirm whether you have enough white blood cells in your blood and may want to check regularly.

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### *Children and adolescents:*

AUBAGIO is not intended to be used in children and adolescents below 18 years old as it has not been studied in MS patients below 18 years old.

### **Using AUBAGIO with food and drink:**

AUBAGIO may be taken with or without food.

### **Pregnancy and breastfeeding:**

You should not become pregnant while taking AUBAGIO.

AUBAGIO remains in your blood for a long time after you stop taking it, so continue using effective birth control until blood levels of AUBAGIO have been checked to be sufficiently low.

Talk with your doctor about reliable methods of birth control that you should use during treatment.

If you suspect that you are pregnant or become pregnant while taking AUBAGIO or in the two years after you have stopped treatment and have not taken certain medicines to remove AUBAGIO from your blood, you must contact your doctor immediately for a pregnancy test.

If the test confirms that you are pregnant, your doctor may suggest treatment with certain medicines to speed up the removal of AUBAGIO from the body, as this may decrease the risk to your baby.

Do not take AUBAGIO when you are breastfeeding, as teriflunomide may pass into the breast milk.

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If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, consult your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professional for advice before taking AUBAGIO.

#### **Driving and using machinery:**

Your doctor will tell you whether your illness allows you to drive vehicles and use machines safely.

AUBAGIO is not expected to have an influence on your ability to drive and use machinery.

#### **Important information about some of the ingredients of AUBAGIO:**

AUBAGIO contains lactose monohydrate, which is a type of sugar.

If you have been told by your doctor that you have intolerance to some sugars, you should not take AUBAGIO.

#### **Taking or using other medicines with AUBAGIO:**

Always tell your healthcare professional if you are taking any other medicine. (This includes complementary or traditional medicines.)

Tell your doctor especially if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Other medicines that affect the immune system (often called immunosuppressants or immunomodulators), such as ciclosporin and methotrexate.
- Rifampicin for tuberculosis.
- Carbamazepine, phenobarbitone, phenytoin, antiepileptic medicines.
- St John's wort, an herbal medicine for depression.
- Repaglinide, pioglitazone, rosiglitazone for diabetes.
- Paclitaxel, daunorubicin, doxorubicin, topotecan for treating cancer.
- Duloxetine for depression.

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- Ethinylestradiol and levonorgestrel, used as oral contraceptives.
- Theophylline for asthma.
- Tizanidine, a muscle relaxant.
- Warfarin, a so-called anticoagulant used to make the blood thinner (i.e. more fluid) in order to avoid blood clots.
- Cefaclor, penicillin, ciprofloxacin for infections.
- Indometacin, ketoprofen for pain or inflammation.
- Furosemide for heart disease.
- Cimetidine for reducing gastric acid.
- Zidovudine for HIV infection.
- Rosuvastatin, simvastatin, atorvastatin, pravastatin for high cholesterol.
- Sulfasalazine for inflammatory bowel disease or arthritis.
- Leflunomide for rheumatoid arthritis.

## HOW TO TAKE AUBAGIO

Do not share medicines prescribed for you with any other person.

Treatment with AUBAGIO will be overseen by a doctor who is experienced in the treatment of multiple sclerosis.

Always take AUBAGIO exactly as your doctor has instructed you.

You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure.

The usual dose is one tablet per day.

You should swallow the whole tablet.

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*Use in children and adolescents:*

AUBAGIO is not intended to be used in children and adolescents below 18 years old as it has not been studied in MS patients below 18 years old.

**If you take more AUBAGIO than you should:**

In the event of an overdose, consult your doctor or pharmacist. If neither is available contact the nearest hospital or poison centre.

Take this leaflet and the rest of the remaining tablets with you so the doctor will know what you have taken.

**If you forget to take AUBAGIO:**

If you forget to take a dose of AUBAGIO, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and continue to take your next tablet at the usual time.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten tablet.

**If you stop taking AUBAGIO:**

Do not stop taking AUBAGIO or change your dose without talking to your doctor first.

If you have any further questions on the use of AUBAGIO, ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

**POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS**

AUBAGIO can have side effects.

Not all side effects reported for AUBAGIO are included in this leaflet. Should your general health worsen or if you experience any untoward effects while taking AUBAGIO, please consult your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professional for advice.

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If any of the following happens, stop taking AUBAGIO and tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital:

- Swelling of your hands, feet, ankles, face, lips, mouth or throat, which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing.
- Rash or itching.
- Fainting.

These are all very serious side effects. If you have them, you may have had a serious allergic reaction to AUBAGIO. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

Tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

*Frequent side effects include:*

- Weakness, numbness or burning pain in some areas of the body and pins and needles.
- Decrease in white blood cells (may increase the risk of infection).
- Increase in blood pressure.
- Rapid, irregular heartbeat.
- Frequent urge to urinate.

*Frequency unknown:*

- Extremely serious allergic skin reaction with blistering of the skin, mouth, eyes and genitals.
- Inflammation of the lungs, which may cause shortness of breath or chronic dry cough.
- Inflammation of the pancreas which causes severe pain in the abdomen and back.

These are all serious side effects, you may need urgent medical attention.

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following:

*Frequent side effects include:*

- Influenza, upper respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection.

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- Diarrhoea, nausea/feeling sick, vomiting, stomach cramps and fever.
- Toothache.
- ALT increased (increase in blood levels of certain hepatic enzymes).
- Abnormal blood test results, some of which show changes in the way the liver is working.
- Hair thinning.
- Acne.
- Bronchitis, sinusitis, sore throat and discomfort when swallowing, cystitis, viral gastroenteritis, oral herpes, tooth infection, laryngitis, fungal infection of the foot.
- Seasonal allergy.
- Anxiety.
- Headache.
- Sciatica; carpal tunnel syndrome; increased feeling or sensitivity, especially in the skin; stabbing or throbbing pain along one or more nerves.
- Pain in the joints.
- Musculoskeletal pain, muscle pain.
- Heavy menstrual periods.
- Decreased weight.

*Frequency unknown:*

- Painful sores with swelling and redness inside the mouth.

If you notice any side effects not mentioned in this leaflet, please inform your doctor or pharmacist.

## **STORING AND DISPOSING OF AUBAGIO**

Store this medicine out of reach of children.

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Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton, protective sleeve, and blister after "EXP".

The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store at or below 30 °C.

Keep blister in wallet/carton until required for use.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste.

Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use.

These measures will help protect the environment.

#### **PRESENTATION OF AUBAGIO:**

AUBAGIO is available in cardboard cartons containing 28 and 84 tablets in wallet packs with silver aluminium-aluminium blisters.

#### **IDENTIFICATION OF AUBAGIO:**

AUBAGIO 14 mg film-coated tablets are pale blue to pastel blue, pentagonal film-coated tablets with imprint on one side (dose strength given as number 14) and engraved with corporate logo on other side.

#### **REGISTRATION NUMBER:**

47/32.16/0859

#### **NAME AND ADDRESS OF REGISTRATION HOLDER:**

sanofi-aventis south africa (pty) ltd

2 Bond Street

Midrand 1685

South Africa

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