

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION
These highlights do not include all the information needed to use ESICARBAZEPINE ACETATE TABLETS safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for ESICARBAZEPINE ACETATE TABLETS.

ESICARBAZEPINE ACETATE TABLETS, for oral use
Initial U.S. Approval: 2013

INDICATIONS AND USAGE
Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are indicated for the treatment of partial-onset seizures in patients 4 years of age and older. (1)

DOSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Adult Patients: The recommended initial dosage of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets is 400 mg once daily. For some patients, treatment may be initiated at 800 mg once daily if the need for seizure reduction outweighs an increased risk of adverse reactions. Increase the dose in weekly increments of 400 mg to 800 mg once daily, based on clinical response and tolerability, to a recommended maintenance dosage of 600 mg to 1,600 mg once daily. (2, 2.2)
- Pediatric Patients: The recommended dosage of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets is based on body weight and is administered orally once daily. Increase the dose in weekly intervals based on clinical response and tolerability, to the recommended maintenance dosage. (2, 2)
- Patients with Moderate or Severe Renal Impairment: Reduce dosage by 50%. (2.4)

DOSSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Tablets: 200 mg, 400 mg, 600 mg, 800 mg (3).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Hypersensitivity to eslicarbazepine acetate or oxcarbazepine. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Suicidal Behavior and Ideation: Monitor for suicidal thoughts or behavior. (5.1)
- Serious Dermatologic Reactions, Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS), Anaphylactic Reactions and Angioedema: Monitor and discontinue if another cause cannot be established. (5.2, 5.3, 5.4)
- Hypotension: Monitor sodium levels in patients at risk or patients experiencing hyponatremia symptoms. (5.5)

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS*

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Important Administration Instructions
- General Dosing Recommendations
- Dosage Modifications with Other Antiepileptic Drugs
- Dosage Modifications in Patients with Renal Impairment
- Patients with Hepatic Impairment
- Discontinuation of Eslicarbazepine Acetate Tablets

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Suicidal Behavior and Ideation
- Serious Dermatologic Reactions
- Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS)/Multiorgan Hypersensitivity
- Anaphylactic Reactions and Angioedema
- Hypotension
- Neurological Adverse Reactions
- Withdrawal of AEDs
- Drug Induced Liver Injury
- Abnormal Thyroid Function Tests
- Hematologic Adverse Reactions

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

- Clinical Trials Experience
- Postmarketing Experience

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Other Antiepileptic Drugs
- CYP2C19 Substrates
- CYP3A4 Substrates
- Oral Contraceptives

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

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

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are indicated for the treatment of partial-onset seizures in patients 4 years of age and older.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Important Administration Instructions

Instruct patients to administer eslicarbazepine acetate tablets either as whole or as crushed tablets. Instruct patients to take eslicarbazepine acetate tablets either with or without food. The eslicarbazepine acetate tablets dosing regimen depends on age, weight, and renal function.

2.2 General Dosing Recommendations

Monotherapy and Adjunctive Therapy

Adult Patients

The recommended initial dosage of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets is 400 mg administered orally once daily. For some patients, treatment may be initiated at 800 mg once daily if the need for seizure reduction outweighs an increased risk of adverse reactions during initiation (see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*). Dosage should be increased in weekly increments of 400 mg to 800 mg, based on clinical response and tolerability, to a recommended maintenance dosage of 800 mg to 1,600 mg once daily. For patients on eslicarbazepine acetate tablets monotherapy, the 800 mg once daily maintenance dose should generally be considered in patients who are unable to tolerate a 1,200 mg daily dose. For patients on eslicarbazepine acetate tablets adjunctive therapy, the 1,600 mg daily dose should generally be considered in patients who did not achieve a satisfactory response with a 1,200 mg daily dose.

Pediatric Patients (4 to 17 Years of Age)

In pediatric patients 4 to 17 years of age, the recommended dosing regimen is dependent upon body weight and is administered orally once daily. The recommended initial dosage of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets is shown in Table 1. Dosage should be increased based on clinical response and tolerability, no more frequently than once per week. Titration increments should not exceed those shown in Table 1. The daily maintenance dosage should not exceed the maintenance dosage for each body weight range shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Eslicarbazepine Acetate Tablets Once Daily Dosage Schedule for Pediatric Patients 4 to 17 Years of Age

Body Weight Range	Initial and Maximum Titration Increment Dosage (mg/day)	Maintenance Dosage (mg/day)
11 to 21 kg	400 to 600	400 to 600
22 to 31 kg	300	500 to 800
32 to 38 kg	300	600 to 900
more than 38 kg	400	800 to 1,200

2.3 Dosage Modifications with Other Antiepileptic Drugs

Some adverse reactions occur more frequently when patients take eslicarbazepine acetate tablets adjuctively with carbamazepine (see *Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*). However, carbamazepine reduces the plasma concentration of eslicarbazepine (see *Drug Interactions (7.1)*). When eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and carbamazepine are taken concomitantly, the dose of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets or carbamazepine may need to be adjusted based on efficacy and tolerability. For patients taking other enzyme-inducing AEDs (i.e., phenobarbital, phenytoin, and primidone), higher doses of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may be needed (see *Drug Interactions (7.1)*). Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets should not be taken as an adjunctive therapy with oxcarbazepine.

2.4 Dosage Modifications in Patients with Renal Impairment

In patients with moderate and severe renal impairment (i.e., creatinine clearance < 50 mL/min), the initial, titration, and maintenance dosages should generally be reduced by 50%. Titration and maintenance dosages may be adjusted according to clinical response (see *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*).

2.5 Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Dose adjustments are not required in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment. Use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in patients with severe hepatic impairment has not been studied, and use in these patients is not recommended (see *Use in Specific Populations (8.7)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*).

2.6 Discontinuation of Eslicarbazepine Acetate Tablets

When discontinuing eslicarbazepine acetate tablets, reduce the dosage gradually and avoid abrupt discontinuation in order to minimize the risk of increased seizure frequency and status epilepticus (see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*).

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are available in the following shapes and color:

200 mg: white to off white, oblong tablets, debossed with "CS2" on one side and functional scoring on other side.

400 mg: white to off white, round tablets, debossed with "CS2" on one side and plain on other side.

600 mg: white to off white, oblong tablets, debossed with "CS3" on one side and functional scoring on other side.

800 mg: white to off white, oblong tablets, debossed with "CS4" on one side and functional scoring on other side.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are contraindicated in patients with a hypersensitivity to eslicarbazepine acetate or oxcarbazepine (see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2, 5.3, and 5.4)*).

- Neurological Adverse Reactions: Monitor for dizziness, disturbance in gait and coordination, somnolence, fatigue, cognitive dysfunction, and visual changes. Use caution when driving or operating machinery. (5.6)
- Withdrawal of Eslicarbazepine Acetate Tablets: Withdraw eslicarbazepine acetate tablets gradually to minimize the risk of increased seizure frequency and status epilepticus. (2.6, 5.7, 8.1)
- Drug Induced Liver Injury: Discontinue eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in patients with jaundice or evidence of significant liver injury. (5.8)
- Hematologic Adverse Reactions: Consider discontinuing. (5.10)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

- Most common adverse reactions in adult patients receiving eslicarbazepine acetate tablets (>4% and ≥2% greater than placebo): dizziness, somnolence, nausea, headache, diplopia, vomiting, fatigue, vertigo, ataxia, blurred vision, and tremor. (6.1)
- Adverse reactions similar to those seen in adult patients.

To Report Suspected Adverse Reactions, contact Jubilant Cadista Pharmaceuticals Inc. at 1-800-313-4623 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Carbamazepine: May need dose adjustment for eslicarbazepine acetate tablets or carbamazepine. (2.3, 5.6, 7.1)
- Phenytoin: Higher dosage of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may be necessary and dose adjustment may be needed for phenytoin. (2.3, 7.1, 7.2)
- Phenobarbital or Primidone: Higher dosage of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may be necessary. (2.3, 7.1)
- Hormonal Contraceptives: Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may decrease the effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives. (7.4, 8.3)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Pregnancy: Based on animal data, may cause fetal harm. (8.1)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and Medication Guide.

Revised: 06/2026

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Pregnancy
- Lactation
- Females and Males of Reproductive Potential
- Pediatric Use
- Geriatric Use
- Patients with Renal Impairment
- Patients with Hepatic Impairment

9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

- Controlled Substance
- Abuse
- Dependence

10 OVERDOSAGE

- Symptoms and Laboratory Findings of Acute Overdose in Humans
- Treatment or Management of Overdose

11 DESCRIPTION

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

- Mechanism of Action
- Pharmacodynamics
- Pharmacokinetics

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

- Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

- Monotherapy for Partial-Onset Seizures
- Adjunctive Therapy for Partial-Onset Seizures

15 REFERENCES

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

- How Supplied
- Storage and Handling

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

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

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Suicidal Behavior and Ideation

Antiepileptic drugs (AEDs), including eslicarbazepine acetate tablets, increase the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior in patients taking these drugs for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooler analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients treated with one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence of suicidal thoughts or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number of events is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior of AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The findings of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

be treated with eslicarbazepine acetate tablets (see *Contraindications (4)*).

5.5 Hyponatremia

Clinically significant hyponatremia (sodium <125 mEq/L) can develop in patients taking eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. Measurement of serum sodium and chloride levels should be considered during maintenance treatment with eslicarbazepine acetate tablets, particularly if the patient is receiving other medications known to decrease serum sodium levels, and should be performed if symptoms of hyponatremia develop (e.g., nausea/vomiting, malaise, headache, lethargy, confusion, irritability, muscle weakness/spasms, obtundation, or increase in seizure frequency or severity). Cases of symptomatic hyponatremia and syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH) have been reported during postmarketing use. In clinical trials, patients whose treatment with eslicarbazepine acetate tablets was discontinued because of hyponatremia generally experienced normalization of serum sodium within a few days without additional treatment.

In the controlled adult adjunctive epilepsy trials, 4415 patients (1.0%) treated with 800 mg and 6/410 (1.5%) patients treated with 1,200 mg of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets had at least one serum sodium value less than 125 mEq/L, compared to none of the patients assigned to placebo. A higher percentage of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients (5.1%) than placebo-treated patients (0.7%) experienced decreases in sodium values of more than 10 mEq/L. These effects were dose-related and generally appeared within the first 8 weeks of treatment (as early as after 3 days). Serious, life-threatening complications were reported with eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-associated hyponatremia (as low as 112 mEq/L) including seizures, severe nausea/vomiting leading to dehydration, severe gait instability, and injury. Some patients required hospitalization and discontinuation of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. Concurrent hyponatremia was also present in patients with hyponatremia. Hyponatremia was also observed in adult monotherapy trials and in pediatric trials. Depending on the severity of hyponatremia, the dose of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may need to be reduced or discontinued.

5.6 Neurological Adverse Reactions

Dizziness and Disturbance in Gait and Coordination

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets causes dose-related increases in adverse reactions related to dizziness and disturbance in gait and coordination (dizziness, ataxia, vertigo, balance disorder, gait disturbance, nystagmus, and abnormal coordination) (see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*). In controlled adult adjunctive epilepsy trials, these events were reported in 26% and 38% of patients randomized to receive eslicarbazepine acetate tablets at doses of 800 mg and 1,200 mg/day, respectively, compared to 12% of placebo-treated patients. Events related to dizziness and disturbance in gait and coordination were more often serious in eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients than in placebo-treated patients (9% vs. 0.7%). There was an increased risk of these adverse reactions during the titration period (compared to the maintenance period) and there also may be an increased risk of these adverse reactions in patients 60 years of age and older compared to younger adults. Nausea and vomiting also occurred with these events. Adverse reactions related to dizziness and disturbance in gait and coordination were also observed in adult monotherapy trials and pediatric trials. The incidence of dizziness was greater with the concomitant use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and carbamazepine compared to the use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets without carbamazepine in adult and pediatric trials. Therefore, consider dosage modifications of both eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and carbamazepine if these drugs are used concomitantly (see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*).

Somnolence and Fatigue

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets causes dose-dependent increases in somnolence and fatigue-related adverse reactions (fatigue, asthenia, malaise, hypotension, sedation, and lethargy). In the controlled adult adjunctive epilepsy trials, these events were reported in 13% of placebo patients, 16% of patients randomized to receive 800 mg/day eslicarbazepine acetate tablets, and 28% of patients randomized to receive 1,200 mg/day eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. Somnolence and fatigue-related events were serious in 0.3% of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients (and 0 placebo patients) and led to discontinuation in 3% of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients (and 0.7% of placebo-treated patients). Somnolence and fatigue-related reactions were also observed in adult monotherapy trials and in pediatric trials.

Cognitive Dysfunction

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets causes dose-dependent increases in cognitive dysfunction-related events in adults (memory impairment, disturbance in attention, amnesia, confusional state, aphasia, speech disorder, slowing of thought, disorientation, and psychomotor retardation). In the controlled adult adjunctive epilepsy trials, these events were reported in 1% of placebo patients, 4% of patients randomized to receive 800 mg/day eslicarbazepine acetate tablets, and 7% of patients randomized to receive 1,200 mg/day eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. Cognitive dysfunction-related events were serious in 0.2% of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients (and 0 placebo patients) and led to discontinuation in 3% of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients (and 0.7% of placebo-treated patients). Somnolence and fatigue-related reactions were also observed in adult monotherapy trials and in pediatric trials.

Visual Changes

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets causes dose-dependent increases in events related to visual changes including diplopia, blurred vision, and impaired vision. In the controlled adult adjunctive epilepsy trials, these events were reported in 16% of patients randomized to receive eslicarbazepine acetate tablets compared to 6% of placebo patients. Eye events were serious in 0.7% of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients (and 0 placebo patients) and led to discontinuation in 4% of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets-treated patients (and 0.2% of placebo-treated patients). There was an increased risk of these adverse reactions during the titration period (compared to the maintenance period) and also in patients 60 years of age and older (compared to younger adults). The incidence of diplopia was greater with the concomitant use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and carbamazepine compared to the use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets without carbamazepine (up to 16% vs. 6%, respectively) (see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*). Similar adverse reactions related to visual changes were also observed in adult monotherapy trials and in pediatric trials.

Hazardous Activities

Prescribers should advise patients against engaging in hazardous activities requiring mental alertness, such as operating motor vehicles or dangerous machinery, until the effect of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets is known.

5.7 Withdrawal of AEDs

As with all antiepileptic drugs, eslicarbazepine acetate tablets should be withdrawn gradually because of the risk of increased seizure frequency and status epilepticus, but

What are the possible side effects of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets?

See “What is the most important information I should know about eslicarbazepine acetate tablets?”

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may cause other serious side effects including:

- Nervous system problems.** Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may cause problems that can affect your nervous system. Symptoms of nervous system problems include:
 - dizziness
 - trouble walking or with coordination
 - feeling sleepy and tired
 - blurred vision
 - vision problems
- Liver problems.** Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets may affect your liver. Symptoms of liver problems include:
 - yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes
 - nausea or vomiting
 - loss of appetite
 - stomach pain
 - dark urine

Get medical help right away if you have any of the symptoms listed above or listed in “What is the most important information I should know about eslicarbazepine acetate tablets?”

The most common side effects of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets include:

- dizziness
- sleepiness
- nausea
- headache
- double vision
- vomiting
- feeling tired
- blurred vision
- shakiness
- problems with coordination

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Jubilant Cadista Pharmaceuticals Inc. at 1-800-313-4623 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

How should I store eslicarbazepine acetate tablets?

- Store eslicarbazepine acetate tablets at 20°C to 25°C (68°F to 77°F).
- Safely throw away medicine that is out of date or no longer needed.

Keep eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and all medicines out of reach of children.

What are the ingredients in eslicarbazepine acetate tablets?

Active ingredient: eslicarbazepine acetate

Inactive ingredients: hypromellose, magnesium stearate, and sodium starch glycolate.

General information about the safe and effective use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use eslicarbazepine acetate tablets for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give eslicarbazepine acetate tablets to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about eslicarbazepine acetate tablets that is written for health professionals.

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Rx Only

Made in India

Marketed by:

Jubilant Cadista Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Yardley, PA 19067, USA

Revised: 04/2026

The rat data are of uncertain relevance to humans because of differences in metabolic profile between species.

8.2 Lactation

Eslicarbazepine is present in human milk. The effects of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets on the breastfed infant or on milk production are unknown. The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed infant from eslicarbazepine acetate tablets or from the underlying maternal condition.

8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential

Contraception
Use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets with hormonal contraceptives containing ethinylloestradiol or levonorgestrel is associated with lower plasma levels of these hormones. Advise women of reproductive potential taking eslicarbazepine acetate tablets to use a contraceptive containing ethinylloestradiol or levonorgestrel in use additional or alternative non-hormonal birth control. *See Drug Interactions (7.4).*

Fertility

Eslicarbazepine acetate was evaluated in rats and mice for potential adverse impact on fertility of the parental and first generation. *See Nonclinical Toxicology (13.1).* In a fertility study in male and female mice, adverse developmental outcomes were observed in embryos. In a fertility study in male and female rats, impairment of female fertility by eslicarbazepine acetate was shown.

8.4 Pediatric Use

Safety and effectiveness of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets have been established in the age groups 4 to 17 years. Use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in these age groups is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in adults with partial-onset seizures, pharmacokinetic data from adult and pediatric patients, and safety data from clinical studies in 393 pediatric patients 4 to 17 years of age. *See Adverse Reactions (6.1) and Clinical Pharmacology (12.3).*
Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients below the age of 4 years have not been established.

Animal Data

In a juvenile animal study in which eslicarbazepine acetate (40, 80, 160 mg/kg/day) was orally administered to young dogs for 10 months starting on postnatal day 21, adverse effects on bone growth (decreased bone mineral content and density) were seen in females at all doses at the end of the dosing period, but not at the end of a 2-month recovery period. Females were seen at the highest dose tested. A no-effect dose for adverse effects in juvenile dogs was not identified. The lowest dose tested is less than the maximum recommended pediatric dose (1,200 mg/day) on a body surface area (mg/m²) basis.

A separate juvenile animal study was conducted to assess possible adverse effects on the immune system. Eslicarbazepine acetate (10, 40, 80 mg/kg/day) was orally administered to young dogs for 17 weeks starting on postnatal day 21. No effects on the immune system were observed.

8.5 Geriatric Use

There were insufficient numbers of patients >65 years old enrolled in the controlled adjunctive epilepsy trials (N=15) to determine the efficacy of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in this patient population. The pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets were evaluated in elderly healthy subjects (N=12) (Figure 1). Although the pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine are not affected by age independently, dose selection should take in consideration the greater frequency of renal impairment and other concomitant medical conditions and drug therapies in the elderly patient. Dose adjustment is necessary if CrCl is <50 mL/min. *See Clinical Pharmacology (12.3).*

8.6 Patients with Renal Impairment

Clearance of eslicarbazepine is decreased in patients with impaired renal function and is correlated with creatinine clearance. Dose adjustment is necessary in patients with CrCl<50 mL/min (Figure 1). *See Dosage and Administration (2.4) and Clinical Pharmacology (12.3).*

8.7 Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Dose adjustments are not required in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment (Figure 1). Use of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in patients with severe hepatic impairment has not been evaluated, and use in these patients is not recommended. *See Clinical Pharmacology (12.3).*

9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

9.1 Controlled Substance

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are not a controlled substance.

9.2 Abuse

Prescription drug abuse is the intentional non-therapeutic use of a drug, even once, for its rewarding psychological or physiological effects. Drug addiction, which develops after repeated drug abuse, is characterized by a strong desire to take a drug despite harmful consequences, difficulty in controlling its use, giving a higher priority to drug use than to obligations, increased tolerance, and sometimes physical withdrawal. Drug abuse and drug addiction are separate and distinct from physical dependence (for example, abuse may not be accompanied by physical dependence). *See Drug Abuse and Dependence (9.3).*

In a human abuse study in recreational sedative abusers eslicarbazepine acetate tablets showed no evidence of abuse. In Phase 1, 1.5% of the healthy volunteers taking eslicarbazepine acetate tablets reported euphoria compared to 0.4% taking placebo.

9.3 Dependence

Physical dependence is characterized by withdrawal symptoms after abrupt discontinuation or a significant dose reduction of a drug.

There was some evidence of physical dependence or a withdrawal syndrome with eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in a physical dependence study conducted in healthy volunteers who were maintained at a daily dose of 600 mg eslicarbazepine acetate tablets for 4 weeks prior to discontinuation. The primary endpoint was the maximum change from steady-state baseline in the total score of the Physician's Withdrawal Checklist (PWC-34) during the 21-day discontinuation period. Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and placebo were shown to be equivalent on the primary endpoint. Two out of 8 secondary endpoints (visual analog scales for anxiety and nausea) showed some increase in these symptoms for subjects who were maintained on eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and discontinued, versus subjects who were maintained on placebo. In general, AEDs should not be abruptly discontinued in patients with epilepsy because of the risk of increased seizure frequency and status epilepticus.

10 OVERDOSSAGE

10.1 Signs, Symptoms, and Laboratory Findings of Acute Overdose in Humans

Symptoms of overdose are consistent with the known adverse reactions of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets and include hyponatremia (sometimes severe), dizziness, nausea, vomiting, somnolence, euphoria, oral paraesthesia, ataxia, walking difficulties, and diplopia. The maximum dosage studied in open-label adult monotherapy treatment following withdrawal of concomitant AEDs was 2,400 mg once daily.

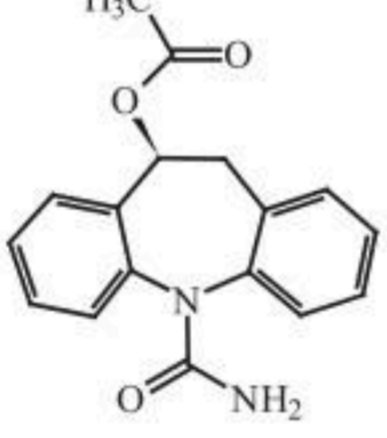
10.2 Treatment or Management of Overdose

There is no specific antidote for overdose with eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. Symptomatic and supportive treatment should be administered as appropriate. Removal of the drug by gastric lavage and/or inactivation by administering activated charcoal should be considered.

Standard hemodialysis procedures result in partial clearance of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. Hemodialysis may be considered based on the patient's clinical state or in patients with significant renal impairment.

11 DESCRIPTION

The chemical name of eslicarbazepine acetate is (S)-10-Acetoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz(b,h)azepine-5-carboxamide. Eslicarbazepine acetate is a dibenz(b,h)azepine derivative. Its molecular formula is C₁₈H₁₄N₂O₃ and its molecular weight is 296.32. The chemical structure is:



Eslicarbazepine acetate is a white to almost white crystalline powder. It is insoluble in hexane, very slightly soluble in aqueous solvents and soluble in organic solvents such as acetone, acetonitrile, and methanol. Each eslicarbazepine acetate tablet contains 200 mg, 400 mg, 600 mg or 800 mg of eslicarbazepine acetate and the following inactive ingredients: hypromellose, magnesium stearate, and sodium starch glycolate.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are extensively converted to eslicarbazepine, which is considered to be responsible for therapeutic effects in humans. The precise mechanism(s) by which eslicarbazepine exerts anticonvulsant activity is unknown but is thought to involve inhibition of voltage-gated sodium channels.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

The effect of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets on cardiac repolarization was evaluated in a randomized, double-blind, placebo- and active-controlled 4-period crossover trial in healthy adult men and women. Subjects received eslicarbazepine acetate tablets 1,200 mg once daily × 5 days, eslicarbazepine acetate tablets 2,400 mg once daily × 5 days, an active-control, moxifloxacin 400 mg × 1 dose on Day 5, and placebo once daily × 5 days. At both doses of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets, no significant effect on the QTc interval was detected.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

The pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine is linear and dose-proportional in the dose range of 400 mg to 1,600 mg once daily, both in healthy adult subjects and patients. The apparent half-life of eslicarbazepine in plasma was 13-20 hours in adult epilepsy patients. Steady-state plasma concentrations are attained after 4 to 5 days of once daily dosing.

Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, and Excretion

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are mostly undetectable (0.01% of the systemic exposure) after oral administration. Eslicarbazepine, the major metabolite, is primarily responsible for the pharmacological effect of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. Peak plasma concentrations (C_{max}) of eslicarbazepine are attained at 1-4 hours post-dose. Eslicarbazepine is highly bioavailable, because the amount of eslicarbazepine and glucuronide metabolites recovered in urine corresponded to more than 90% of an eslicarbazepine acetate tablets dose. Food has no effect on the pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine after oral administration of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets.

Distribution

The binding of eslicarbazepine to plasma proteins is relatively low (<40%) and independent of concentration. *In vitro* studies have shown that plasma protein binding was not relevantly affected by the presence of rifampin, diazepam, digoxin, phenytoin, or tobutamide. Similarly, the binding of warfarin, diazepam, digoxin, phenytoin or tobutamide was not significantly affected by the presence of eslicarbazepine. The apparent volume of distribution of eslicarbazepine is 6 L for body weight of 70 kg based on population PK analysis.

Metabolism

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are rapidly and extensively metabolized to its major active metabolite eslicarbazepine by hydrolytic first-pass metabolism. Eslicarbazepine corresponds to 91% of systemic exposure. The major exposure to minor active metabolites of (R)-licarbazepine is 5% and oxcarbazepine is 1%. The inactive glucuronides of these active metabolites correspond to approximately 3% of systemic exposure.

In vitro studies in human liver microsomes, eslicarbazepine had no clinically relevant inhibitory effect on the activity of CYP2A2, CYP2A6, CYP2B6, CYP2D6, CYP2E1, and CYP3A4, and only a moderate inhibitory effect on CYP2C19. Studies with eslicarbazepine in fresh human hepatocytes showed no induction of enzymes involved in glucuronidation and sulfation of 7-hydroxy-coumarin. A mild activation of UGT1A1-mediated glucuronidation was observed in human hepatic microsomes.

No apparent autoinduction of metabolism has been observed with eslicarbazepine acetate tablets in humans.

Excretion

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets metabolites are eliminated from the systemic circulation primarily by renal excretion, in the unchanged and glucuronide conjugate forms. In total, eslicarbazepine and its glucuronide account for more than 90% of total metabolites excreted in urine, approximately two thirds in the unchanged form and one third as glucuronide conjugate. Other minor metabolites account for the remaining 10% excreted in the urine. In healthy subjects with normal renal function, the renal clearance of eslicarbazepine (approximately 20 mL/min) is substantially lower than glomerular filtration rate (80-120 mL/min), suggesting that renal tubular reabsorption occurs. The apparent plasma half-life of eslicarbazepine was 13-20 hours in epilepsy patients. *See Dosage and Administration (2.4) and Use in Specific Populations (8.6).*

Specific Populations

Geriatric Patients (>65 Years of Age)

The pharmacokinetic profile of eslicarbazepine was unaffected in elderly subjects with creatinine clearance >60 mL/min compared to healthy subjects (18-40 years) after single and repeated doses of 600 mg eslicarbazepine acetate tablets during 9 days of dosing. No dose adjustment is necessary in adults based on age, if CrCl is ≥50 mL/min.

Pediatric Patients (4 to 17 Years of Age)

A pharmacokinetic study of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets was performed in 29 pediatric patients with partial-onset seizures. Limited pharmacokinetic sampling was also performed during controlled pediatric adjunctive therapy partial-onset seizure studies. As in adult patients, eslicarbazepine acetate tablets are rapidly and extensively metabolized to its major active metabolite eslicarbazepine. The pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine is linear and dose-proportional in the dose range of 5 to 30 mg/kg/day. Peak plasma concentrations (C_{max}) of eslicarbazepine are attained at 1-3 hours post-dose. A population pharmacokinetic analysis showed that body weight significantly correlates with the clearance of eslicarbazepine in pediatric patients; clearance increased with an increase in body weight. A weight-based dosing regimen is necessary to achieve eslicarbazepine exposures in pediatric patients aged 4 to 17 years similar to those observed in adults treated at effective doses of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. *See Dosage and Administration (2.2).* The apparent half-life of eslicarbazepine in plasma was 10-16 hours in pediatric patients with partial-onset seizures. Steady-state plasma concentrations are attained after 4 to 5 days of once-daily dosing.

The pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine in pediatric patients are similar when used as monotherapy or as adjunctive therapy for the treatment of partial-onset seizures.

Gender

Studies in healthy subjects and patients showed that pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine was not affected by gender.

Race

No clinically significant effect of race (Caucasian N=849, Black N=53, Asian N=65, and Other N=51) on the pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine was noted in a population pharmacokinetic analysis of pooled data from the clinical studies.

Renal Impairment

Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets metabolites are eliminated from the systemic circulation primarily by renal excretion. The extent of systemic exposure of eslicarbazepine following an 800 mg single dose was increased by 62% in patients with mild renal impairment (CrCl 50-80 mL/min), by 2-fold in patients with moderate renal impairment (CrCl 30-49 mL/min) and by 2.5-fold in patients with severe renal impairment (CrCl <30 mL/min) in comparison to the healthy subjects (CrCl >80 mL/min). Dose adjustment is recommended in patients with creatinine clearance below 50 mL/min. *See Dosage and Administration (2.4) and Use in Specific Populations (8.6).*

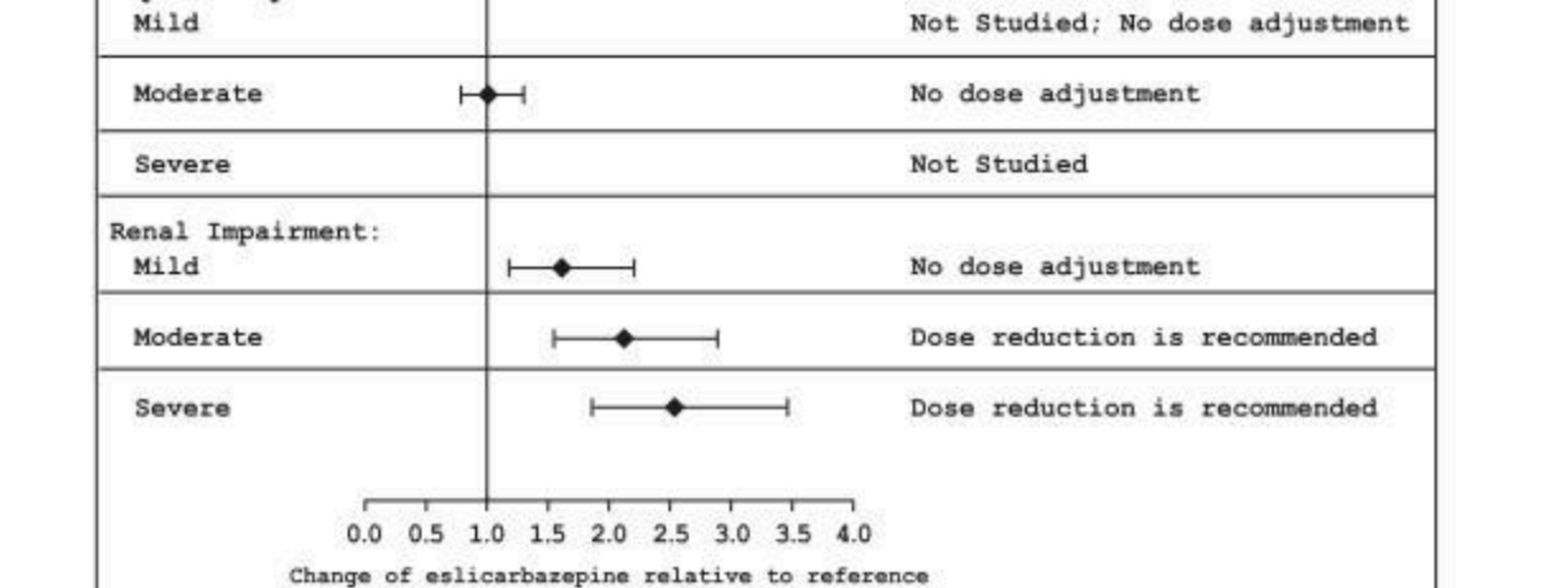
In patients with end stage renal disease, repeated hemodialysis removed eslicarbazepine acetate tablets metabolites from systemic circulation.

Hepatic Impairment

The pharmacokinetics and metabolism of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets was evaluated in healthy subjects and patients with moderate liver impairment (7-9 points on the Child-Pugh assessment) after multiple oral doses (see Figure 1). Moderate hepatic impairment did not affect the pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets. No dose adjustment is recommended in patients with mild to moderate liver impairment.

The pharmacokinetics of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets has not been studied in patients with severe hepatic impairment.

Figure 1: Impact of Intrinsic Factors on AUC of Eslicarbazepine

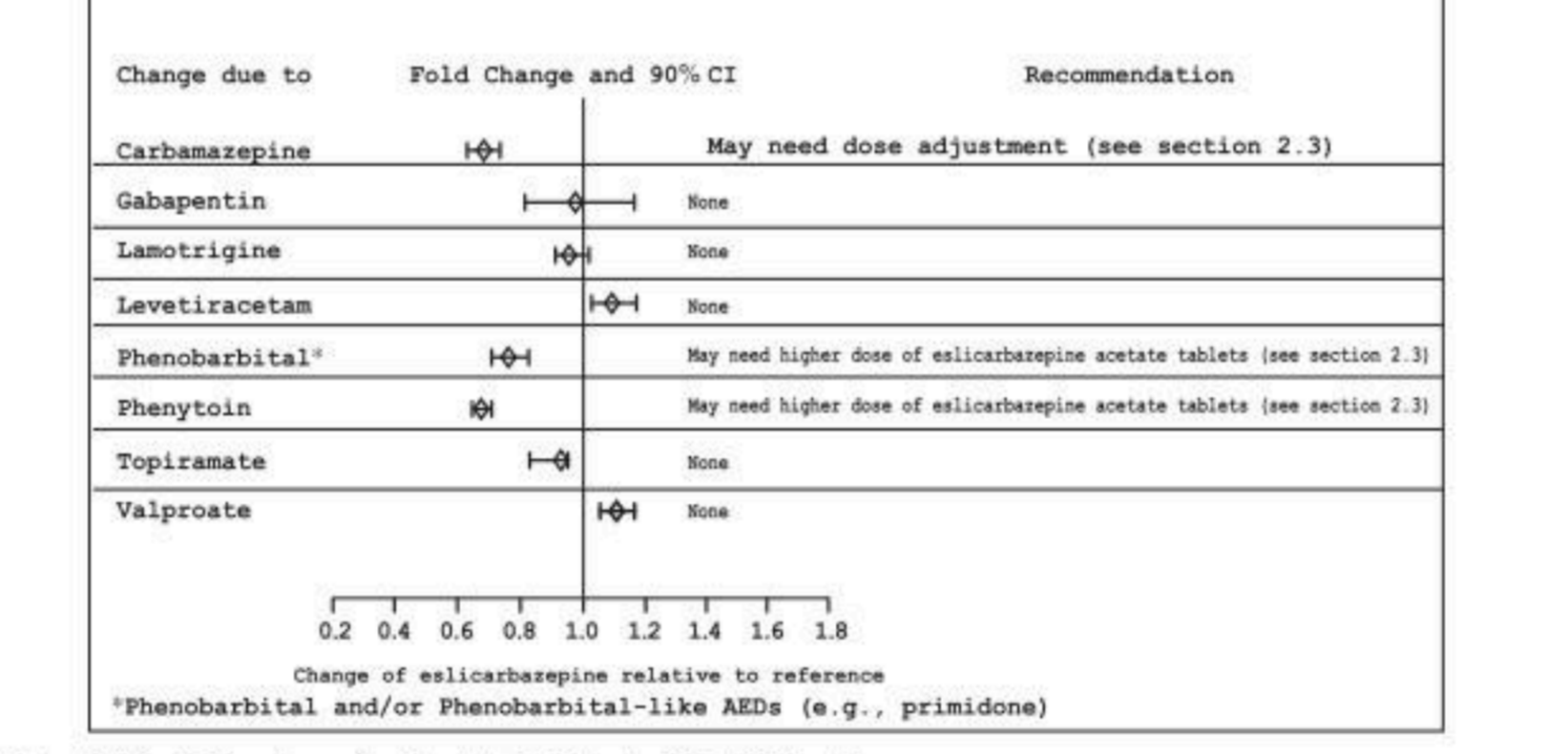


Drug Interaction Studies

Potential for Other AEDs to Affect Eslicarbazepine

The potential impact of other AEDs on the systemic exposure (area under the curve, AUC) of eslicarbazepine, the active metabolite of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets, is shown in Figure 2:

Figure 2: Potential Impact of Other AEDs on AUC of Eslicarbazepine



Potential for Eslicarbazepine Acetate Tablets to Affect Other Drugs

The potential impact of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets on the systemic exposure (AUC) of other drugs (including AEDs) is shown in Figures 3a and 3b:

Figure 3a: Potential Impact of Eslicarbazepine Acetate Tablets on the AUC of AEDs

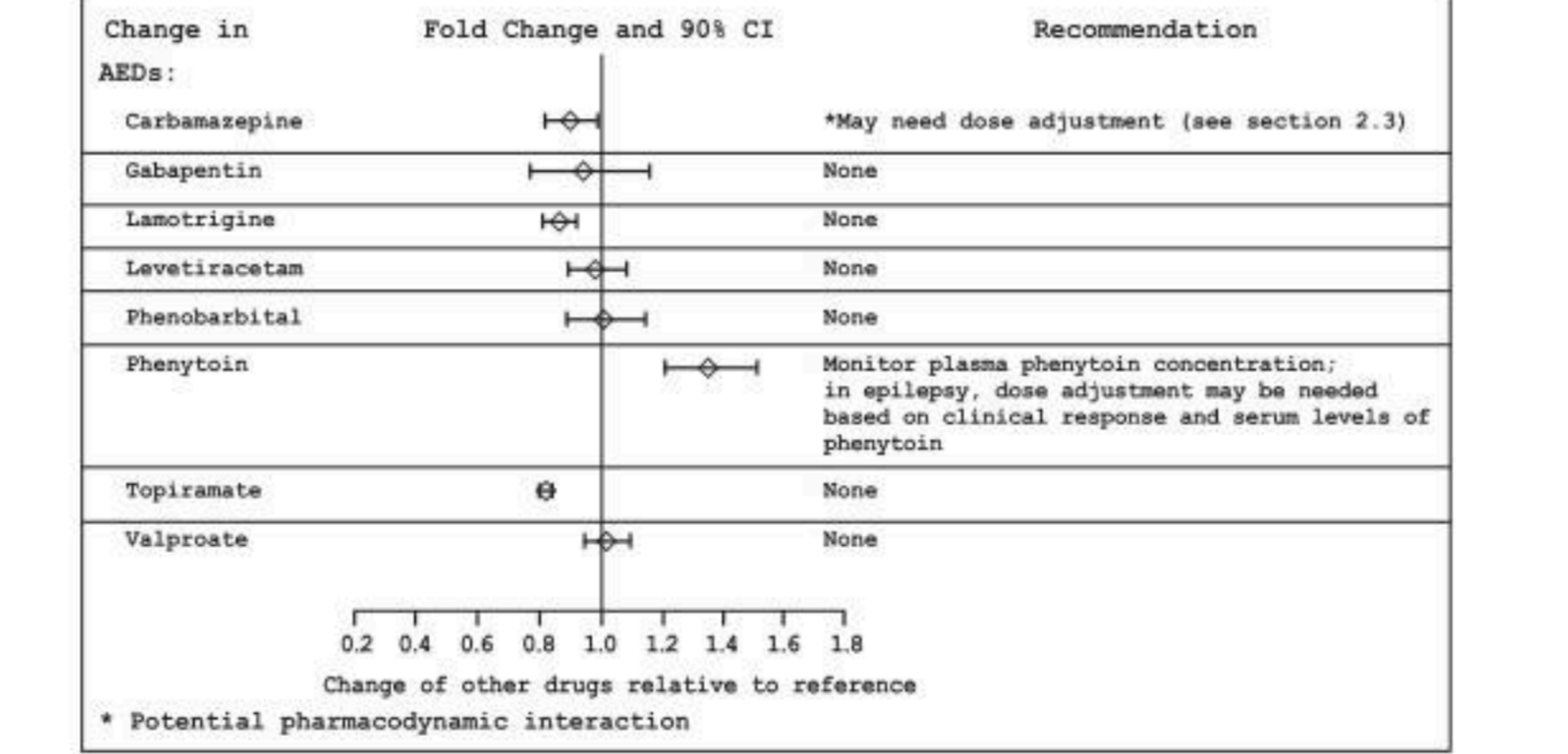
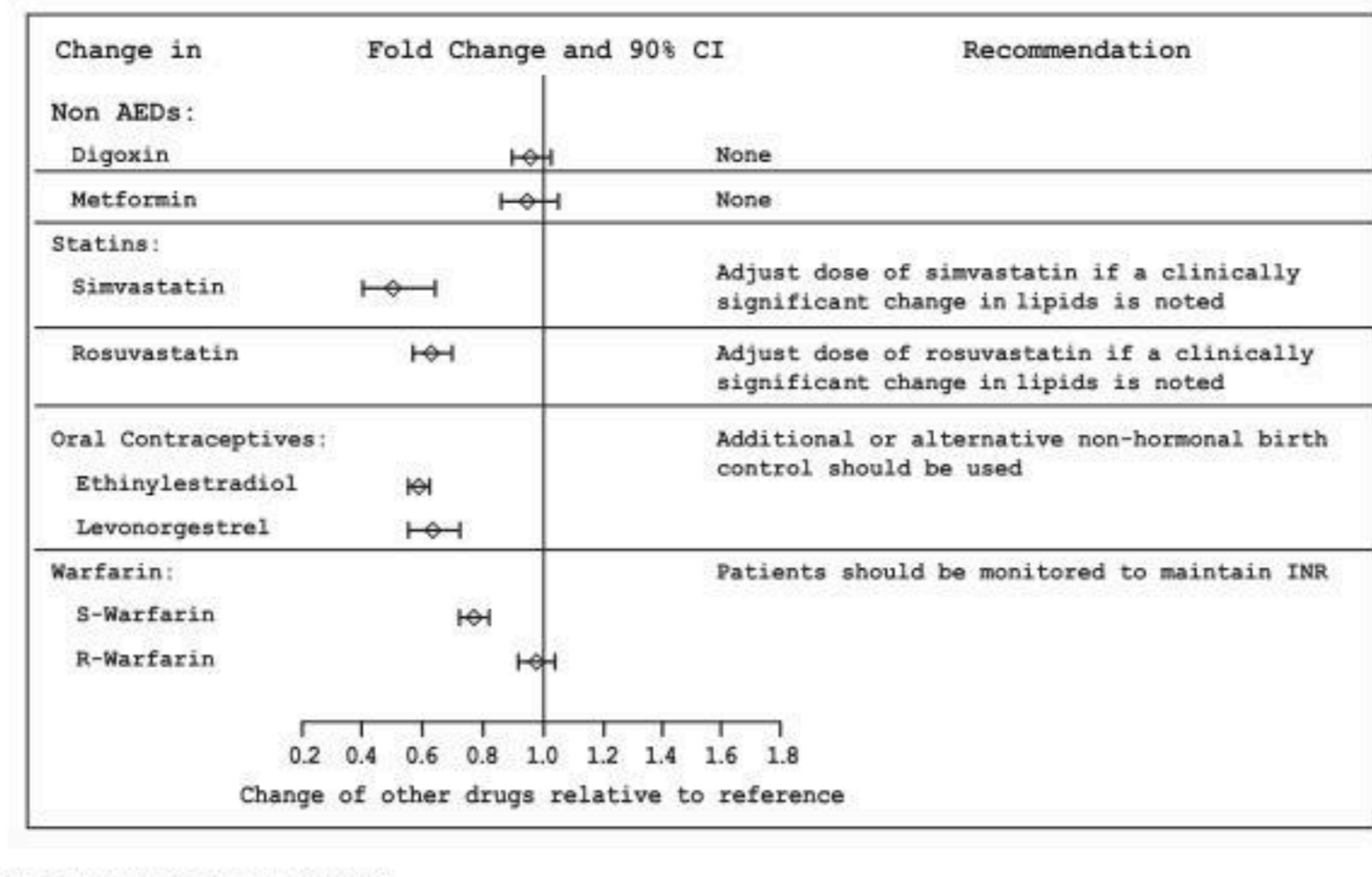


Figure 3b: Potential Impact of Eslicarbazepine Acetate Tablets on the AUC of Non-AEDs



13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenesis
In a two-year carcinogenicity study in mice, eslicarbazepine acetate was administered orally at doses of 100, 250, and 600 mg/kg/day. An increase in the incidence of hepatocellular adenomas and carcinomas was observed at 250 and 600 mg/kg/day in males and at 600 mg/kg/day in females. The dose not associated with an increase in tumors (100 mg/kg/day) is less than the MHD (1,600 mg/day for monotherapy) on a mg/m² basis.

Mutagenesis
Eslicarbazepine acetate and eslicarbazepine were not mutagenic in the *in vitro* Ames assay. In *in vitro* assays in mammalian cells, eslicarbazepine acetate and eslicarbazepine were not clastogenic in human peripheral blood lymphocytes; however, eslicarbazepine acetate was clastogenic in Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells, with and without metabolic activation. Eslicarbazepine acetate was positive in the *in vitro* mouse lymphoma tk assay in the absence of metabolic activation. Eslicarbazepine acetate was not clastogenic in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus assay.

Impairment of Fertility

When eslicarbazepine acetate (150, 350, and 650 mg/kg/day) was orally administered to male and female mice prior to and throughout the mating period, and continuing in females to gestation day 6, there was an increase in embryolethality at all doses. The lowest dose tested is less than the MHD on a mg/m² basis.

When eslicarbazepine acetate (65, 125, 250 mg/kg/day) was orally administered to male and female rats prior to and throughout the mating period, and continuing in females to implantation, lengthening of the estrus cycle was observed at the highest dose tested. The data in rats are of uncertain relevance to humans because of differences in metabolic profile between species.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Monotherapy for Partial-Onset Seizures

The effectiveness of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets as monotherapy for partial-onset seizures was established in two identical, dose-blinded historical control trials in a total of 365 patients with epilepsy (Study 1 and Study 2). In these trials, patients were randomized in a 2:1 ratio to receive either eslicarbazepine acetate tablets 1,600 mg or 1,200 mg once daily, and their responses were compared to those of a historical control group. The historical control methodology is described in a publication by French et al. *See References (15)*. The historical control consisted of a pooled analysis of the control groups from 8 trials of similar design, which utilized a subtherapeutic dose of an AED as a comparator. Statistical superiority to the historical control was considered to be demonstrated if the upper limit from a 2-sided 95% confidence interval for the percentage of patients meeting exit criteria in patients receiving eslicarbazepine acetate tablets remained below the lower 95% prediction interval of 65% derived from the historical control data.

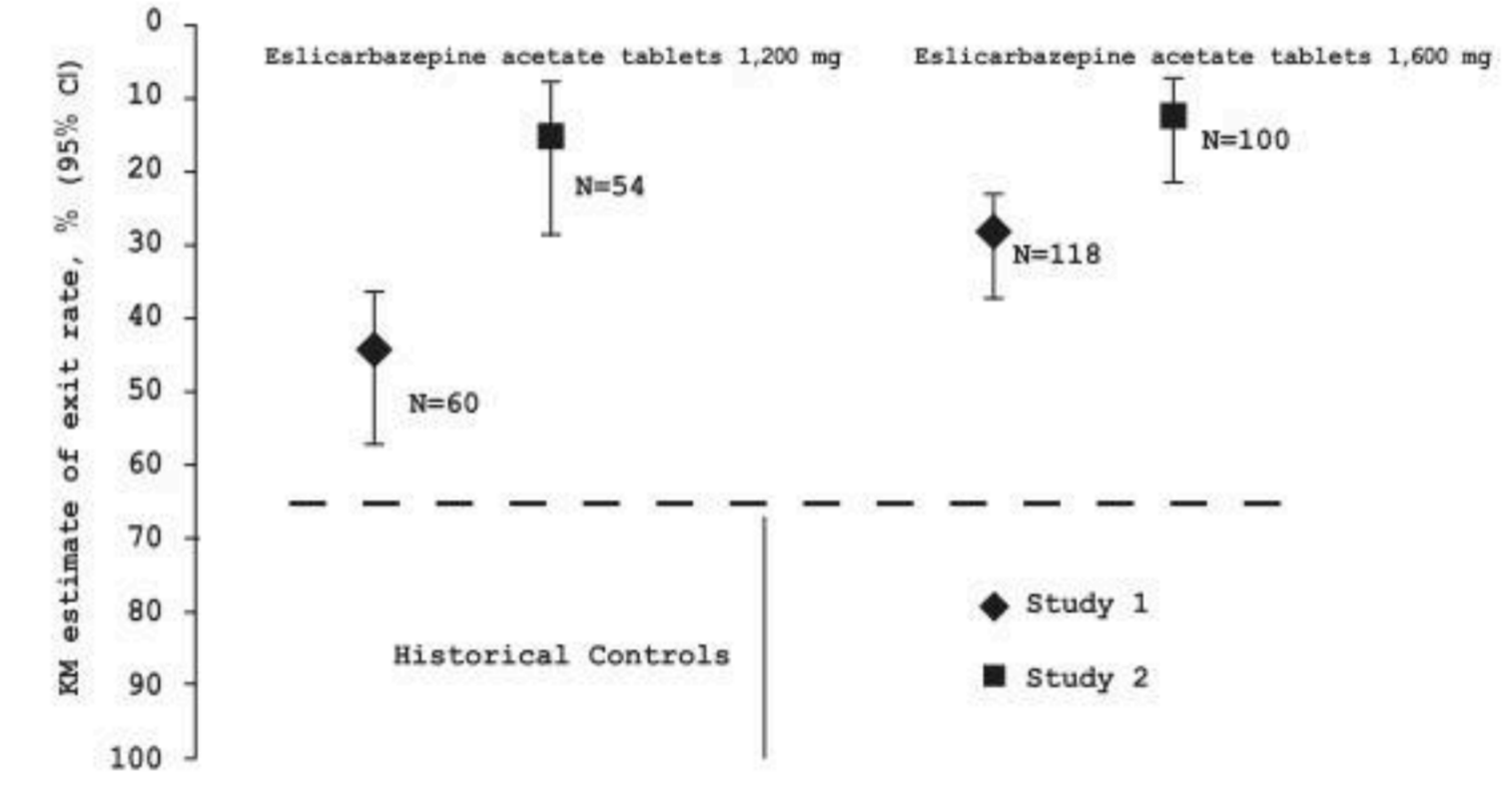
In Study 1 and Study 2, patients >16 years of age experienced at least 4 seizures during the baseline period with no 28-day seizure free period while receiving 1 or 2 AEDs (both could not be sodium-channel blocking drugs), and at least one AED was limited to 2/3 of a typical dose. Eslicarbazepine acetate tablets was titrated over a 1- to 2-week period followed by the gradual withdrawal of the background AED over a 6-week period, followed by 16 weeks monotherapy period.

The exit criteria were one or more of the following: (1) an episode of status epilepticus, (2) emergence of a generalized tonic-clonic seizure in patients who had not had one in the past 6 months, (3) doubling of average monthly seizure count during any 28 consecutive days, (4) doubling of highest consecutive 2-day seizure frequency during the entire treatment phase, or (5) worsening of seizure severity considered by the investigator to require intervention. The primary endpoint was the cumulative 112-day exit rate in the efficacy population. Additionally, in Studies 1 and 2, if the discontinuation rate exceeded 10%, patients were randomly reassigned to be counted as exits.

The most commonly used baseline AEDs were carbamazepine, levetiracetam, valproic acid, and lamotrigine. Oxcarbazepine was used as a baseline AED in 6.6% of patients.

In Study 1, the Kaplan-Meier (K-M) estimate of the percentage of patients meeting at least 1 exit criterion was 29% (95% CI: 21%, 38%) in the 1,600 mg group and 44% (95% CI 33%, 58%) in the 1,200 mg group. In Study 2, K-M estimate of the percentage of patients meeting at least 1 exit criterion was 13% (95% CI: 8%, 22%) in the 1,600 mg group and 16% (95% CI: 8%, 29%) in the 1,200 mg group. The upper limit of the 2-sided 95% CI of both doses in both trials were below the threshold of 65% derived from the historical control data, meeting the pre-specified criteria for efficacy (see Figure 4).

Figure 4: Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Cumulative 112-Day Exit Rates for Studies 1 and 2



14.2 Adjunctive Therapy for Partial-Onset Seizures

The efficacy of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets as adjunctive therapy in partial-onset seizures was established in three randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter trials in adult patients with epilepsy (Study 3, Study 4, and Study 5). Patients enrolled had partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalization and were not adequately controlled with 1 to 3 concomitant AEDs. During an 8-week baseline period, patients were required to have an average of ≥4 partial-onset seizures per 28 days with no seizure-free period exceeding 21 days. In these three trials, patients had a median duration of epilepsy of 19 years and a median baseline seizure frequency of 8 seizures per 28 days. Two-thirds (69%) of subjects used 2 concomitant AEDs and 28% used 1 concomitant AED. The most commonly used AEDs were carbamazepine (50%), lamotrigine (24%), valproic acid (21%), and levetiracetam (18%). Oxcarbazepine was not allowed as a concomitant AED.

Studies 3 and 4 compared dosages of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets 400, 800, and 1,200 mg once daily with placebo. Study 5 compared dosages of eslicarbazepine acetate tablets 800 and 1,200 mg once daily with placebo. In all three trials, following an 8-week Baseline Phase, which established a baseline seizure frequency, subjects were randomized to a treatment arm. Patients entered a treatment period consisting of an initial titration phase (2 weeks), and a subsequent maintenance phase (12 weeks). The specific titration schedule differed amongst the three studies. Thus, patients were started on a daily dose of 400 mg or 800 mg and subsequently increased by 400 mg/day following one or two weeks, until the final daily target dose was achieved.

The standardized seizure frequency during the Maintenance Phase over 28 days was the primary efficacy endpoint in all three trials. Table 5 presents the results for the primary endpoint, as well as the secondary endpoint of percent reduction from baseline in seizure frequency. The eslicarbazepine acetate tablets treatment at 400 mg/day was studied in Studies 3 and 4 and