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Public statement

IV Zanamivir (zanamivir)

Closure of compassionate use programme in the European Union

The manufacturer for IV Zanamivir (zanamivir), GlaxoSmithKline, has formally notified the Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) that on 6 May 2019 it closed the compassionate use programme for IV Zanamivir, an antiviral medicine given as an infusion (drip) into a vein.

On 18 February 2010, the CHMP had adopted recommendations on how IV Zanamivir should be used in compassionate use programmes to treat patients infected with the 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1)v virus or the influenza A or B viruses which cause seasonal influenza (flu). The recommendations aimed to make the medicine available to some critically ill patients with limited treatment options while the medicine was under development.

In its letter notifying the Agency of the closure of the programme, the manufacturer noted that zanamivir has been authorised in the EU as Dectova since 26 April 2019. Dectova is currently authorised for treating complicated and potentially life-threatening influenza caused by the influenza A or B viruses in adults and children from 6 months of age.

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