FDA Approves Generic Aricept to Treat Dementia Related to Alzheimer's Disease

December 18, 2009

Washington,DC (rushPRnews) 12/18/09 — Please note this is a corrected version of a press release that was posted to FDA's website today. The corrections include a modified headline and a revised second paragraph.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the first generic versions of Aricept (donepezil hydrochloride) orally disintegrating tablet s on Dec. 11. Donepezil hydrochloride is indicated for the treatment of dementia related to Alzheimer's disease.

Orally disintegrating tablets dissolve on the tongue, without having to be swallowed whole. This may make it easier to take the medication for older or disabled patients who have difficulty swallowing.

"Generics offer greater access to health care for all Americans," said Gary Buehler, director of the FDA's Office of Generic Drugs. "Health care professionals and consumers can be assured that FDA-approved generic drugs have met the same rigorous standards as the brand-name drug and are the same as the branded in dosage form, safety, strength, route of administration, quality, performance characteristics and intended use."

Alzheimer's disease is an irreversible, progressive brain disease that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills and, eventually, the ability to carry out the simplest tasks of daily living. In most people with Alzheimer's disease, symptoms first appear after age 60. Alzheimer's disease is the most common

cause of dementia among older people, but it is not a normal part of aging.

Dementia refers to a decline in cognitive function that interferes with daily life and activities. Alzheimer's disease starts in a region of the brain that affects recent memory, then gradually spreads to other parts of the brain.

The generic donepezil hydrochloride orally disintegrating tablets, manufactured by Mutual Pharmaceutical of Philadelphia, have been approved in 5 milligram and 10 mg strengths.

For more information:
Consumer Education: Generic Drugs
http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ResourcesForYou/ucm167906.htm

About the author:

FDA is an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services and consists of seven centers and offices

---

Filed Under: BREAKING NEWS, FDA- Pharmaceutical news, Health and Fitness, Lifestyle, PRESS RELEASE

RUSH PR NEWS newswire and press release services at rushprnews.com / AH Marketing ahmarketinggroup.com

Content- Legal Responsibility - All material is copyrighted - You may repost but you MUST link back to the original post on your page and acknowledge Rush PR News as the news source. Rush PR News is not legally and/or morally responsible for content of press releases, opinions expressed or fact-checking.

Rush PR News cannot be held legally responsible for material published and distributed through its newswire service or published in its press-room and therefore cannot be sued for published material. Third-party must be

contacted directly to dispute content.

Rush PR News is not the contact for material published.