NEW INDICATION

Dear Pharmacist:

Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is pleased to announce that the **FDA has approved a new indication for MICARDIS® (telmisartan) 80 mg tablets.** MICARDIS is also now indicated for reduction of the risk of **myocardial infarction**, **stroke**, or **death from cardiovascular causes** in **patients 55 years of age or older** at high risk of developing major cardiovascular events who are **unable to take ACE inhibitors**.[1]

Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is supporting the new indication for MICARDIS 80 mg with a promotional effort that includes:

- Sales force of over 775 representatives
- Direct-to-Pharmacy awareness campaign

Boehringer Ingelheim is proud to introduce this new indication for MICARDIS 80 mg, and we appreciate your continued support for all of our products.

Sincerely,

Robert Belknap
Executive Director
Trade Sales and Operations
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: AVOID USE IN PREGNANCY
When used in pregnancy, drugs that act directly on the renin-angiotensin system can cause injury and even death to the developing fetus. When pregnancy is detected, MICARDIS® (telmisartan) tablets should be discontinued as soon as possible (*See Warnings and Precautions*).

MICARDIS is indicated for the treatment of hypertension. It may be used alone or in combination with other antihypertensive agents.

MICARDIS is also indicated for reduction of the risk of myocardial infarction, stroke, or death from cardiovascular causes in patients 55 years of age or older at high risk of developing major cardiovascular events who are unable to take ACE inhibitors. **Because studies with telmisartan did not exclude that it may not preserve a meaningful fraction of the effect of the ACE inhibitor to which it was compared, consider using the ACE inhibitor first, and, if it is stopped for cough only, consider retrying the ACE inhibitor after the cough resolves.**

High risk for cardiovascular events can be evidenced by a history of coronary artery disease, peripheral arterial disease, stroke, transient ischemic attack, or high-risk diabetes (insulin dependent or non-insulin dependent) with evidence of end-organ damage. MICARDIS can be used in addition to other needed treatment (such as antihypertensive, antiplatelet, or lipid-lowering therapy).

Please see enclosed full Prescribing Information, including boxed WARNING, for MICARDIS.

Please see further Important Safety Information on next page.

MICARDIS®
(telmisartan) tablets 80 mg

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

In patients with an activated renin-angiotensin system, such as volume- and/or salt-depleted patients, symptomatic hypotension may occur after initiation of therapy with MICARDIS® (telmisartan) tablets. This condition should be corrected prior to administration of MICARDIS, or treatment should start under close medical supervision.

As the majority of telmisartan is eliminated by biliary excretion, patients with biliary obstructive disorders or hepatic insufficiency can be expected to have reduced clearance. MICARDIS should be used with caution in these patients.

In patients whose renal function may depend on the activity of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (eg, patients with severe CHF), treatment with angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and angiotensin receptor antagonists has been associated with oliguria and/or progressive azotemia and (rarely) with acute renal failure and/or death. Similar results may be anticipated in patients treated with MICARDIS.

In studies of ACE inhibitors in patients with renal artery stenosis, increases in serum creatinine or blood urea nitrogen were observed. An effect similar to that seen with ACE inhibitors should be anticipated with MICARDIS.

Dual blockade of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (eg, by adding an ACE inhibitor to an angiotensin II receptor antagonist) should be used with caution and should include close monitoring of renal function. Concomitant use of telmisartan and ramipril is not recommended.

Reference: 1. Micardis PI. Ridgefield, CT: Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; 2009.

MICARDIS is a registered trademark of Boehringer Ingelheim International GmbH.

Please see enclosed full Prescribing Information, including boxed WARNING, for MICARDIS.

MICARDIS® (telmisartan) tablets 80 mg

Boehringer Ingelheim

Copyright © 2009, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. (11/09) MC67903