

An introduction to a novel antimalarial drug 'artemolane maleate and piperaquine phosphate'

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Estimated 300-500 million people contract malaria each year, resulting in 1.5-2.7 million deaths annually. According to published research in 'Malaria Journal' (2011), the very low adherence to artemether-lumefantrine raises serious concerns for the malaria control, as this can result in inadequate cure and development of antimalarial resistance. The adjudicated published results show 205,000 malaria deaths per year in India before age 70. Poor-quality antimalarial drugs lead to drug resistance and inadequate treatment, which pose an urgent threat to vulnerable populations and jeopardize progress and investments in combating malaria. Emergence of artemisinin resistance or tolerance in *Plasmodium falciparum* on the Thailand-Cambodia border makes protection of the effectiveness of the drug supply imperative. Artemolane Maleate and Piperaquine Phosphate is a fixed dose combination developed for the treatment of acute, uncomplicated *P. falciparum* malaria in adults, approved in 2011 by the Drug Controller General of India. Artemolane Maleate and Piperaquine Phosphate is developed in line with WHO recommendations of using a fixed dose combination formulation of a rapid/short acting anti-malarial drug (artemolane) with a long-acting anti-malarial partner drug (piperaquine) with complementary effects. Artemolane Maleate and Piperaquine Phosphate provides high clinical efficacy as assessed by ACPR, FCT and PCT. Artemolane Maleate and Piperaquine Phosphate has demonstrated a faster median fever clearance time in phase III clinical trial. Artemolane Maleate and Piperaquine Phosphate has achieved a high cure rate in malaria endemic countries with widespread chloroquine resistance. Artemolane Maleate and Piperaquine Phosphate achieved a 28-day PCR corrected ACPR of 97.9% in uncomplicated *falciparum* malaria.

Biography

Jeetu Gangil has completed his Master of Pharmacy at the age of 27 years from Manipal University, Karnataka, India. Jeetu Gangil is working in the Innovative Product Team in Ranbaxy Laboratories Pvt Ltd, a premier pharmaceutical and research organization. He has published various papers in reputed journals and pharmaceutical magazines.

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