Part VI: Summary of the risk management plan

Summary of risk management plan for Levo-Methasan tablets (levomethadone hydrochloride)

This is a summary of the risk management plan (RMP) for Levo-Methasan tablets. The RMP details important risks of Levo-Methasan tablets, how these risks can be minimised and how more information will be obtained about Levo-Methasan tablets' risks and uncertainties (missing information).

Levo-Methasan tablets' summary of product characteristics (SmPC) and its package leaflet (PL) give essential information to healthcare professionals and patients on how Levo-Methasan tablets should be used.

Important new concerns or changes to the current ones will be included in updates of Levo-Methasan tablets' RMP.

I. The medicine and what it is used for

Levo-Methasan tablets are authorised for opioid maintenance therapy of opioid dependence in conjunction with appropriate medical, social and psychosocial care in adults.

It contains levomethadone hydrochloride as the active substance and is given orally. Levo-Methasan tablets are available in strengths of 2.5 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg and 30 mg.

II. Risks associated with the medicine and activities to minimise or further characterise the risks

Important risks of Levo-Methasan tablets, together with measures to minimise such risks and the proposed studies for learning more about Levo-Methasan tablets' risks, are outlined below.

Measures to minimise the risks identified for medicinal products can be:

- Specific information, such as warnings, precautions, and advice on correct use, in the package leaflet and SmPC addressed to patients and healthcare professionals;
- Important advice on the medicine's packaging;
- The authorised pack size — the amount of medicine in a pack is chosen so to ensure that the medicine is used correctly;
- The medicine's legal status — the way a medicine is supplied to the patient (e.g. with or without prescription) can help to minimise its risks.

Together, these measures constitute *routine risk minimisation measures*.

In the case of Levo-Methasan tablets, these measures are supplemented with *additional risk minimisation measures* mentioned under relevant important risks, below.

In addition to these measures, information about adverse reactions is collected continuously and regularly analysed so that immediate action can be taken as necessary. These measures constitute *routine pharmacovigilance activities*.

II.A List of important risks and missing information

Important risks of Levo-Methasan tablets are risks that need special risk management activities to further investigate or minimise the risk, so that the medicinal product can be safely taken. Important risks can be regarded as identified or potential. Identified risks are concerns for which there is sufficient proof of a link with the use of Levo-Methasan tablets. Potential risks are concerns for which an association with the use of this medicine is possible based on available data, but this association has not been established yet and needs further evaluation. Missing information refers to information on the safety of the medicinal product that is currently missing and needs to be collected (e.g. on the long-term use of the medicine);

Summary of safety concerns	
Important identified risks	None
Important potential risks	• Medication errors; Overdose due to the risk for mix-up between methadone and levomethadone • Misuse; Overdose due to mix-up between methadone and levomethadone products
Missing information	None

II.B Summary of important risks

Important potential risk: Medication errors; Overdose due to the risk for mix-up between methadone and levomethadone	
Risk minimisation measures	Routine risk minimisation measures: *SmPC section 4.2, 4.4* *PL section 2, 3, 6* *Legal status: Prescription only* *Label warning* Additional risk minimisation measures: *Educational material for HCPs*
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	Additional pharmacovigilance activities: Intensive surveillance program for levomethadone tablets: program for monitoring the rate of accidental overdose after marketing of the product. The aim is to evaluate if initiated risk minimisation measures are effective. See section II.C of this summary for an overview of the post-authorisation development plan.
Important potential risk: Misuse; Overdose due to mix-up between methadone and levomethadone products	
Risk minimisation measures	Routine risk minimisation measures: *SmPC section 4.2, 4.4* *PL section 2, 3* *Legal status: Prescription only* *Label warning* Additional risk minimisation measures: *Educational material for HCPs*
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	Additional pharmacovigilance activities: Intensive surveillance program for levomethadone tablets: program for monitoring the rate of accidental overdose after marketing of the product. The aim is to evaluate if initiated risk minimisation measures are effective. See section II.C of this summary for an overview of the post-authorisation development plan.

II.C Post-authorisation development plan

II.C.1 Studies which are conditions of the marketing authorisation

The following studies are conditions of the marketing authorisation:

Study short name:

Intensive surveillance program for levomethadone tablets

Purpose of the study:

The intensive surveillance program will compare

- levomethadone with methadone on overdose deaths to capture any cases that could have been caused by accidental mix-ups of the two substances and
- the number of treated overdoses to capture overdoses caused by a mix-up between levomethadone and methadone.

The aim of the surveillance program is to assess effectiveness of the risk minimization measures to avoid accidental overdoses due to mix-up between methadone and levomethadone.

II.C.2 Other studies in post-authorisation development plan

There are no studies required for Levo-Methasan tablets.