

# MEDICAL PHARMACIES DRUG NEWS

Drug Information and News for Health Care Providers

March 2019

## First Triple Therapy Inhaler for COPD

**TRELEGY ELLIPTA 100/62.5/25 mcg** is the first dry powder inhaler available in Canada for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) that contains an anti-inflammatory and two bronchodilators:

- Inhaled corticosteroid (ICS): fluticasone furoate (100 mcg)
- Long-acting muscarinic antagonist (LAMA): umeclidinium bromide (62.5 mcg)
- Long-acting beta<sub>2</sub>-adrenergic agonist (LABA): vilanterol trifenate (25 mcg)

### Use and Administration:

- TRELEGY ELLIPTA 100/62.5/25 mcg is used once daily for long-term management of COPD, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema.
- This inhaler should not be used to treat asthma or acute symptoms of COPD.

### Side Effects:

- Nasopharyngitis (7-11%)
- Upper respiratory tract infections (2-3%)
- Pneumonia (2%)
- Headache (5-8%) and arthralgia (2%)
- Oral thrush (< 1%)

### Monitoring:

Long-term therapy might lead to:

- Hypokalemia: monitor serum potassium in residents predisposed to hypokalemia
- Hyperglycemia: monitor blood glucose in residents with diabetes
- Bone and ocular effects: monitor bone mineral density and eye conditions, i.e., cataract, glaucoma



### Drug Interactions:

MEDICATION CLASS	EXAMPLE(S)	NATURE OF INTERACTION
LABAs	salmeterol, formoterol	duplicate therapy, overdose
LAMAs	tiotropium, aclidinium	duplicate therapy, overdose
Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) and some other antidepressants	phenelzine, amitriptyline	prolong QTc interval
Diuretics	hydrochlorothiazide	increase risk of hypokalemia and arrhythmia
Beta-blockers	oral (e.g., propranolol), eye drops (e.g., timolol)	block pulmonary effect of LABA and increase risk of bronchospasm
CYP 3A4 inhibitors	antifungals (e.g., ketoconazole, itraconazole), antibiotics (e.g., clarithromycin), antivirals for HIV (e.g., ritonavir, indinavir)	increase systemic exposure to ICS and LABA

#### Reference:

GSK. TRELEGY ELLIPTA Product Monograph – Date of Revision Oct. 16, 2018.