AMERICAN HEALTH CARE

DRUG PRODUCTS & SAFETY NEWS

FDA Approves Taltz

March 22, 2016

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Taltz (ixekizumab) to treat adults with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis. Psoriasis is a skin condition that causes patches of skin redness and flaking. Psoriasis is an autoimmune disorder that occurs more commonly in patients with a family history of the disease, and most often begins in people between the ages of 15 and 35. The most common form of psoriasis is plaque psoriasis, in which patients develop thick, red skin with flaky, silver-white scales.

Taltz is administered as an injection. It is intended for patients who are candidates for systemic therapy (treatment using substances that travel through the bloodstream, after being taken by mouth or injected), phototherapy (ultraviolet light treatment) or a combination of both. Taltz's active ingredient is an antibody (ixekizumab) that binds to a protein (interleukin (IL)-17A) that causes inflammation. By binding to the protein, ixekizumab is able to inhibit the inflammatory response that plays a role in the development of plaque psoriasis.

Taltz is marketed by Indanapolis, Indiana-based Eli Lilly and Company.

Healthcare professionals and patients are encouraged to report any adverse events or side effects related to the use of this product and/or quality problems to the FDA's MedWatch Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program:

- ✓Complete and submit the report online: www.fda.gov/MedWatch/report.htm
- ✓Complete and return a form by mail (address on the pre-addressed form) or fax (1-800-FDA-0178).

[Call 1-800-332-1088 to request a reporting form or download a form at http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/HowToReport/DownloadForms/default.htm.]

Source: http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491872.htm