



Avastin® (bevacizumab)

IMPORTANT PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Subject: Removal of the Boxed Warnings

June 20, 2019

Dear Healthcare Provider:

F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd/Genentech Inc. would like to inform you that the Boxed Warning for Gastrointestinal Perforations, Surgery and Wound Healing Complications, and Hemorrhage has been removed from the Avastin USPI on June 20, 2019.

Avastin® (bevacizumab) is a vascular endothelial growth factor directed antibody indicated for the treatment of several indications including metastatic colorectal cancer, unresectable, locally advanced, recurrent or metastatic non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer, recurrent glioblastoma, metastatic renal cell carcinoma, persistent, recurrent, or metastatic cervical cancer, and epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube, or primary peritoneal cancer.

Boxed Warnings have been removed from the Avastin USPI for the following reasons:

- FDA is leading an effort to ensure consistency of information provided across drugs inhibiting VEGF pathway as a primary mechanism of action (MoA).
- Based on several years of experience across drugs inhibiting VEGF pathway as a primary MoA, the FDA does not believe boxed warnings are necessary to ensure safe use of the product and believes that these Adverse Drug Reactions are adequately warned in the Warnings and Precautions section of the USPI.

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- The FDA considers that Adverse Drug Reactions from the Boxed Warnings relating to the use of bevacizumab are well understood and managed by the prescribing community and are therefore no longer necessary to ensure safe product use.

The removal of the Boxed Warnings from the USPI are not the result of any new information and it does not change the benefit/risk profile of Avastin.

The warning and precautions information for Gastrointestinal Perforations, Surgery and Wound Healing Complications, and Hemorrhage remains the same in section 5, Warnings and Precautions of the USPI.

Discussions between patients and prescribers prior to initiation of treatment with bevacizumab should continue to highlight the benefit-risk implications of these clinically important risks.

In addition, simultaneously, minor administrative changes were implemented throughout the same USPI update.

Call for reporting

Health care professionals should report any adverse events suspected to be associated with the use of Avastin to Genentech at 1-888-835-2555. Alternatively, this information may be reported to FDA's MedWatch reporting system by phone (1-800-FDA-1088), by facsimile (1-800-FDA-0178), online (<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch/>) or mailed, using the MedWatch form FDA 3500, to the FDA Medical Products Reporting Program, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852-9787.

Company contact point

Should you have any questions regarding the use of Avastin, please feel free to contact the Genentech Medical Communications Department at (800) 821-8590.

The Avastin full prescribing information can be found in the enclosed letter and at Avastin.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Key Kang".

Key Kang
Program Management, Regulatory Affairs

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