Applicant/PHRC: Bayer (Pty) Ltd
Dosage form: Solution for infusion
Strength: Moxifloxacin hydrochloride equivalent to 400 mg moxifloxacin
Product proprietary name: AVELON IV

PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

SCHEDULING STATUS S4

AVELON® IV 400 mg/250 ml solution for infusion
Moxifloxacin
Sugar free

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you are given AVELON IV

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, please ask your doctor, pharmacist, nurse, or other health care provider.
- AVELON IV has been prescribed for you personally.

What is in this leaflet

1. What AVELON IV is and what it is used for

AVELON IV is used to treat a bacterial infection of the lungs (where the infection was contracted outside a hospital), and severe bacterial infections of the skin, skin tissues and inside your belly (abdomen) where therapy with other appropriate antibiotics have failed, cannot be used, or cannot be tolerated.

2. What you need to know before you are given AVELON IV

You should not receive AVELON IV

- If you are hypersensitive (allergic) to moxifloxacin or any of the other ingredients of AVELON IV.
- If you have previously experienced side effects with the use of quinolone/fluoroquinolone antibiotics relating to your joints, muscles, ligaments, nerves, central nervous system (brain), epilepsy or mental health (psychiatric disorder).
- If you have severe liver disease, e.g. liver cirrhosis.
- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding your baby (see section *Pregnancy and breastfeeding*).
- If you were born with or have:
  - Any condition with abnormal heart rhythm whether related to QT time prolongation or not (seen on ECG, electrical recording of the heart)
  - A salt imbalance in the blood (especially low levels of potassium or magnesium in the blood)
  - A very slow heart rhythm (called ‘bradycardia’)
  - A weak heart (heart failure)
  - A history of abnormal heart rhythms
- If you are taking other medicines that result in abnormal heart rate or rhythm tracing (ECG) e.g. prolongation of the “QT time”.

- If you have an enlargement or "bulge" of a large blood vessel (aortic aneurysm) or a previous episode of aortic dissection (a tear in the aortic wall) or a family history of aortic aneurysm/dissection or have other risk factors or existing predisposing conditions.
- If you have a damaged mitral and/or aortic heart valve which cannot close properly.
- If you have myasthenia gravis (abnormal muscle fatigue leading to weakness and in serious cases paralysis).
- **If you or your child are younger than 18 years.**
- If you have moderate to severe impairment of your kidney function and are treated with ACE inhibitors/angiotensin-receptor blockers. Ask your doctor if you are not sure.

Warnings and precautions

Take special care with AVELON IV

- AVELON IV can cause certain changes in the ECG (electronic recording of the heart), especially if you are female or if you are elderly. If you are currently taking other medicines that can reduce your blood potassium levels. If you experience heart palpitations or an irregular heartbeat at any time during treatment, please tell your doctor immediately. If necessary, he/she will then perform an ECG, to determine the pattern of your heartbeat.
- If you are currently taking other medicines that can reduce your blood potassium levels.
- Inform your doctor of any other medications when taken concurrently with AVELON IV, including over-the-counter/ non-prescription medications.
- AVELON IV may cause hypersensitivity (allergic) reactions (an anaphylactic reaction/shock), even with the first dose which may be life-threatening or cause life-threatening shock. Discontinue AVELON IV at the first sign of a skin rash or other signs (tightness in the chest, feeling dizzy, feeling sick or faint, or experience dizziness on standing) indicative of an allergic reaction. In these cases, AVELON IV must be discontinued immediately, and appropriate medical treatment be instituted.
- If you have a family history of aortic aneurysm or aortic dissection or other risk factors or predisposing conditions (e.g. connective tissue disorders such as Marfan Syndrome, Vascular Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, Takayasu arteritis, giant cell arteritis, Behcet's disease, high blood pressure or known atherosclerosis (see section *You should not receive AVELON IV*).
- AVELON IV may cause a rapid and severe inflammation of the liver which could lead to life-threatening liver failure (including fatal cases). Please tell your doctor before you continue treatment if you develop signs such as rapidly feeling unwell and/or being sick associated with yellowing of the whites of the eyes, dark urine, itching of the skin, a tendency to bleed.
- AVELON IV can cause a serious illness with skin reaction or blistering and/or peeling of the skin, eyelids, genitals and mucosal areas of the body (Stevens-Johnson syndrome). You should contact your doctor immediately and treatment with AVELON IV must be stopped.
- Convulsions (fits) have been reported with the use of AVELON IV, and you should not receive AVELON IV if you have a history of this condition or continue with treatment if you get fits while receiving AVELON IV.
- If you develop diarrhoea while receiving AVELON IV your treatment will be stopped. In this situation, you should not receive or use medicines that stop or slow down bowel movement (see section *You should not receive AVELON IV*).
- AVELON IV can cause tendon (ligament) pain, inflammation (tendinitis) or tendon tearing, during treatment and up to several months after discontinuing AVELON IV treatment. The Achilles tendon (the heel tendon) is most frequently affected. The risk is of inflammation and tearing of tendons is increased if you are elderly or if you are currently treated with corticosteroids. At the first sign of any pain or inflammation of the tendon, discontinue treatment; rest and refrain from exercise; and tell your doctor immediately. The recovery process of your tendons, muscles and joints may take weeks or months and full recovery to your pre-treatment status may not occur (see section *You should not receive AVELON IV*).

- Tell the doctor or laboratory staff that you are receiving AVELON IV if you have to provide a blood or urine sample.
- AVELON IV may interfere with the interpretation of diagnostic culture tests for tuberculosis.
- Your skin may become sensitive to sunlight or UV light when receiving AVELON IV. Avoid prolonged exposure to sunlight and do not use tanning beds or any other UV lamp while receiving AVELON IV. If a sunburn-like reaction or skin eruptions occur, contact your doctor.
- You may experience symptoms of neuropathy such as pain, burning, tingling, numbness and/or weakness in your limbs. If this happens, treatment with AVELON IV should be stopped and you should contact your doctor immediately. The recovery process of your nerve condition may take weeks or months and full recovery to your pre-treatment condition may not occur (see section *You should not receive AVELON IV*).
- You may experience mental health problems when receiving AVELON IV for the first time. Depression or mental health problems can progress to thoughts of suicide or suicide attempts. If this happens, treatment with AVELON IV should be stopped and you should contact your doctor immediately (see section *You should not receive AVELON IV*).
- If you have damaged mitral and/or aortic heart valve which cannot close properly.
- If you suffer from myasthenia gravis (type of muscle weakness) you should not receive AVELON IV as it may worsen your disease (see section *You should not receive AVELON IV*).
- If you have diabetes, consult your doctor before receiving AVELON IV. AVELON IV may cause disturbances in your blood sugar level, especially if you are elderly and treated with oral medicines to lower your blood sugar or insulin. Your doctor may wish to monitor your blood sugar during your treatment with AVELON IV.
- If you have moderate to severe impairment of your kidney function, or if you are elderly and are treated with ACE inhibitors/angiotensin-receptor blockers to control your blood pressure as this may cause further injury to your kidneys (see section *You should not receive AVELON IV*). Your kidney function will be checked before and during treatment if you are receiving fluoroquinolones antibiotics and ACE inhibitors/angiotensin-receptor blockers to control your blood pressure.

Taking other medicines with AVELON IV

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

- If you are receiving AVELON IV and other medicines that affect your heart, there is an increased risk for altering your heart rate or rhythm. Therefore, you must tell your doctor, if you are taking any of the medicines that belong to the group of anti-dysrhythmics (medicines to treat your heart rhythm abnormalities), antipsychotics (used for schizophrenia), tricyclic antidepressants, some antimicrobials (that belong to the group of macrolides)
- You must tell your doctor if you are taking other medicines that can lower your blood potassium levels (e.g. some diuretics, some laxatives and enemas, corticosteroids (medicines to treat inflammation or suppress your immune (defence) system), or amphotericin B) or medicines that may cause a slow heart rate because these medicines can also increase the risk of developing serious heart rhythm disturbances while receiving AVELON IV.
- If you are currently taking oral anti-coagulants (e.g. warfarin, a medicine that prevents blood clotting), it may be necessary for your doctor to monitor your blood clotting times.
- Tell your doctor if you are on treatment with ACE inhibitors/angiotensin-receptor blockers used to control your blood pressure.

AVELON IV with food and drink

AVELON IV may be taken with or without meals (including dairy products), and you should also take lots of fluids.

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

You should not take AVELON IV during pregnancy and when you are breastfeeding your baby.

If you are receiving AVELON IV, you should not breastfeed your baby.

Driving and using machines

AVELON IV may affect your ability to drive and operate machinery. AVELON IV may make you feel dizzy or light-headed, you may experience a sudden, transient loss of vision or you may faint for a short period.

AVELON IV contains sodium

AVELON IV contains 787 mg (approximately 34 mmol) sodium per dose. If you are on a controlled-salt diet, please inform your doctor immediately.

3. How to take AVELON IV

AVELON IV is a solution for injection.
Your doctor will prescribe that correct dose for your condition.

The duration of your treatment will be determined by your doctor.

AVELON IV will be administered into one of your veins.
AVELON IV will always be given to you by a doctor or a healthcare professional.

Your doctor will decide on the duration of the treatment.

If you receive more AVELON IV than you should

Since a health care provider will administer AVELON IV, he/she will control the dosage. However, in the event of overdosage your doctor will manage the overdosage.

If you miss a dose of AVELON IV

Since a health care provider will administer AVELON IV, it is unlikely that the dose will be missed.

If you stop using AVELON IV

You should always consult your doctor before deciding to interrupt the course of treatment or stop receiving AVELON IV altogether.

4. Possible side effects

AVELON IV can have side effects.

Not all side effects reported for AVELON IV are included in this leaflet. Should your general health worsen or if you experience any untoward effects while receiving AVELON IV, please consult your health care provider for advice.

If any of the following happens, stop receiving AVELON IV and tell your doctor immediately:

- angioedema (rapid swelling of the skin and mucous membranes of the face, lips, tongue, or throat with difficulty to breathe)
- anaphylactic reaction/shock which is a severe sudden allergic reaction and is rapid in onset. Symptoms of anaphylactic reaction include dizziness feeling dizzy, sick or faint or experiencing dizziness when standing up), tightness in the chest, loss of consciousness, difficulty in breathing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue, throat and airways (breathing tubes), blueness of the skin, low blood pressure, heart failure, and can result in death;
- sudden severe pain in your chest, abdomen (tummy) or back;
- severe dizziness, fainting, fast or pounding heartbeats;
- sudden pain, snapping or popping sound, bruising, swelling, tenderness, stiffness, or loss of movement in any of your muscles, ligaments or joints;
- diarrhoea that is watery or bloody;
- confusion, hallucinations, depression, unusual thoughts or behaviour;
- seizure (convulsions);
- pale or yellowed skin, dark coloured urine, fever, weakness;
- urinating less than usual or not at all;
- easy bruising or bleeding;
- numbness, tingling, or unusual pain anywhere in your body;
- the first sign of any skin rash, no matter how mild; or
- severe skin reaction - fever, sore throat, swelling in your face or tongue, burning in your eyes, skin pain, followed by a red or purple skin rash that spreads (especially in the face or upper body) and causes blistering and peeling.

Frequent side effects include

- Infections caused by fungi (oral and vaginal infections/thrush caused by Candida)
- Anaemia (low red blood cell count), leukopenia (low white blood cell count), neutropenia (low numbers of special white blood cells – neutrophils), thrombocytopenia (decrease or increase of special cells necessary for blood clotting), prolonged prothrombin time or increased INR (decreased blood clotting)
- Allergic reactions, pruritus (itching), rash, urticaria (skin hives), blood eosinophilia (increased specialised white blood cells – eosinophils).
- increased blood lipids/fats
- Anxiety reactions, restlessness/agitation
- Headache, dizziness, par- and dysesthesia (tingling sensation (pins and needles) and/or numbness), taste disorders or loss of taste, confusion and disorientation, sleep disorders, tremor (shaking), vertigo (sensation of dizziness, spinning or falling over), somnolence (sleepiness)
- Visual disturbances including double and blurred vision
- QT prolongation in patients with hypokalaemia (delayed electrical recovery time within the heart as shown by ECG in patients with low blood potassium level), QT prolongation (delayed electrical recovery time within the heart shown by ECG), palpitations (irregular heart beat), tachycardia (fast heart beat), vasodilatation (widening of blood vessels)
- Dyspnoea (difficulty in breathing including asthma)
- Nausea, vomiting, gastrointestinal and abdominal pain, diarrhoea, decreased appetite and food intake, constipation, dyspepsia (upset stomach, indigestion and/or heartburn), flatulence (wind), gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach), increased amylase (a special digestive enzyme in the blood)
- Increase in transaminases (a special liver enzyme in the blood), impaired liver function, including LDH increase (a special liver enzyme in the blood), increase of bilirubin in the blood, increase of gamma-glutamyl-transferase and/or alkaline phosphatase in the blood (special liver enzymes in the blood)

- Arthralgia (joint pain), myalgia (muscle pain)
- Dehydration (caused by diarrhoea or reduced fluid intake)
- Feeling unwell (predominantly weakness or tiredness), unspecific aches and pains such as back, chest, pelvic and extremities pains, sweating

Less frequent side effects include

- Abnormal thromboplastin level (special enzyme in the blood involved in blood coagulation), changes in prothrombin level and INR (increased or abnormal blood clotting)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe, sudden allergic reaction for example difficulty in breathing, drop of blood pressure, fast pulse), angioedema (swelling of the face, lips, tongue, throat and airway), anaphylactic shock (with may be life-threatening)
- Blood-glucose disorders (high blood sugar – hyperglycaemia or low blood sugar - hypoglycaemia), hyperuricemia (increased blood uric acid)
- Depression, hallucinations, feelings of not being yourself, psychotic reactions (potentially leading to self-harm, such as thought to kill oneself, or suicide attempts)
- Reduced skin sensation, smell disorders, abnormal dreams, disturbed coordination due to dizziness or vertigo (may lead to fall with injuries), seizures (fits), disturbed attention, impaired speech, amnesia (partial or total loss of memory), peripheral neuropathy and polyneuropathy (troubles associated with the nervous system such as pain, burning, tingling, numbness and/or weakness in extremities), increased sensitivity of the skin
- Temporary loss of vision
- Ringing in the ears (tinnitus), hearing impairment including deafness (usually reversible)
- Abnormal fast heart rhythm, syncope (fainting), high blood pressure, low blood pressure, unspecified abnormal heart rhythms, Torsade de Pointes (life-threatening irregular heart beat), cardiac arrest (stopping of heart beat)
- Dysphagia (difficulty in swallowing), stomatitis (inflammation of the mouth), antibiotic-associated colitis (severe diarrhoea containing blood and/or mucus, which may be life-threatening)
- Jaundice (yellowing of the whites of the eyes or skin), hepatitis (inflammation of the liver), severe inflammation of the liver (potentially leading to life-threatening liver failure)
- Bullous skin reactions (painful blisters in the mouth/nose or at the penis/vagina), like Stevens-Johnson-Syndrome or Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis, which are potentially life-threatening
- Tendinitis (pain and swelling of the tendons), increased muscle tone and cramping, muscular weakness, tendon rupture, arthritis (inflammation of joints), gait disturbance (caused by muscular, tendon or joint symptoms), worsening of the symptoms of myasthenia gravis
- Impairment or failure of the kidneys (due to dehydration)
- Oedema (swelling of the hands, feet, ankles, lips, mouth, throat)

The following side effects have been observed more frequently in patients treated with intravenously followed by oral treatment:
Increased gamma-glutamyl-transferase (liver enzyme in the blood), abnormal fast heart rhythm, low blood pressure, oedema (swelling of the hands, feet, ankles, lips, mouth or throat), antibiotic-associated colitis (severe diarrhoea containing blood and /or mucus), seizures (fits), hallucinations, impairment and failure of kidneys.

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

Reporting of side effects

If you get side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse. You can also report side effects to SAHPRA via the "6.04 Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting Form", found online under SAHPRA's

publications: https://www.sahpra.org.za/Publications/Index/8. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of AVELON IV.

5. How to store AVELON IV

Store all medicines out of reach of children.
Store at or below 25 °C. Do not store below 15 ºC. At below 15 ºC precipitation may occur, which will re-dissolve at room temperature (15 ºC to 25 ºC). It is therefore recommended not to store the infusion solution in a refrigerator.
Protect from light. Keep the flexibags in the overwrap/pouch or the bottles in the outer cartons until required for use.
AVELON IV should be inspected visually for particles prior to administration. Only clear solution free from particles should be used.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What AVELON IV contains

The active substance is moxifloxacin. Each bottle contains 400 mg of moxifloxacin (as hydrochloride).
The other ingredients are: hydrochloric acid 1N (for pH-adjustment), sodium chloride, sodium hydroxide solution 2N (for pH-adjustment), water for injection (see section *AVELON IV contains sodium*).

What AVELON IV looks like and contents of the pack

AVELON IV is a clear, yellow solution.

Polyolefine bags with polypropylene port sealed in aluminium foil overwrap.
Colourless glass bottles (type 2) with a chlorobutyl or bromobutyl rubber stopper as closure. The 250 ml bottle is available in packs of 1 bottle.

Holder of Certificate of Registration

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