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Important information on Dacarbazine medac 200 mg: decreased stability after reconstitution

company medac GmbH would like to inform you of the following:

Summary

During an in-use stability study a decreased stability of the reconstituted solution of Dacarbazine medac 200 mg at room temperature (20-25°C) was detected

- At room temperature (20-25°C) the reconstituted solution should be used immediately
- At a temperature of 2-8°C the reconstituted solution should be used within 24 h, but is nevertheless stable up to 48 h when stored protected from light

For the reconstituted and further diluted solution the following stability results were obtained:

- At room temperature (20-25°C) for the reconstituted and further diluted solution stability has been demonstrated for 2 hours in polyethylene containers protected from light
- At a temperature of 2-8°C for the reconstituted and further diluted solution stability has been demonstrated for 24 hours in polyethylene containers and in glass bottles protected from light
- From a microbiological point of view, the product should be used immediately

Background information

Dacarbazine medac is indicated for the treatment of patients with metastasised malignant melanoma as well as part of a combination chemotherapy for advanced Hodgkin's disease and advanced adult soft tissue sarcomas (except mesothelioma, Kaposi sarcoma).

Doses up to 250 mg/m² body surface area can be administered as a slow i.v. injection. Higher doses (250-850 mg/m²) should be administered as a short-term infusion (over 15 – 30 minutes). As dacarbazine is sensitive to light, all reconstituted solutions should be suitably protected from light also during administration (light-resistant infusion set).

An in-use stability study of the reconstituted solution at room temperature (20-25°C) already showed an OOS result after a short time period for a degradation product of dacarbazine respectively the colour of the solution. An intermediate of the detectable impurity 2-azahypoxanthine is held partly responsible for the well known venous irritation at the application site[1]. Therefore, at room temperature, the reconstituted solution should always be used immediately.

Section *6.3 Shelf life* of the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) of Dacarbazine medac 200 mg will be updated accordingly.

Call for reporting

Please report any suspected adverse reactions associated with the use of Dacarbazine medac 200 mg in accordance with the national spontaneous reporting system

[1] Asahi et al. Causative agent of vascular pain among photodegradation products of dacarbazine. J Pharm Pharmacol. 2002 Aug;54(8):1117-22. PMID: 12195827

You may contact to Scientific Centre of Drug and Medical technology Expertise CJSC via following contacts: address: 49/4 Komitas av., 0051 Yerevan, Armenia, phone**: +37410231682 (ext: 123), Hot line for ADR reporting: + 37410200505/ email: vigilance@pharm.am**

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In case of any questions do not hesitate to contact us.