

## **1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Pomalyst® 1 mg hard capsules  
Pomalyst® 2 mg hard capsules  
Pomalyst® 3 mg hard capsules  
Pomalyst® 4 mg hard capsules

## **2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION**

Each hard capsule contains 1 mg of pomalidomide.  
Each hard capsule contains 2 mg of pomalidomide.  
Each hard capsule contains 3 mg of pomalidomide.  
Each hard capsule contains 4 mg of pomalidomide.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## **3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

Hard capsule.

Pomalyst® 1 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and yellow opaque body, imprinted with black ink on body and white ink on cap, size 3, hard gelatin capsule.

Hard capsule.

Pomalyst® 2 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and orange opaque body, imprinted with white ink on cap and body, size 1, hard gelatin capsule.

Hard capsule.

Pomalyst® 3 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and green opaque body, imprinted with white ink on cap and body, size 1, hard gelatin capsule.

Hard capsule.

Pomalyst® 4 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and blue opaque body, imprinted with white ink on cap and body, size 1, hard gelatin capsule.

## **4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS**

### **4.1 Therapeutic indications**

Pomalyst® in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone is indicated in the treatment of adult patients with multiple myeloma who have received at least one prior treatment regimen including lenalidomide.

Pomalyst® in combination with dexamethasone is indicated in the treatment of adult patients with relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma who have received at least two prior treatment regimens, including both lenalidomide and bortezomib, and have demonstrated disease progression on the last therapy.

### **4.2 Posology and method of administration**

Treatment must be initiated and monitored under the supervision of physicians experienced in the management of multiple myeloma.

Dosing is continued or modified based upon clinical and laboratory findings (see section 4.4).

### Posology

- *Pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone*

The recommended starting dose of Pomalyst® is 4 mg orally once daily on Days 1 to 14 of repeated 21-day cycles.

Pomalidomide is administered in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone, as shown in Table 1. The recommended starting dose of bortezomib is 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> intravenous or subcutaneous once daily, on the days shown in Table 1. The recommended dose of dexamethasone is 20 mg orally once daily, on the days shown in Table 1.

Treatment with pomalidomide combined with bortezomib and dexamethasone should be given until disease progression or until unacceptable toxicity occurs.

**Table 1. Recommended dosing scheme for Pomalyst® in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone**

Cycle 1-8	Day (of 21-day cycle)																				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Pomalidomide (4 mg)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							
Bortezomib (1.3 mg/m <sup>2</sup> )	•			•				•			•										
Dexamethasone (20 mg) *	•	•		•	•			•	•		•	•									

Cycle 9 onwards	Day (of 21-day cycle)																				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Pomalidomide (4 mg)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							
Bortezomib (1.3 mg/m <sup>2</sup> )	•							•													
Dexamethasone (20 mg) *	•	•						•	•												

\* For patients > 75 years of age, see Special populations.

#### Pomalidomide dose modification or interruption

To initiate a new cycle of pomalidomide, the neutrophil count must be  $\geq 1 \times 10^9/l$  and the platelet count must be  $\geq 50 \times 10^9/l$ .

Instructions on dose interruptions or reductions for pomalidomide related adverse reactions are outlined in the Table 2 and dose levels are defined in Table 3 below:

**Table 2. Pomalidomide dose modification instructions<sup>o</sup>**

Toxicity	Dose modification
<p><b><u>Neutropenia*</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANC** <math>&lt; 0.5 \times 10^9/l</math> or Febrile neutropenia (fever <math>\geq 38.5^\circ C</math> and ANC <math>&lt; 1 \times 10^9/l</math>)</li> </ul>	<p>Interrupt pomalidomide treatment for remainder of cycle. Follow CBC*** weekly.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANC return to <math>\geq 1 \times 10^9/l</math></li> </ul>	<p>Resume pomalidomide treatment at one dose level lower than previous dose.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For each subsequent drop <math>&lt; 0.5 \times 10^9/l</math></li> </ul>	Interrupt pomalidomide treatment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ANC return to <math>\geq 1 \times 10^9/l</math></li> </ul>	Resume pomalidomide treatment at one dose level lower than the previous dose.
<b>Thrombocytopenia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Platelet count <math>&lt; 25 \times 10^9/l</math></li> </ul>	Interrupt pomalidomide treatment for remainder of cycle. Follow CBC*** weekly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Platelet count return to <math>\geq 50 \times 10^9/l</math></li> </ul>	Resume pomalidomide treatment at one dose level lower than previous dose.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For each subsequent drop <math>&lt; 25 \times 10^9/l</math></li> </ul>	Interrupt pomalidomide treatment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Platelet count return to <math>\geq 50 \times 10^9/l</math></li> </ul>	Resume pomalidomide treatment at one dose level lower than the previous dose.
<b>Rash</b> Rash = Grade 2-3	Consider dose interruption or discontinuation of pomalidomide treatment.
Rash = Grade 4 or blistering (including angioedema, anaphylactic reaction, exfoliative or bullous rash or if Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN) or Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) is suspected)	Permanently discontinue treatment (see section 4.4).
<b>Other</b> Other $\geq$ Grade 3 pomalidomide-related adverse events	Interrupt pomalidomide treatment for remainder of cycle. Resume at one dose level lower than previous dose at next cycle (adverse event must be resolved or improved to $\leq$ Grade 2 before restarting dosing).

<sup>∞</sup> Dose modification instructions in this table are applicable to pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone and to pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone.

\*In case of neutropenia, the physician should consider the use of growth factors. \*\*ANC – Absolute Neutrophil Count; \*\*\*CBC – Complete Blood Count.

**Table 3. Pomalidomide dose reduction<sup>∞</sup>**

Dose level	Oral pomalidomide dose
Starting dose	4 mg
Dose level -1	3 mg
Dose level -2	2 mg
Dose level -3	1 mg

<sup>∞</sup>Dose reduction in this table is applicable to pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone and to pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone.

If adverse reactions occur after dose reductions to 1 mg, then the medicinal product should be discontinued.

#### Strong CYP1A2 inhibitors

If strong inhibitors of CYP1A2 (e.g. ciprofloxacin, enoxacin and fluvoxamine) are co-administered with pomalidomide, reduce the dose of pomalidomide by 50% (see sections 4.5 and 5.2).

*Bortezomib dose modification or interruption*

For instructions on dose interruptions or reductions for bortezomib related adverse reactions, physicians should refer to bortezomib Package Insert.

*Dexamethasone dose modification or interruption*

Instructions on dose interruptions or reductions for low-dose dexamethasone related adverse reactions are outlined in Tables 4 and 5 below. However, dose interruption or resumption decisions are at the physician's discretion per Package Insert.

**Table 4. Dexamethasone dose modification instructions**

<b>Toxicity</b>	<b>Dose Modification</b>
Dyspepsia = Grade 1-2  Dyspepsia $\geq$ Grade 3	Maintain dose and treat with histamine (H <sub>2</sub> ) blockers or equivalent. Decrease by one dose level if symptoms persist.  Interrupt dose until symptoms are controlled. Add H <sub>2</sub> blocker or equivalent and resume at one dose level lower than previous dose.
Oedema $\geq$ Grade 3	Use diuretics as needed and decrease dose by one dose level.
Confusion or mood alteration $\geq$ Grade 2	Interrupt dose until symptoms resolve. R e s u m e a t one dose level lower than previous dose.
Muscle weakness $\geq$ Grade 2	Interrupt dose until muscle weakness $\leq$ Grade 1. Resume at one dose level lower than previous dose.
Hyperglycaemia $\geq$ Grade 3	Decrease dose by one dose level. Treat with insulin or oral hypoglycaemic agents as needed.
Acute pancreatitis	Discontinue dexamethasone from treatment regimen.
Other $\geq$ Grade 3 dexamethasone-related adverse events	Stop dexamethasone dosing until the adverse event resolves to $\leq$ Grade 2. Resume at one dose level lower than previous dose.

If recovery from toxicities is prolonged beyond 14 days, then the dose of dexamethasone will be resumed at one dose level lower than the previous dose.

**Table 5. Dexamethasone dose reduction**

<b>Dose Level</b>	<b>≤ 75 years old Dose (Cycle 1-8: Days 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12 of a 21-day cycle Cycle ≥ 9: Days 1, 2, 8, 9 of a 21-day cycle)</b>	<b>&gt; 75 years old Dose (Cycle 1-8: Days 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12 of a 21-day cycle Cycle ≥ 9: Days 1, 2, 8, 9 of a 21-day cycle)</b>
Starting Dose	20 mg	10 mg
Dose Level -1	12 mg	6 mg
Dose Level -2	8 mg	4 mg

Dexamethasone should be discontinued if the patient is unable to tolerate 8 mg if ≤ 75 years old or 4 mg if > 75 years old.

In case of permanent discontinuation of any component of the treatment regimen, continuation of the remaining medicinal products is at the physician's discretion.

- *Pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone*

The recommended starting dose of Pomalyst® is 4 mg orally once daily on Days 1 to 21 of each 28-day cycle.

The recommended dose of dexamethasone is 40 mg orally once daily on Days 1, 8, 15 and 22 of each 28-day cycle.

Treatment with pomalidomide combined with dexamethasone should be given until disease progression or until unacceptable toxicity occurs.

*Pomalidomide dose modification or interruption*

Instructions for dose interruptions or reductions for pomalidomide related adverse reactions are outlined in Table 2 and 3.

*Dexamethasone dose modification or interruption*

Instructions for dose modification for dexamethasone related adverse reactions are outlined in Table 4. Instructions for dose reduction for dexamethasone related adverse reactions are outlined in Table 6 below. However, dose interruption / resumption decisions are at physician's discretion per the current Package Insert.

**Table 6. Dexamethasone dose reduction**

<b>Dose Level</b>	<b>≤ 75 years old Days 1, 8, 15 and 22 of each 28-day cycle</b>	<b>&gt; 75 years old Days 1, 8, 15 and 22 of each 28-day cycle</b>
Starting Dose	40 mg	20 mg
Dose Level -1	20 mg	12 mg
Dose Level -2	10mg	8 mg

Dexamethasone should be discontinued if the patient is unable to tolerate 10 mg if ≤ 75 years old or 8 mg

if > 75 years old.

### Special populations

#### *Elderly*

- *Pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone*

No dose adjustment is required for pomalidomide.

For information on bortezomib given in combination with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>, refer to the respective current Package Insert.

For patients >75 years of age, the starting dose of dexamethasone is:

- For Cycles 1 to 8: 10 mg once daily on Days 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 12 of each 21-day cycle
- For Cycles 9 and onwards: 10 mg once daily on Days 1, 2, 8 and 9 of each 21-day cycle.

- *Pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone*

No dose adjustment is required for pomalidomide.

For patients > 75 years of age, the starting dose of dexamethasone is:

- 20 mg once daily on days 1, 8, 15 and 22 of each 28-day cycle.

#### Renal impairment

No dose adjustment of pomalidomide is required for patients with renal impairment. On haemodialysis days, patients should take their pomalidomide dose following haemodialysis.

#### Hepatic impairment

Patients with serum total bilirubin > 1.5 x ULN (upper limit of normal range) were excluded from clinical studies. Hepatic impairment has a modest effect on the pharmacokinetics of pomalidomide (see section 5.2). No adjustment of the starting dose of pomalidomide is required for patients with hepatic impairment as defined by the Child-Pugh criteria. However, patients with hepatic impairment should be carefully monitored for adverse reactions and dose reduction or interruption of pomalidomide should be used as needed.

#### Paediatric population

There is no relevant use of Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> in children aged 0-17 years for the indication of multiple myeloma.

### Method of administration

Oral use.

Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> should be taken orally at the same time each day. The capsules should not be opened, broken or chewed (see section 6.6). This medicinal product should be swallowed whole, preferably with water, with or without food. If the patient forgets to take a dose of Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> on one day, then the patient should take the normal prescribed dose as scheduled on the next day. Patients should not adjust the dose to make up for a missing dose on previous days.

It is recommended to press only on one end of the capsule to remove it from the blister thereby reducing the risk of capsule deformation or breakage.

For information on other medicinal products given in combination with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>, refer to the respective current Package Insert.

### **4.3 Contraindications**

- Pregnancy.

- Women of childbearing potential, unless all the conditions of the pregnancy prevention programme are met (see sections 4.4 and 4.6).
- Male patients unable to follow or comply with the required contraceptive measures (see section 4.4).
- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

For information on other medicinal products given in combination with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>, refer to the respective current Package Insert.

#### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

##### Teratogenicity

Pomalidomide must not be taken during pregnancy, since a teratogenic effect is expected.

Pomalidomide is structurally related to thalidomide. Thalidomide is a known human teratogen that causes severe life-threatening birth defects. Pomalidomide was found to be teratogenic in both rats and rabbits when administered during the period of major organogenesis (see section 5.3).

The conditions of the Pregnancy Prevention Programme must be fulfilled for all patients unless there is reliable evidence that the patient does not have childbearing potential.

##### Criteria for women of non-childbearing potential

A female patient or a female partner of a male patient is considered of non-childbearing potential if she meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Age  $\geq$  50 years and naturally amenorrhoeic for  $\geq$  1 year\*
- Premature ovarian failure confirmed by a specialist gynaecologist
- Previous bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy, or hysterectomy
- XY genotype, Turner syndrome, uterine agenesis.

\*Amenorrhoea following cancer therapy or during breast-feeding does not rule out childbearing potential.

##### Counselling

For women of childbearing potential, pomalidomide is contraindicated unless all of the following are met:

- She understands the expected teratogenic risk to the unborn child
- She understands the need for effective contraception, without interruption, at least 4 weeks before starting treatment, throughout the entire duration of treatment, and at least 4 weeks after the end of treatment
- Even if a woman of childbearing potential has amenorrhoea she must follow all the advice on effective contraception
- She should be capable of complying with effective contraceptive measures
- She is informed and understands the potential consequences of pregnancy and the need to rapidly consult if there is a risk of pregnancy
- She understands the need to commence the treatment as soon as pomalidomide is dispensed following a negative pregnancy test
- She understands the need and accepts to undergo pregnancy testing at least every 4 weeks except in case of confirmed tubal sterilisation
- She acknowledges that she understands the hazards and necessary precautions associated with the use of pomalidomide.

The prescriber must ensure that for women of childbearing potential:

- The patient complies with the conditions of the Pregnancy Prevention Programme, including confirmation that she has an adequate level of understanding
- The patient has acknowledged the aforementioned conditions.

For male patients taking pomalidomide, pharmacokinetic data has demonstrated that pomalidomide is present in human semen during treatment. As a precaution, and taking into account special populations with potentially prolonged elimination time such as hepatic impairment, all male patients taking pomalidomide must meet the following conditions:

- He understands the expected teratogenic risk if engaged in sexual activity with a pregnant woman or a woman of childbearing potential
- He understands the need for the use of a condom if engaged in sexual activity with a pregnant woman or a woman of childbearing potential not using effective contraception, throughout treatment duration, during dose interruption and for at least 7 days after dose interruptions and/or cessation of treatment. This includes vasectomised males who should wear a condom if engaged in sexual activity with a pregnant woman or a woman of childbearing potential as seminal fluid may still contain pomalidomide in the absence of spermatozoa.
- He understands that if his female partner becomes pregnant whilst he is taking pomalidomide or within 7 days after he has stopped taking pomalidomide, he should inform his treating physician immediately and that it is recommended to refer the female partner to a physician specialised or experienced in teratology for evaluation and advice.

### Contraception

Women of childbearing potential must use at least one effective method of contraception for at least 4 weeks before therapy, during therapy, and until at least 4 weeks after pomalidomide therapy and even in case of dose interruption unless the patient commits to absolute and continuous abstinence confirmed on a monthly basis. If not established on effective contraception, the patient must be referred to an appropriately trained health care professional for contraceptive advice in order that contraception can be initiated.

The following can be considered to be examples of suitable methods of contraception:

- Implant
- Levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system
- Medroxyprogesterone acetate depot
- Tubal sterilisation
- Sexual intercourse with a vasectomised male partner only; vasectomy must be confirmed by two negative semen analyses
- Ovulation inhibitory progesterone-only pills (i.e. desogestrel)

Because of the increased risk of venous thromboembolism in patients with multiple myeloma taking pomalidomide and dexamethasone, combined oral contraceptive pills are not recommended (see also section 4.5). If a patient is currently using combined oral contraception the patient should switch to one of the effective methods listed above. The risk of venous thromboembolism continues for 4–6 weeks after discontinuing combined oral contraception. The efficacy of contraceptive steroids may be reduced during cotreatment with dexamethasone (see section 4.5).

Implants and levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine systems are associated with an increased risk of infection at the time of insertion and irregular vaginal bleeding. Prophylactic antibiotics should be considered particularly in patients with neutropenia.

Insertion of copper-releasing intrauterine devices is not recommended due to the potential risks of

infection at the time of insertion and menstrual blood loss which may compromise patients with severe neutropenia or severe thrombocytopenia.

### Pregnancy testing

According to local practice, medically supervised pregnancy tests with a minimum sensitivity of 25 mIU/mL must be performed for women of childbearing potential as outlined below. This requirement includes women of childbearing potential who practice absolute and continuous abstinence. Ideally, pregnancy testing, issuing a prescription and dispensing should occur on the same day. Dispensing of pomalidomide to women of childbearing potential should occur within 7 days of the prescription.

### Prior to starting treatment

A medically supervised pregnancy test should be performed during the consultation, when pomalidomide is prescribed, or in the 3 days prior to the visit to the prescriber once the patient had been using effective contraception for at least 4 weeks. The test should ensure the patient is not pregnant when she starts treatment with pomalidomide.

### Follow-up and end of treatment

A medically supervised pregnancy test should be repeated at least every 4 weeks, including at least 4 weeks after the end of treatment, except in the case of confirmed tubal sterilisation. These pregnancy tests should be performed on the day of the prescribing visit or in the 3 days prior to the visit to the prescriber.

### Men

Pomalidomide is present in human semen during treatment. As a precaution, and taking into account special populations with potentially prolonged elimination time such as renal impairment, all male patients taking pomalidomide, including those who have had a vasectomy, should use condoms throughout treatment duration, during dose interruption and for at least 7 days after cessation of treatment if their partner is pregnant or of childbearing potential and has no contraception.

Male patients should not donate semen or sperm during treatment (including during dose interruptions) and for at least 7 days following discontinuation of pomalidomide.

### Additional precautions

Patients should be instructed never to give this medicinal product to another person and to return any unused capsules to their pharmacist at the end of treatment.

Patients should not donate blood, semen or sperm during treatment (including during dose interruptions) and for at least 7 days following discontinuation of pomalidomide.

Healthcare professionals and caregivers should wear disposable gloves when handling the blister or capsule. Women who are pregnant or suspect they may be pregnant should not handle the blister or capsule (see section 6.6)

### Educational materials, prescribing and dispensing restrictions

In order to assist patients in avoiding foetal exposure to pomalidomide, the Marketing Authorisation Holder will provide educational material to health care professionals to reinforce the warnings about the expected teratogenicity of pomalidomide, to provide advice on contraception before therapy is started, and to provide guidance on the need for pregnancy testing. The prescriber must inform the patient about the expected teratogenic risk and the strict pregnancy prevention measures as specified in the Pregnancy Prevention Programme and provide patients with appropriate patient educational

brochure, patient card and/or equivalent tool. Ideally, pregnancy testing, issuing a prescription and dispensing should occur on the same day. Dispensing of pomalidomide to women of childbearing potential should occur within 7 days of the prescription and following a medically supervised negative pregnancy test result. Prescriptions for women of childbearing potential can be for a maximum duration of treatment of 4 weeks according to the approved indications dosing regimens (see section 4.2), and prescriptions for all other patients can be for a maximum duration of 12 weeks.

#### Haematological events

Neutropenia was the most frequently reported Grade 3 or 4 haematological adverse reaction in patients with relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma, followed by anaemia and thrombocytopenia. Patients should be monitored for haematological adverse reactions, especially neutropenia. Patients should be advised to report febrile episodes promptly. Physicians should observe patients for signs of bleeding including epistaxes, especially with use of concomitant medicinal products known to increase the risk of bleeding (see section 4.8). Complete blood counts should be monitored at baseline, weekly for the first 8 weeks and monthly thereafter. A dose modification may be required (see section 4.2). Patients may require use of blood product support and /or growth factors.

#### Thromboembolic events

Patients receiving pomalidomide either in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone or in combination with dexamethasone have developed venous thromboembolic events (predominantly deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism) and arterial thrombotic events (myocardial infarction and cerebrovascular accident). Patients with known risk factors for thromboembolism – including prior thrombosis – should be closely monitored. Action should be taken to try to minimise all modifiable risk factors (e.g. smoking, hypertension, and hyperlipidaemia). Patients and physicians are advised to be observant for the signs and symptoms of thromboembolism. Patients should be instructed to seek medical care if they develop symptoms such as shortness of breath, chest pain, arm or leg swelling. Anti-coagulation therapy (unless contraindicated) is recommended, (such as acetylsalicylic acid, warfarin, heparin or clopidogrel), especially in patients with additional thrombotic risk factors. A decision to take prophylactic measures should be made after a careful assessment of the individual patient's underlying risk factors. In clinical studies, patients received prophylactic acetylsalicylic acid or alternative anti-thrombotic therapy. The use of erythropoietic agents carries a risk of thrombotic events including thromboembolism. Therefore, erythropoietic agents, as well as other agents that may increase the risk of thromboembolic events, should be used with caution.

#### Thyroid disorders

Cases of hypothyroidism have been reported. Optimal control of co-morbid conditions influencing thyroid function is recommended before start of treatment. Baseline and ongoing monitoring of thyroid function is recommended.

#### Peripheral neuropathy

Patients with ongoing  $\geq$ Grade 2 peripheral neuropathy were excluded from clinical studies with pomalidomide. Appropriate caution should be exercised when considering the treatment of such patients with pomalidomide.

#### Significant cardiac dysfunction

Patients with significant cardiac dysfunction (congestive heart failure [NY Heart Association Class III or IV]; myocardial infarction within 12 months of starting study; unstable or poorly controlled angina pectoris) were excluded from clinical studies with pomalidomide. Cardiac events, including congestive cardiac failure, pulmonary oedema and atrial fibrillation (see section 4.8), have been reported, mainly in patients with pre-existing cardiac disease or cardiac risk factors. Appropriate caution should be exercised when considering the treatment of such patients with pomalidomide, including periodic monitoring for signs or symptoms of cardiac events.

### Tumour lysis syndrome

Patients at greatest risk of tumour lysis syndrome are those with high tumour burden prior to treatment. These patients should be monitored closely and appropriate precautions taken.

### Second Primary Malignancies

Second primary malignancies, such as non-melanoma skin cancer, have been reported in patients receiving pomalidomide (see section 4.8). Physicians should carefully evaluate patients before and during treatment using standard cancer screening for occurrence of second primary malignancies and institute treatment as indicated.

### Allergic reaction and severe skin reactions

Angioedema, anaphylactic reaction and severe dermatologic reactions including SJS, TEN and DRESS have been reported with the use of pomalidomide (see Section 4.8). Patients should be advised of the signs and symptoms of these reactions by their prescribers and should be told to seek medical attention immediately if they develop these symptoms. Pomalidomide must be discontinued for exfoliative or bullous rash, or if SJS, TEN or DRESS is suspected, and should not be resumed following discontinuation for these reactions. Patients with a prior history of serious allergic reactions associated with thalidomide or lenalidomide were excluded from clinical studies. Such patients may be at higher risk of hypersensitivity reactions and should not receive pomalidomide. Pomalidomide interruption or discontinuation should be considered for Grade 2-3 skin rash. Pomalidomide must be discontinued permanently for angioedema and anaphylactic reaction.

### Dizziness and confusion

Dizziness and confusional state have been reported with pomalidomide. Patients must avoid situations where dizziness or confusion may be a problem and not to take other medicinal products that may cause dizziness or confusion without first seeking medical advice.

### Interstitial lung disease (ILD)

ILD and related events, including cases of pneumonitis, have been observed with pomalidomide. Careful assessment of patients with an acute onset or unexplained worsening of pulmonary symptoms should be performed to exclude ILD. Pomalidomide should be interrupted pending investigation of these symptoms and if ILD is confirmed, appropriate treatment should be initiated. Pomalidomide should only be resumed after a thorough evaluation of the benefits and the risks.

### Hepatic disorders

Markedly elevated levels of alanine aminotransferase and bilirubin have been observed in patients treated with pomalidomide (see section 4.8). There have also been cases of hepatitis that resulted in discontinuation of pomalidomide. Regular monitoring of liver function is recommended for the first 6 months of treatment with pomalidomide and as clinically indicated thereafter.

### Infections

Reactivation of hepatitis B has been reported rarely in patients receiving pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone who have previously been infected with the hepatitis B virus (HBV). Some of these cases have progressed to acute hepatic failure, resulting in discontinuation of pomalidomide. Hepatitis B virus status should be established before initiating treatment with pomalidomide. For patients who test positive for HBV infection, consultation with a physician with expertise in the treatment of hepatitis B is recommended. Caution should be exercised when pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone is used in patients previously infected with HBV, including patients who are anti-HBc positive but HBsAg negative. These patients should be closely monitored for signs and symptoms of active HBV infection throughout therapy.

### Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML)

Cases of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy, including fatal cases, have been reported with

pomalidomide. PML was reported several months to several years after starting the treatment with pomalidomide. Cases have generally been reported in patients taking concomitant dexamethasone or prior treatment with other immunosuppressive chemotherapy. Physicians should monitor patients at regular intervals and should consider PML in the differential diagnosis in patients with new or worsening neurological symptoms, cognitive or behavioural signs or symptoms. Patients should also be advised to inform their partner or caregivers about their treatment, since they may notice symptoms that the patient is not aware of.

The evaluation for PML should be based on neurological examination, magnetic resonance imaging of the brain, and cerebrospinal fluid analysis for JC virus (JCV) DNA by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or a brain biopsy with testing for JCV. A negative JCV PCR does not exclude PML. Additional follow-up and evaluation may be warranted if no alternative diagnosis can be established.

If PML is suspected, further dosing must be suspended until PML has been excluded. If PML is confirmed, pomalidomide must be permanently discontinued.

#### Sodium content

This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per capsule, i.e. essentially 'sodium-free'.

For information on other medicinal products given in combination with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>, refer to the respective current Package Insert.

### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

#### Effect of Pomalidomide on other medicinal products

Pomalidomide is not anticipated to cause clinically relevant pharmacokinetic drug-drug interactions due to P450 isoenzyme inhibition or induction or transporter inhibition when co-administered with substrates of these enzymes or transporters. The potential for such drug-drug interactions, including the potential impact of pomalidomide on the pharmacokinetics of combined oral contraceptives, has not been evaluated clinically (see section 4.4 Teratogenicity).

#### Effect of other medicinal products on Pomalidomide

Pomalidomide is partly metabolised by CYP1A2 and CYP3A4/5. It is also a substrate for P-glycoprotein. Co-administration of pomalidomide with the strong CYP3A4/5 and P-gp inhibitor ketoconazole, or the strong CYP3A4/5 inducer carbamazepine, had no clinically relevant effect on exposure to pomalidomide. Co-administration of the strong CYP1A2 inhibitor fluvoxamine with pomalidomide in the presence of ketoconazole, increased mean exposure to pomalidomide by 107% with a 90 % confidence interval [91% to 124%] compared to pomalidomide plus ketoconazole. In a second study to evaluate the contribution of a CYP1A2 inhibitor alone to metabolism changes, co-administration of fluvoxamine alone with pomalidomide increased mean exposure to pomalidomide by 125% with a 90% confidence interval [98% to 157%] compared to pomalidomide alone. If strong inhibitors of CYP1A2 (e.g. ciprofloxacin, enoxacin and fluvoxamine) are co-administered with pomalidomide, reduce the dose of pomalidomide by 50%.

#### Dexamethasone

Co-administration of multiple doses of up to 4 mg pomalidomide with 20 mg to 40 mg dexamethasone (a weak to moderate inducer of several CYP enzymes including CYP3A) to patients with multiple myeloma had no effect on the pharmacokinetics of pomalidomide compared with pomalidomide administered alone.

The effect of dexamethasone on warfarin is unknown. Close monitoring of warfarin concentration is advised during treatment.

For information on other medicinal products given in combination with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>, refer to the respective current Package Insert.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### Women of childbearing potential / Contraception in males and females

Women of childbearing potential should use at least one effective method of contraception. If pregnancy occurs in a woman treated with pomalidomide, treatment must be stopped and the patient should be referred to a physician specialised or experienced in teratology for evaluation and advice. If pregnancy occurs in a partner of a male patient taking pomalidomide, it is recommended to refer the female partner to a physician specialised or experienced in teratology for evaluation and advice.

Pomalidomide is present in human semen. As a precaution, all male patients taking pomalidomide should use condoms throughout treatment duration, during dose interruption and for at least 7 days after cessation of treatment if their partner is pregnant or of childbearing potential and has no contraception (see sections 4.3 and 4.4).

##### Pregnancy

A teratogenic effect of pomalidomide in humans is expected. Pomalidomide is contraindicated during pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential, except when all the conditions for pregnancy prevention have been met, see section 4.3 and section 4.4.

##### Breast-feeding

It is not known if pomalidomide is excreted in human milk. Pomalidomide was detected in milk of lactating rats following administration to the mother. Because of the potential for adverse reactions in nursing infants from pomalidomide, a decision must be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the medicinal product, taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding for the child and the benefit of the therapy for the mother.

##### Fertility

Pomalidomide was found to impact negatively on fertility and be teratogenic in animals.

Pomalidomide crossed the placenta and was detected in foetal blood following administration to pregnant rabbits. See section 5.3.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Pomalidomide has minor or moderate influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

Fatigue, depressed level of consciousness, confusion, and dizziness have been reported with the use of pomalidomide. If affected, patients should be instructed not to drive cars, use machines or perform hazardous tasks while being treated with pomalidomide.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### Summary of the safety profile

- *Pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone*

The most commonly reported blood and lymphatic system disorders were neutropenia (46.8%), thrombocytopenia (36.7%) and anaemia (28.4%). The most frequently reported adverse reaction was peripheral sensory neuropathy (47.8%). The most commonly reported Grade 3 or 4 adverse reactions were blood and lymphatic system disorders including neutropenia (41.7%), thrombocytopenia (27.3%) and anaemia (14.0%). The most commonly reported serious adverse reaction was pneumonia (11.5%). Other serious adverse reactions reported included pyrexia (4.0%), lower respiratory tract infection (2.9%), pulmonary embolism (2.9%), influenza (2.9%), and acute kidney injury (2.9%).

- *Pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone*

The most commonly reported adverse reactions in clinical studies have been blood and lymphatic system disorders including anaemia (45.7%), neutropenia (45.3%) and thrombocytopenia (27%); in general disorders and administration site conditions including fatigue (28.3%), pyrexia (21%) and oedema peripheral (13%); and in infections and infestations including pneumonia (10.7%). Peripheral neuropathy adverse reactions were reported in 12.3% of patients and venous embolic or thrombotic (VTE) adverse reactions were reported in 3.3% of patients. The most commonly reported Grade 3 or 4 adverse reactions were in the blood and lymphatic system disorders including neutropenia (41.7%), anaemia (27%) and thrombocytopenia (20.7%); in infections and infestations including pneumonia (9%); and in general disorders and administration site conditions including fatigue (4.7%), pyrexia (3%) and oedema peripheral (1.3%). The most commonly reported serious adverse reaction was pneumonia (9.3%). Other serious adverse reactions reported included febrile neutropenia (4.0%), neutropenia (2.0%), thrombocytopenia (1.7%) and VTE adverse reactions (1.7%).

Adverse reactions tended to occur more frequently within the first 2 cycles of treatment with pomalidomide.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

- *Pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone*

In randomised study CC-4047-MM-007, 278 patients received pomalidomide, bortezomib and dexamethasone (Pom+Btz+Dex arm). See section 4.2 for dosing information.

The adverse reactions observed in patients treated with pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone are listed in Table 7 by system organ class (SOC) and frequency for all adverse reactions and for Grade 3 or 4 adverse reactions.

Frequencies for Pom+Btz+Dex (any grade) are defined in accordance with current guidance, as: very common ( $\geq 1/10$ ), common ( $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$ ) and uncommon ( $\geq 1/1,000$  to  $< 1/100$ ).

**Table 7. All Adverse Reactions (ADRs) reported in clinical trial MM-007 in patients treated with**

**pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone.**

<b>System Organ Class/ Preferred Term</b>	<b>All Adverse Reactions /Frequency</b>	<b>Grade 3–4 Adverse Reactions /Frequency</b>
<b>Infections and infestations</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Pneumonia Bronchitis Upper respiratory tract infection Viral upper respiratory tract infection</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Sepsis Septic shock <i>Clostridium difficile</i> colitis Respiratory tract infection Lower respiratory tract infection Lung infection Influenza Bronchiolitis Urinary tract infection</p>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Pneumonia</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Sepsis Septic shock <i>Clostridium difficile</i> colitis Bronchitis Upper respiratory tract infection Respiratory tract infection Lower respiratory tract infection Lung infection Influenza Bronchiolitis Urinary tract infection</p>
<b>Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (incl cysts and polyps)</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Basal cell carcinoma</p>	
<b>Blood and lymphatic system disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Leucopenia Anaemia</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Febrile neutropenia Lymphopenia</p>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Anaemia</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Febrile neutropenia Leucopenia Lymphopenia</p>
<b>Metabolism and nutrition disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Hypokalaemia Hyperglycaemia</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Hypomagnesaemia Hypocalcaemia Hypophosphataemia Hyperkalaemia Hypercalcaemia</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Hypokalaemia Hyperglycaemia Hypomagnesaemia Hypocalcaemia Hypophosphataemia Hyperkalaemia Hypercalcaemia</p>

<b>System Organ Class/ Preferred Term</b>	<b>All Adverse Reactions /Frequency</b>	<b>Grade 3–4 Adverse Reactions /Frequency</b>
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>	<b><u>Very Common</u></b> Insomnia  <b><u>Common</u></b> Depression	<b><u>Common</u></b> Depression Insomnia
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>	<b><u>Very Common</u></b> Peripheral sensory neuropathy Dizziness Tremor  <b><u>Common</u></b> Syncope Peripheral sensorimotor neuropathy Paraesthesia Dysgeusia	<b><u>Common</u></b> Syncope Peripheral sensory neuropathy Peripheral sensorimotor neuropathy  <b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Dizziness Tremor
<b>Eye disorders</b>	<b><u>Common</u></b> Cataract	<b><u>Common</u></b> Cataract
<b>Cardiac disorders</b>	<b><u>Common</u></b> Atrial fibrillation	<b><u>Common</u></b> Atrial fibrillation
<b>Vascular disorders</b>	<b><u>Common</u></b> Deep vein thrombosis Hypotension Hypertension	<b><u>Common</u></b> Hypotension Hypertension  <b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Deep vein thrombosis
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>	<b><u>Very Common</u></b> Dyspnoea Cough  <b><u>Common</u></b> Pulmonary embolism	<b><u>Common</u></b> Pulmonary embolism Dyspnoea

<b>System Organ Class/ Preferred Term</b>	<b>All Adverse Reactions /Frequency</b>	<b>Grade 3–4 Adverse Reactions /Frequency</b>
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Diarrhoea Vomiting Nausea Constipation</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Abdominal pain Abdominal pain upper Stomatitis Dry mouth Abdominal distension</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Diarrhoea Vomiting Abdominal pain Constipation</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Abdominal pain upper Stomatitis Nausea Abdominal distension</p>
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Rash</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Rash</p>
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Muscular weakness Back pain</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Bone pain Muscle spasms</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Muscular weakness Back pain</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Bone pain</p>
<b>Renal and urinary disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Acute kidney injury Chronic kidney injury Urinary retention</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Acute kidney injury Chronic kidney injury Urinary retention</p>
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Fatigue Pyrexia Oedema peripheral</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Non-cardiac chest pain Oedema</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Fatigue Pyrexia Non-cardiac chest pain Oedema peripheral Oedema</p>
<b>Investigations</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Alanine aminotransferase increased Weight decreased</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Weight decreased</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Alanine aminotransferase increased</p>
<b>Injury, poisoning and procedural complications</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Fall</p>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Fall</p>

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

- *Pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone*

In randomised study CC-4047-MM-003, 302 patients with relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma were exposed to 4 mg pomalidomide administered once daily for 21 days of each 28-day cycle in combination with a weekly low dose of dexamethasone.

The adverse reactions observed in patients treated with pomalidomide plus dexamethasone are listed below in Table 8 by system organ class (SOC) and frequency for all adverse reactions (ADRs) and for Grade 3 or 4 adverse reactions.

The frequencies of adverse reactions are those reported in the pomalidomide plus dexamethasone arm of study CC-4047-MM-003 (n = 302) and from post-marketing data. Within each SOC and frequency grouping, adverse reactions are presented in order of decreasing seriousness. Frequencies are defined in accordance with current guidance, as: very common ( $\geq 1/10$ ), common ( $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$ ) and uncommon ( $\geq 1/1,000$  to  $< 1/100$ ).

**Table 8. ADRs reported in clinical study MM-003 in patients treated with pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone, and ADRs reported in post-marketing use\* (refer to footnote).**

<b>System Organ Class/ Preferred Term</b>	<b>All ADRs /Frequency</b>	<b>Grade 3–4 ADRs /Frequency</b>
<b>Infections and infestations</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Pneumonia (bacterial, viral and fungal infections, including opportunistic infections)</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Neutropenic sepsis Bronchopneumonia Bronchitis Respiratory tract infection Upper respiratory tract infection Nasopharyngitis Herpes zoster</p> <p><b><u>Not Known</u></b> Hepatitis B reactivation*</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Neutropenic sepsis Pneumonia (bacterial, viral and fungal infections, including opportunistic infections) Bronchopneumonia Respiratory tract infection Upper respiratory tract infection</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Bronchitis Herpes zoster</p> <p><b><u>Not Known</u></b> Hepatitis B reactivation*</p>
<b>Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (incl cysts and polyps)</b>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Basal cell carcinoma of the skin, Squamous cell carcinoma of the skin</p>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Basal cell carcinoma of the skin, Squamous cell carcinoma of the skin</p>

<b>Blood and lymphatic system disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Leucopenia Anaemia</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Febrile neutropenia Pancytopenia*</p>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Anaemia</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Febrile neutropenia Leucopenia Pancytopenia*</p>
<b>Immune system disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Angioedema* Urticaria*</p> <p><b><u>Not Known</u></b> Anaphylactic reaction* Solid organ transplant rejection*</p>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Angioedema* Urticaria*</p> <p><b><u>Not Known</u></b> Anaphylactic reaction*</p>
<b>Endocrine disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Hypothyroidism*</p>	
<b>Metabolism and nutrition disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Decreased appetite</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Hyperkalaemia Hyponatraemia Hyperuricaemia*</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Tumour lysis syndrome*</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Hyperkalaemia Hyponatraemia Hyperuricaemia*</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Decreased appetite Tumour lysis syndrome*</p>
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Confusional state</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Confusional state</p>

<b>Nervous system disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Depressed level of consciousness Peripheral sensory neuropathy Dizziness Tremor Intracranial haemorrhage*</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Cerebrovascular accident*</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Depressed level of consciousness</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Peripheral sensory neuropathy Dizziness Tremor Cerebrovascular accident* Intracranial haemorrhage*</p>
<b>Ear and labyrinth disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Vertigo</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Vertigo</p>
<b>Vascular disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Deep vein thrombosis</p>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Deep vein thrombosis</p>
<b>Cardiac disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Cardiac failure* Atrial fibrillation* Myocardial infarction*</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Cardiac failure* Atrial fibrillation*</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Myocardial infarction*</p>
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Dyspnoea Cough</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Pulmonary embolism Epistaxis* Interstitial lung disease*</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Dyspnoea</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Pulmonary embolism Cough Epistaxis* Interstitial lung disease*</p>
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Diarrhoea Nausea Constipation</p> <p><b><u>Common</u></b> Vomiting Gastrointestinal haemorrhage</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Diarrhoea Vomiting Constipation</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Nausea Gastrointestinal haemorrhage</p>
<b>Hepatobiliary disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Hyperbilirubinaemia Hepatitis*</p>	<p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Hyperbilirubinaemia</p>

<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Rash Pruritus</p> <p><b><u>Not Known</u></b> Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms* Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis* Stevens-Johnson Syndrome*</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Rash</p> <p><b><u>Not Known</u></b> Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms* Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis* Stevens-Johnson Syndrome*</p>
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Bone pain Muscle spasms</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Bone pain</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Muscle spasms</p>
<b>Renal and urinary disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Renal failure Urinary retention</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Renal failure</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Urinary retention</p>
<b>Reproductive system and breast disorders</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Pelvic pain</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Pelvic pain</p>
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>	<p><b><u>Very Common</u></b> Fatigue Pyrexia Oedema peripheral</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Fatigue Pyrexia Oedema peripheral</p>
<b>Investigations</b>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Neutrophil count decreased White blood cell count decreased Platelet count decreased Alanine aminotransferase increased Blood uric acid increased*</p>	<p><b><u>Common</u></b> Neutrophil count decreased White blood cell count decreased Platelet count decreased Alanine aminotransferase increased</p> <p><b><u>Uncommon</u></b> Blood uric acid increased*</p>

\* Identified from post marketing data, with frequencies based on clinical trial data.

#### Description of selected adverse reactions

##### Teratogenicity

Pomalidomide is structurally related to thalidomide. Thalidomide is a known human teratogenic active substance that causes severe life-threatening birth defects. Pomalidomide was found to be teratogenic in both rats and rabbits when administered during the period of major organogenesis (see sections 4.6 and 5.3). If pomalidomide is taken during pregnancy, a teratogenic effect of pomalidomide in humans is expected (see section 4.4).

##### Neutropenia and thrombocytopenia

In patients receiving combination therapy with pomalidomide in clinical studies, neutropenia occurred

in up to 46.8% of patients (41.7% Grade 3 or 4). Neutropenia did not lead to pomalidomide discontinuation in any patient and was infrequently serious.

Febrile neutropenia (FN) was reported in 3.2-6.7% of patients and was serious in 1.8-4.0% of patients (see section 4.2 and 4.4).

In patients receiving combination therapy with pomalidomide in clinical studies, thrombocytopenia occurred in 27.0-36.7% of patients. Thrombocytopenia was Grade 3 or 4 in 20.7-27.3% of patients, led to pomalidomide discontinuation in 0.7% of patients and was serious in 0.4-1.7% of patients (see sections 4.2 and 4.4).

Neutropenia and thrombocytopenia tended to occur more frequently within the first 2 cycles of treatment with pomalidomide.

### Infection

Infection was the most common non haematological toxicity.

In patients receiving combination therapy with pomalidomide in clinical studies, infection occurred in 55.0-80.2% of patients (24.0-30.9% Grade 3 or 4). Upper respiratory tract infection and pneumonia were the most frequently occurring infections. Fatal infections (Grade 5) occurred in 2.7-4.0% of patients. Infections led to pomalidomide discontinuation in 2.0-2.9% of patients.

### Thromboembolic events

Prophylaxis with acetylsalicylic acid (and other anticoagulants in high risk patients) was mandatory for all patients in clinical studies. Anticoagulation therapy (unless contraindicated) is recommended (see section 4.4).

In patients receiving combination therapy with pomalidomide in clinical studies, venous thromboembolic events (VTE) occurred in 3.3-11.5% of patients (1.3-5.4% Grade 3 or 4). VTE was reported as serious in 1.7-4.3% of patients, no fatal reactions were reported, and VTE was associated with pomalidomide discontinuation in up to 1.8% of patients.

### Peripheral neuropathy

- *Pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone*

Patients with ongoing peripheral neuropathy  $\geq$  Grade 2 with pain within 14 days prior to randomisation were excluded from clinical trials. Peripheral neuropathy occurred in 55.4 % of patients (10.8% Grade 3; 0.7% Grade 4). Exposure-adjusted rates were comparable across treatment arms. Approximately 30% of the patients experiencing peripheral neuropathy had a history of neuropathy at baseline. Peripheral neuropathy led to discontinuation of bortezomib in approximately 12.9% of patients, pomalidomide in 1.8% and dexamethasone in 2.2 - 8.9% of patients, respectively. Refer also to the bortezomib Package Insert.

- *Pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone*

Patients with ongoing peripheral neuropathy  $\geq$  Grade 2 were excluded from clinical studies. Peripheral neuropathy occurred in 12.3% of patients (1.0% Grade 3 or 4). No peripheral neuropathy reactions were reported as serious, and peripheral neuropathy led to dose discontinuation in 0.3% of patients (see section 4.4).

### Haemorrhage

Haemorrhagic disorders have been reported with pomalidomide, especially in patients with risk factors such as concomitant medicinal products that increase susceptibility to bleeding. Haemorrhagic events have included epistaxis, intracranial haemorrhage and gastrointestinal haemorrhage.

### Allergic reactions and severe skin reactions

Angioedema, anaphylactic reaction and severe cutaneous reactions including SJS, TEN and DRESS have been reported with the use of pomalidomide. Patients with a history of severe rash associated with lenalidomide or thalidomide should not receive pomalidomide (see section 4.4).

## 4.9 Overdose

Pomalyst® doses as high as 50 mg as a single dose in healthy volunteers, and 10 mg as once-daily multiple doses in multiple myeloma patients have been studied without reported serious adverse reactions related to overdose. In studies, pomalidomide was found to be removed by haemodialysis.

In the event of overdose, supportive care is advised.

## 5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Immunomodulating agent, ATC code: L04AX06

#### Mechanism of action

Pomalidomide has direct anti-myeloma tumoricidal activity, immunomodulatory activities and inhibits stromal cell support for multiple myeloma tumour cell growth. Specifically, pomalidomide inhibits proliferation and induces apoptosis of haematopoietic tumour cells. Additionally, pomalidomide inhibits the proliferation of lenalidomide-resistant multiple myeloma cell lines and synergises with dexamethasone in both lenalidomide-sensitive and lenalidomide-resistant cell lines to induce tumour cell apoptosis. Pomalidomide enhances T cell- and natural killer (NK) cell-mediated immunity and inhibits production of pro-inflammatory cytokines (e.g., TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-6) by monocytes. Pomalidomide also inhibits angiogenesis by blocking the migration and adhesion of endothelial cells.

Pomalidomide binds directly to the protein cereblon (CRBN), which is part of an E3 ligase complex that includes deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) damage-binding protein 1 (DDB1), cullin 4 (CUL4), and regulator of cullins-1 (Roc1), and can inhibit the auto-ubiquitination of CRBN within the complex. E3 ubiquitin ligases are responsible for the poly-ubiquitination of a variety of substrate proteins, and may partially explain the pleiotropic cellular effects observed with pomalidomide treatment.

In the presence of pomalidomide *in vitro*, substrate proteins Aiolos and Ikaros are targeted for ubiquitination and subsequent degradation leading to direct cytotoxic and immunomodulatory effects. *In vivo*, pomalidomide therapy led to reduction in the levels of Ikaros in patients with relapsed lenalidomide-refractory multiple myeloma.

#### Clinical efficacy and safety

- *Pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone*

The efficacy and safety of pomalidomide in combination with bortezomib and low-dose dexamethasone (Pom+Btz+LD-Dex) was compared with bortezomib and low-dose dexamethasone (Btz+LD-Dex) in a Phase III multi-centre, randomised, open-label study (CC-4047-MM-007), in previously treated adult patients with multiple myeloma, who had received at least one prior regimen, including lenalidomide and have demonstrated disease progression on or after the last therapy. A total of 559 patients were enrolled and randomised in the study: 281 in the Pom+Btz+LD-Dex arm and 278 in the Btz+LD-Dex arm. 54% of patients were male with median age for the overall population of 68 years (min, max: 27, 89 years). Approximately 70% of patients were refractory to lenalidomide (71.2% in Pom+Btz+LD-Dex, 68.7 % in Btz+LD-Dex). Approximately 40% of patients were in 1<sup>st</sup> relapse and approximately 73% of patients received

bortezomib as prior treatment.

Patients in the Pom+Btz+LD-Dex arm were administered 4 mg pomalidomide orally on Days 1 to 14 of each 21-day cycle. Bortezomib (1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/dose) was administered to patients in both study arms on Days 1, 4, 8 and 11 of a 21-day cycle for Cycles 1 to 8; and on Days 1 and 8 of a 21-day cycle for Cycles 9 and onwards. Low-dose dexamethasone (20 mg/day [ $\leq$  75 years old] or 10 mg/day [ $>$  75 years old]) was administered to patients in both study arms on Days 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 12 of a 21-day cycle for Cycles 1 to 8; and on Days 1, 2, 8 and 9 of each subsequent 21-day cycle from Cycles 9 onwards. Doses were reduced and treatment was temporarily interrupted or stopped as needed to manage toxicity (see section 4.2).

The primary efficacy endpoint was Progression Free Survival (PFS) assessed by an Independent Response Adjudication Committee (IRAC) according to the IMWG criteria using the intent to treat population (ITT). After a median follow-up of 15.9 months, median PFS time was 11.20 months (95% CI: 9.66, 13.73) in the Pom+Btz+LD-Dex arm. In the Btz+LD-Dex arm, median PFS time was 7.1 months (95% CI: 5.88, 8.48).

Summary of overall efficacy data are presented in Table 9 using a cut-off date of 26 Oct 2017. Kaplan-Meier curve for PFS for the ITT population is provided in Figure 1.

**Table 9. Summary of overall efficacy data**

	Pom+Btz+LD-Dex (N = 281)	Btz+LD-Dex (N = 278)
<b>PFS (months)</b>		
Median <sup>a</sup> time (95% CI) <sup>b</sup>	11.20 (9.66, 13.73)	7.10 (5.88, 8.48)
HR <sup>c</sup> (95% CI), p-value <sup>d</sup>	0.61 (0.49, 0.77), <0.0001	
<b>ORR, n (%)</b>	82.2 %	50.0%
sCR	9 (3.2)	2 (0.7)
CR	35 (12.5)	9 (3.2)
VGPR	104 (37.0)	40 (14.4)
PR	83 (29.5)	88 (31.7)
OR (95% CI) <sup>e</sup> , p-value <sup>f</sup>	5.02 (3.35, 7.52), <0.001	
<b>DoR (months)</b>		
Median <sup>a</sup> time (95% CI) <sup>b</sup>	13.7 (10.94, 18.10)	10.94 (8.11, 14.78)
HR <sup>c</sup> (95% CI)	0.76 (0.56, 1.02)	

Btz = bortezomib; CI = Confidence interval; CR = Complete response; DoR = Duration of response; HR = Hazard Ratio; LD-Dex = low-dose dexamethasone; OR = Odds ratio; ORR = Overall response rate; PFS = Progression free survival; POM = pomalidomide; PR = Partial Response; sCR = Stringent complete response VGPR = Very good partial response.

<sup>a</sup> The median is based on the Kaplan-Meier estimate.

<sup>b</sup> 95% CI about the median.

<sup>c</sup> Based on Cox proportional hazards model.

<sup>d</sup> The p-value is based on a stratified log-rank test.

<sup>e</sup> Odds ratio is for Pom+Btz+LD-Dex: Btz+LD-Dex.

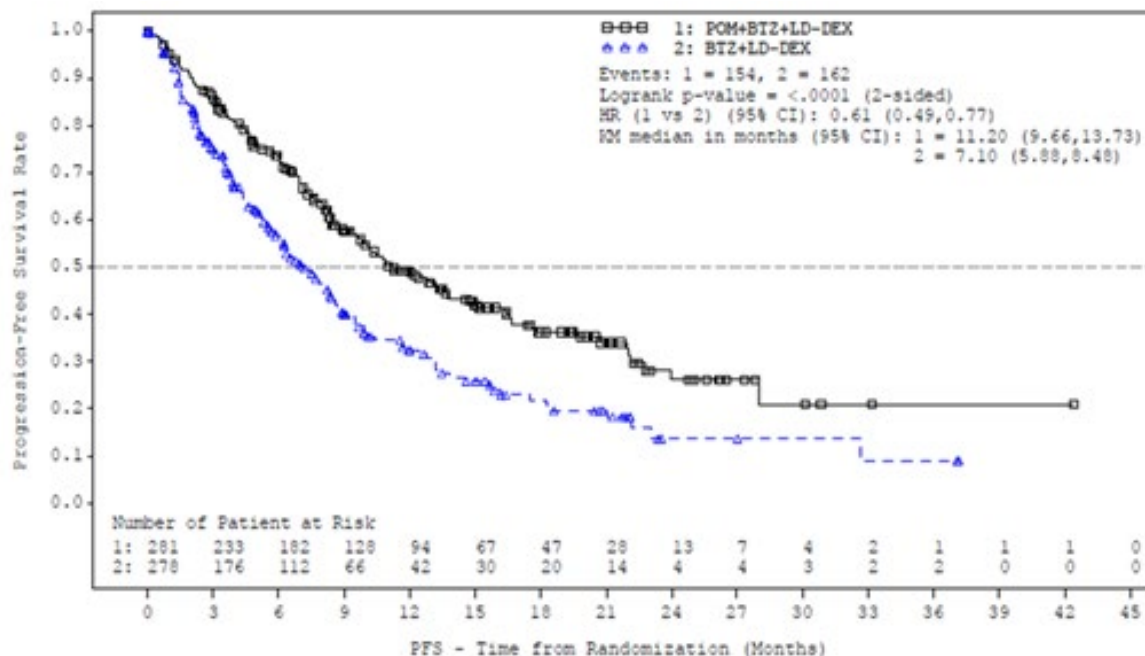
<sup>f</sup> The p-value is based on a CMH test, stratified by age ( $\leq$ 75 vs  $>$ 75), Prior number of antimyeloma regimens (1 vs  $>$ 1), and Beta-2 microglobulin at screening ( $<$  3.5 mg/L versus  $\geq$  3.5 mg/L —  $\leq$  5.5 mg/L versus  $>$  5.5 mg/L).

The median duration of treatment was 8.8 months (12 treatment cycles) in the Pom+Btz+LD-Dex arm and 4.9 months (7 treatment cycles) in the Btz+LD-Dex arm.

The PFS advantage was more pronounced in patients who received only one prior line of therapy. In patients who received 1 prior antimyeloma line, median PFS time was 20.73 months (95% CI: 15.11,

27.99) in the Pom + Btz + LD-Dex arm and 11.63 months (95% CI: 7.52, 15.74) in the Btz + LD-Dex arm. A 46% risk reduction was observed with Pom + Btz + LD-Dex treatment (HR = 0.54, 95% CI: 0.36, 0.82).

**Figure 1. Progression Free Survival Based on IRAC Review of Response by IMWG Criteria (Stratified Log Rank Test) (ITT Population).**



Data cutoff: 26 Oct 2017

As per an interim analysis for Overall Survival (OS), using a cut-off of 15 September 2018 (median follow-up period of 26.2 months), median OS time from Kaplan-Meier estimates was 40.5 months for the Pom + Btz + LD-Dex arm and 30.5 months for the Btz + LD-Dex arm; HR = 0.91, 95% CI: 0.70, 1.18, with an overall event rate of 43.3%.

- *Pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone*

The efficacy and safety of pomalidomide in combination with dexamethasone were evaluated in a Phase III multi-centre, randomised, open-label study (CC-4047-MM-003), where pomalidomide plus low-dose dexamethasone therapy (Pom+LD-Dex) was compared to high-dose dexamethasone alone (HD-Dex) in previously treated adult patients with relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma, who have received at least two prior treatment regimens, including both lenalidomide and bortezomib, and have demonstrated disease progression on the last therapy. A total of 455 patients were enrolled in the study: 302 in the Pom+LD-Dex arm and 153 in the HD-Dex arm. The majority of patients were male (59%) and white (79%); the median age for the overall population was 64 years (min, max: 35, 87 years).

Patients in the Pom+LD-Dex arm were administered 4 mg pomalidomide orally on Days 1 to 21 of each 28-day cycle. LD-Dex (40 mg) was administered once per day on Days 1, 8, 15 and 22 of a 28-day cycle. For the HD-Dex arm, dexamethasone (40 mg) was administered once per day on Days 1 through 4, 9 through 12, and 17 through 20 of a 28-day cycle. Patients > 75 years of age started treatment with 20 mg dexamethasone. Treatment continued until patients had disease progression.

The primary efficacy endpoint was progression free survival (PFS) by International Myeloma Working Group (IMWG criteria). For the ITT population, median PFS time by Independent Review Adjudication Committee (IRAC) review based on IMWG criteria was 15.7 weeks (95% CI: 13.0, 20.1) in the Pom + LD-Dex arm; the estimated 26-week event-free survival rate was 35.99% (±3.46%). In the HD-Dex arm, median PFS time was 8.0 weeks (95% CI: 7.0, 9.0); the estimated 26-week event-free survival rate

was 12.15% ( $\pm 3.63\%$ ).

Progression-free survival was evaluated in several relevant subgroups: gender, race, ECOG performance status, stratification factors (age, disease population, prior anti-myeloma therapies [2, > 2]), selected parameters of prognostic significance (baseline beta-2 microglobulin level, baseline albumin levels, baseline renal impairment, and cytogenetic risk), and exposure and refractoriness to prior anti-myeloma therapies. Regardless of the subgroup evaluated, PFS was generally consistent with that observed in the ITT population for both treatment groups.

Progression Free Survival is summarised in Table 10 for the ITT population. Kaplan-Meier curve for PFS for the ITT population is provided in Figure 2.

**Table 10: Progression Free Survival Time by IRAC Review Based on IMWG Criteria (Stratified Log Rank Test) (ITT Population)**

	<b>Pom+LD-Dex (N=302)</b>	<b>HD-Dex (N=153)</b>
Progression free survival (PFS), N	302 (100.0)	153 (100.0)
Censored, n (%)	138 (45.7)	50 (32.7)
Progressed/Died, n (%)	164 (54.3)	103 (67.3)
Progression Free Survival Time(weeks)		
Median <sup>a</sup>	15.7	8.0
Two sided 95% CI <sup>b</sup>	[ 13.0, 20.1]	[ 7.0, 9.0]
Hazard Ratio (Pom+LD-Dex:HD-Dex) 2-Sided 95% CI <sup>c</sup>	0.45 [0.35,0.59]	
Log-Rank Test Two sided P-Value <sup>d</sup>	<0.001	

Note: CI=Confidence interval; IRAC=Independent Review Adjudication Committee; NE = Not Estimable.

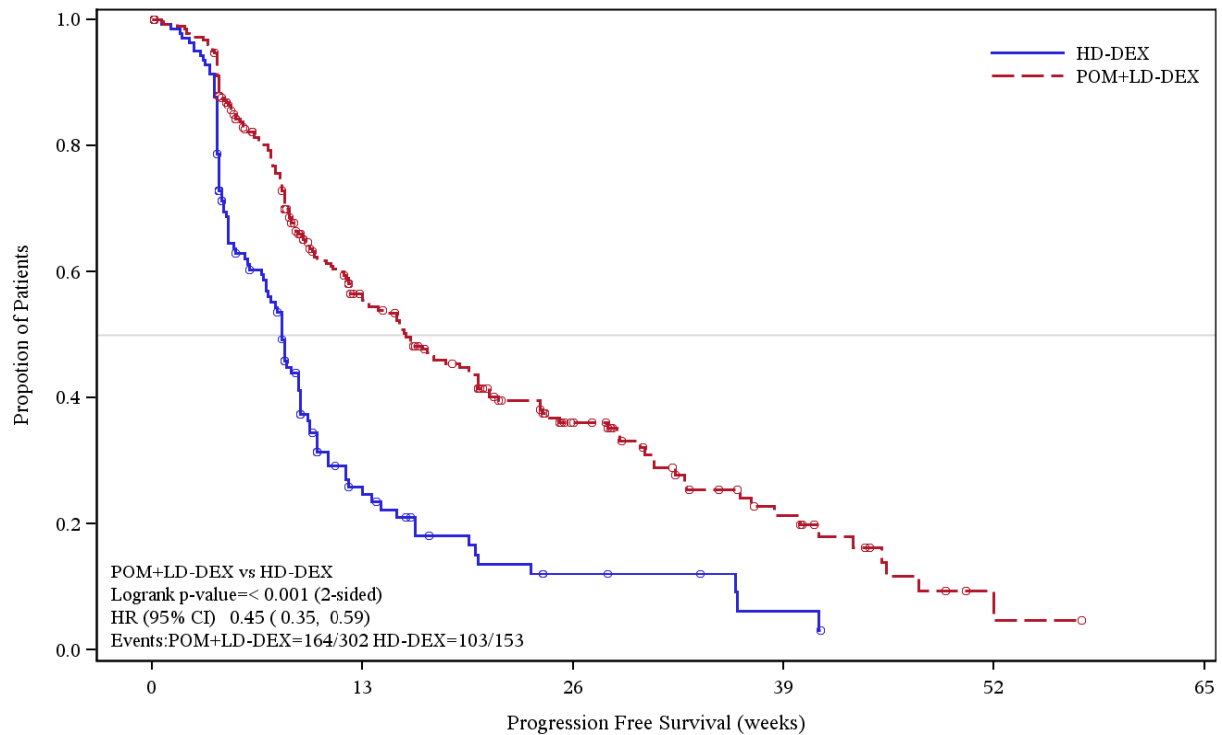
<sup>a</sup> The median is based on Kaplan-Meier estimate.

<sup>b</sup> 95% confidence interval about the median progression free survival time.

<sup>c</sup> Based on Cox proportional hazards model comparing the hazard functions associated with treatment groups, stratified by age ( $\leq 75$  vs  $> 75$ ), diseases population (refractory to both Lenalidomide and Bortezomib vs not refractory to both drugs), and prior number of anti myeloma therapy ( $= 2$  vs  $> 2$ ).

<sup>d</sup> The p-value is based on a stratified log-rank test with the same stratification factors as the above Cox model.  
Data cutoff: 07 Sep 2012

**Figure 2: Progression Free Survival Based on IRAC Review of Response by IMWG Criteria (Stratified Log Rank Test) (ITT Population)**



Data cutoff: 07 Sep 2012

Overall Survival was the key secondary study endpoint. A total of 226 (74.8%) of the Pom + LD-Dex patients and 95 (62.1%) of the HD-Dex patients were alive as of the cutoff date (07 Sep 2012). Median OS time from Kaplan-Meier estimates has not been reached for the Pom + LD-Dex, but would be expected to be at least 48 weeks, which is the lower boundary of the 95% CI. Median OS time for the HD-Dex arm was 34 weeks (95% CI: 23.4, 39.9). The 1-year event free rate was 52.6% ( $\pm 5.72\%$ ) for the Pom + LD-Dex arm and 28.4% ( $\pm 7.51\%$ ) for the HD-Dex arm. The difference in OS between the two treatment arms was statistically significant ( $p < 0.001$ ).

Overall survival is summarised in Table 11 for the ITT population. Kaplan-Meier curve for OS for the ITT population is provided in Figure 3.

Based on the results of both PFS and OS endpoints, the Data Monitoring Committee established for this study recommended that the study be completed and patients in the HD-Dex arm be crossed over to the Pom + LD-Dex arm.

**Table 11: Overall Survival: ITT Population**

	Statistics	Pom+LD-Dex (N=302)	HD-Dex (N=153)
	N	302 (100.0)	153 (100.0)
Censored	n (%)	226 (74.8)	95 (62.1)
Died	n (%)	76 (25.2)	58 (37.9)
Survival Time (weeks)	Median <sup>a</sup>	NE	34.0
	Two sided 95% CI <sup>b</sup>	[ 48.1, NE]	[ 23.4, 39.9]

Hazard Ratio (Pom+LD-Dex:HD-Dex) [Two sided 95% CI <sup>c</sup> ]	0.53[ 0.37, 0.74]
Log-Rank Test Two sided P-Value <sup>d</sup>	<0.001

Note: CI=Confidence interval. NE = Not Estimable.

<sup>a</sup> The median is based on Kaplan-Meier estimate.

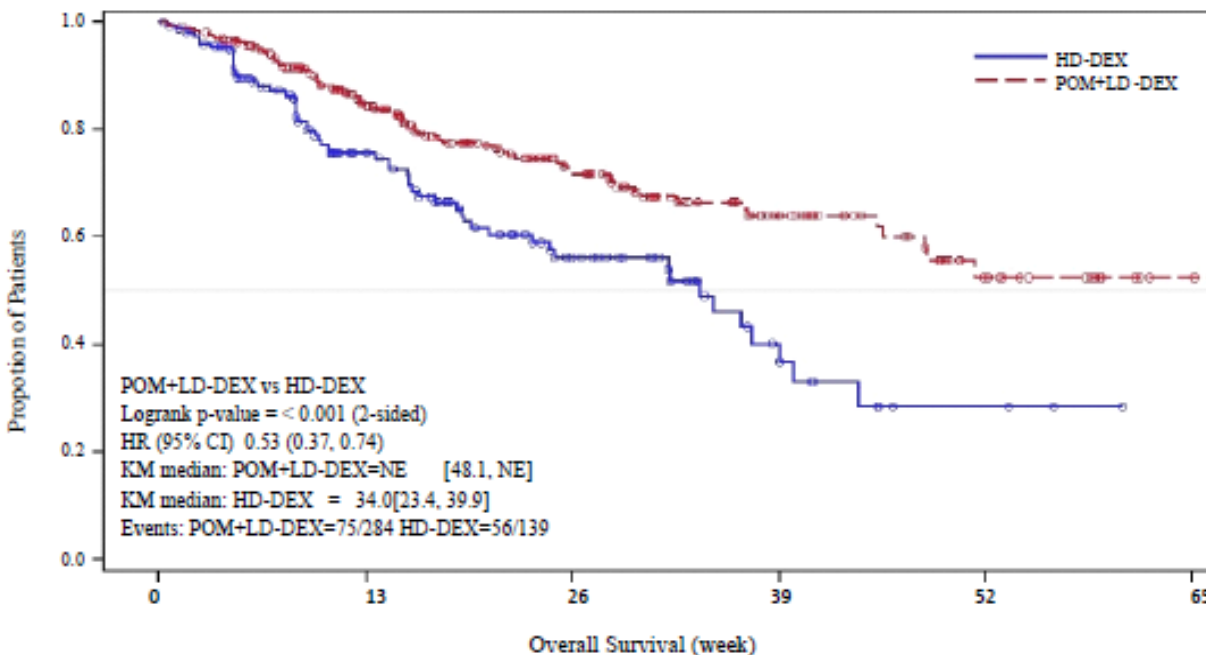
<sup>b</sup> 95% confidence interval about the median overall survival time.

<sup>c</sup> Based on Cox proportional hazards model comparing the hazard functions associated with treatment groups.

<sup>d</sup> The p-value is based on an unstratified log-rank test.

Data cutoff: 07 Sep 2012

**Figure 3: Kaplan-Meier Curve of Overall Survival (ITT Population)**



cutoff: 07 Sep 2012

## 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

### Absorption

Pomalidomide is absorbed with a maximum plasma concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) occurring between 2 and 3 hours and is at least 73% absorbed following administration of single oral dose. The systemic exposure (AUC) of pomalidomide increases in an approximately linear and dose proportional manner. Following multiple doses, pomalidomide has an accumulation ratio of 27 to 31% on AUC.

Coadministration with a high-fat and high-calorie meal slows the rate of absorption, decreasing mean plasma  $C_{max}$  by approximately 27%, but has minimal effect on the overall extent of absorption with an 8% decrease in mean AUC. Therefore, pomalidomide can be administered without regard to food intake.

### Distribution

Pomalidomide has a mean apparent volume of distribution ( $V_d/F$ ) between 62 and 138 L at steady state. Pomalidomide is distributed in semen of healthy subjects at a concentration of approximately 67% of plasma level at 4 hours post-dose (approximately  $T_{max}$ ) after 4 days of once daily dosing at 2 mg. *In vitro* binding of pomalidomide enantiomers to proteins in human plasma ranges from 12% to 44% and is not concentration dependent.

### Biotransformation

Pomalidomide is the major circulating component (approximately 70% of plasma radioactivity) *in vivo* in healthy subjects who received a single oral dose of [<sup>14</sup>C]-pomalidomide (2 mg). No metabolites were present at >10% relative to parent or total radioactivity in plasma.

The predominant metabolic pathways of excreted radioactivity are hydroxylation with subsequent glucuronidation, or hydrolysis. *In vitro*, CYP1A2 and CYP3A4 were identified as the primary enzymes involved in the CYP-mediated hydroxylation of pomalidomide, with additional minor contributions from CYP2C19 and CYP2D6. Pomalidomide is also a substrate of P-glycoprotein *in vitro*. Co-administration of pomalidomide with the strong CYP3A4/5 and P-gp inhibitor ketoconazole, or the strong CYP3A4/5 inducer carbamazepine, had no clinically relevant effect on exposure to pomalidomide. Co-administration of the strong CYP1A2 inhibitor fluvoxamine with pomalidomide in the presence of ketoconazole, increased mean exposure to pomalidomide by 107% with a 90% confidence interval [91% to 124%] compared to pomalidomide plus ketoconazole. In a second study to evaluate the contribution of a CYP1A2 inhibitor alone to metabolism changes, co-administration of fluvoxamine alone with pomalidomide increased mean exposure to pomalidomide by 125% with a 90% confidence interval [98% to 157%] compared to pomalidomide alone. If strong inhibitors of CYP1A2 (e.g. ciprofloxacin, enoxacin and fluvoxamine) are co-administered with pomalidomide, reduce the dose of pomalidomide to 50%. Administration of pomalidomide in smokers, with smoking tobacco known to induce the CYP1A2 isoform, had no clinically relevant effect on exposure to pomalidomide compared to that exposure to pomalidomide observed in non-smokers.

Based on *in vitro* data, pomalidomide is not an inhibitor or inducer of cytochrome P-450 isoenzymes, and does not inhibit any drug transporters that were studied. Clinically relevant drug-drug interactions are not anticipated when pomalidomide is coadministered with substrates of these pathways.

### Elimination

Pomalidomide is eliminated with a median plasma half-life of approximately 9.5 hours in healthy subjects and approximately 7.5 hours in patients with multiple myeloma. Pomalidomide has a mean total body clearance (CL/F) of approximately 7-10 L/hr.

Following a single oral administration of [<sup>14</sup>C]-pomalidomide (2 mg) to healthy subjects, approximately 73% and 15% of the radioactive dose was eliminated in urine and faeces, respectively, with approximately 2% and 8% of the dosed radiocarbon eliminated as pomalidomide in urine and faeces.

Pomalidomide is extensively metabolised prior to excretion, with the resulting metabolites eliminated primarily in the urine. The 3 predominant metabolites in urine (formed via hydrolysis or hydroxylation with subsequent glucuronidation) account for approximately 23%, 17%, and 12%, respectively, of the dose in the urine.

CYP dependent metabolites account for approximately 43% of the total excreted radioactivity, while non- CYP dependent hydrolytic metabolites account for 25%, and excretion of unchanged pomalidomide accounted for 10% (2% in urine and 8% in faeces).

### Population Pharmacokinetics (PK)

Based on population PK analysis using a two-compartment model, healthy subjects and MM patients had comparable apparent clearance (CL/F) and apparent central volume of distribution ( $V_2/F$ ). In peripheral tissues, pomalidomide was preferentially taken up by tumors with apparent peripheral distribution clearance (Q/F) and apparent peripheral volume of distribution ( $V_3/F$ ) 3.7-fold and 8-fold higher, respectively, than that of healthy subjects.

### Paediatric population

No data are available on administration of pomalidomide to paediatric patients (< 18 years of age).

### Elderly

Based on population pharmacokinetic analyses in healthy subjects and multiple myeloma patients, no significant influence of age (19-83 years) on oral clearance of pomalidomide was observed. In clinical studies, no dosage adjustment was required in elderly (> 65 years) patients exposed to pomalidomide. Please see section 4.2.

#### Renal impairment

Population pharmacokinetic analyses showed that the pomalidomide pharmacokinetic parameters were not remarkably affected in renally impaired patients (defined by creatinine clearance or estimated glomerular filtration rate [eGFR]) compared to patients with normal renal function (CrCl  $\geq$  60 mL/minute). Mean normalized AUC exposure to pomalidomide was 98.2% with a 90% confidence interval [77.4% to 120.6%] in moderate renal impairment patients (eGFR  $\geq$ 30 to  $\leq$ 45 mL/minute/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>) compared to patients with normal renal function. Mean normalized AUC exposure to pomalidomide was 100.2% with a 90% confidence interval [79.7% to 127.0%] in severe renal impairment patients not requiring dialysis (CrCl <30 or eGFR <30 mL/minute/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>) compared to patients with normal renal function. Mean normalized AUC exposure to pomalidomide increased by 35.8% with a 90% CI [7.5% to 70.0%] in severe renal impairment patients requiring dialysis (CrCl <30 mL/minute requiring dialysis) compared to patients with normal renal function. The mean changes in exposure to pomalidomide in each of these renal impairment groups are not of a magnitude that require dosage adjustments.

#### Hepatic impairment

The pharmacokinetic parameters were modestly changed in hepatically impaired patients (defined by Child-Pugh criteria) compared to healthy subjects. Mean exposure to pomalidomide increased by 51% with a 90% confidence interval [9% to 110%] in mildly hepatically impaired patients compared to healthy subjects. Mean exposure to pomalidomide increased by 58% with a 90% confidence interval [13% to 119%] in moderately hepatically impaired patients compared to healthy subjects. Mean exposure to pomalidomide increased by 72% with a 90% confidence interval [24% to 138%] in severely hepatically impaired patients compared to healthy subjects. The mean increases in exposure to pomalidomide in each of these impairment groups are not of a magnitude for which adjustments in schedule or dose are required (see section 4.2).

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

#### Repeat-dose toxicology studies

In rats, chronic administration of pomalidomide at doses of 50, 250, and 1000 mg/kg/day for 6 months was well tolerated. No adverse findings were noted up to 1000 mg/kg/day (175-fold exposure ratio relative to a 4 mg clinical dose).

In monkeys, pomalidomide was evaluated in repeat-dose studies of up to 9 months in duration. In these studies, monkeys exhibited greater sensitivity to pomalidomide effects than rats. The primary toxicities observed in monkeys were associated with the haematopoietic/lymphoreticular systems. In the 9-month study in monkeys with doses of 0.05, 0.1, and 1 mg/kg/day, morbidity and early euthanasia of 6 animals were observed at the dose of 1 mg/kg/day and were attributed to immunosuppressive effects (staphylococcal infection, decreased peripheral blood lymphocytes, chronic inflammation of the large intestine, histologic lymphoid depletion, and hypocellularity of bone marrow) at high exposures of pomalidomide (15-fold exposure ratio relative to a 4 mg clinical dose). These immunosuppressive effects resulted in early euthanasia of 4 monkeys due to poor health condition (watery stool, inappetence, reduced food intake, and weight loss); histopathologic evaluation of these animals showed chronic inflammation of the large intestine and villous atrophy of the small intestine. Staphylococcal infection was observed in 4 monkeys; 3 of these animals responded to antibiotic treatment and 1 died without treatment. In addition, findings consistent with acute myelogenous leukemia led to euthanasia of 1 monkey; clinical observations and clinical pathology and/or bone marrow alterations observed in this animal were consistent with immunosuppression. Minimal or mild bile duct proliferation with associated increases in ALP and GGT were also observed at 1 mg/kg/day. Evaluation of recovery animals indicated that all treatment-related findings were reversible after 8 weeks of dosing cessation,

except for proliferation of intrahepatic bile ducts observed in 1 animal in the 1 mg/kg/day group. The No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) was 0.1 mg/kg/day (0.5-fold exposure ratio relative to a 4 mg clinical dose).

#### Genotoxicity/carcinogenicity

Pomalidomide was not mutagenic in bacterial and mammalian mutation assays, and did not induce chromosomal aberrations in human peripheral blood lymphocytes or micronuclei formation in polychromatic erythrocytes in bone marrow of rats administered doses up to 2000 mg/kg/day. Carcinogenicity studies have not been conducted.

#### Fertility and early embryonic development

In a fertility and early embryonic development study in rats, pomalidomide was administered to males and females at dosages of 25, 250, and 1000 mg/kg/day. Uterine examination on Gestation Day 13 showed a decrease in mean number of viable embryos and an increase in postimplantation loss at all dosage levels. Therefore, the NOAEL for these observed effects was <25 mg/kg/day (AUC<sub>24h</sub> was 39960 ng•h/mL (nanogram•hour/millilitres) at this lowest dose tested, and the exposure ratio was 99-fold relative to a 4 mg clinical dose). When treated males on this study were mated with untreated females, all uterine parameters were comparable to the controls. Based on these results, the observed effects were attributed to the treatment of females.

#### Embryo-foetal development

Pomalidomide was found to be teratogenic in both rats and rabbits when administered during the period of major organogenesis. In the rat embryofoetal developmental toxicity study, malformations of absence of urinary bladder, absence of thyroid gland, and fusion and misalignment of lumbar and thoracic vertebral elements (central and/or neural arches) were observed at all dosage levels (25, 250, and 1000 mg/kg/day).

There was no maternal toxicity observed in this study. Therefore, the maternal NOAEL was 1000 mg/kg/day, and the NOAEL for developmental toxicity was <25 mg/kg/day (AUC<sub>24h</sub> was 34340 ng•h/mL on Gestation Day 17 at this lowest dose tested, and the exposure ratio was 85-fold relative to a 4 mg clinical dose). In rabbits, pomalidomide at dosages ranging from 10 to 250 mg/kg produced embryo-foetal developmental malformations. Increased cardiac anomalies were seen at all doses with significant increases at 250 mg/kg/day. At 100 and 250 mg/kg/day, there were slight increases in post-implantation loss and slight decreases in fetal body weights. At 250 mg/kg/day, fetal malformations included limb anomalies (flexed and/or rotated fore- and/or hindlimbs, unattached or absent digit) and associated skeletal malformations (not ossified metacarpal, misaligned phalanx and metacarpal, absent digit, not ossified phalanx, and short not ossified or bent tibia); moderate dilation of the lateral ventricle in the brain; abnormal placement of the right subclavian artery; absent intermediate lobe in the lungs; low-set kidney; altered liver morphology; incompletely or not ossified pelvis; an increased average for supernumerary thoracic ribs and a reduced average for ossified tarsals. Slight reduction in maternal body weight gain, significant reduction in triglycerides, and significant decrease in absolute and relative spleen weights were observed at 100 and 250 mg/kg/day. The maternal NOAEL was 10 mg/kg/day, and the developmental NOAEL was <10 mg/kg/day (AUC<sub>24h</sub> was 418 ng•h/mL on Gestation Day 19 at this lowest dose tested, which was similar to that obtained from a 4 mg clinical dose).

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

#### **Pomalyst® 1 mg hard capsules**

##### Capsule content:

Mannitol (E421)  
Pregelatinised starch  
Sodium stearyl fumarate

Capsule shell:

1 mg capsule shell contains gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132) and yellow iron oxide (E172) and white and black ink.

Printing ink:

1 mg capsule shell contains: white ink - shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527); black ink - shellac, iron oxide black (E172), propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527).

**Pomalyst® 2 mg hard capsules**

Capsule content:

Mannitol (E421)  
Pregelatinised starch  
Sodium stearyl fumarate

Capsule shell:

2 mg capsule shell contains gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132), yellow iron oxide (E172), erythrosin (E127) and white ink.

Printing ink:

2 mg capsule shell contains: white ink – shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527).

**Pomalyst® 3 mg hard capsules**

Capsule content:

Mannitol (E421)  
Pregelatinised starch  
Sodium stearyl fumarate

Capsule shell:

3 mg capsule shell contains gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132), yellow iron oxide (E172), and white ink.

Printing ink:

3 mg capsule shell contains: white ink – shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527).

**Pomalyst® 4 mg hard capsules**

Capsule content:

Mannitol (E421)  
Pregelatinised starch  
Sodium stearyl fumarate

Capsule shell:

4 mg capsule shell contains gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132), brilliant blue FCF (E133) and white ink.

Printing ink:

4 mg capsule shell contains: white ink – shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527)

**6.2 Incompatibilities**

Not applicable.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

As indicated on the box.

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

As indicated on the box.

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

The capsules are packaged in Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)/polychlorotrifluoroethylene (PCTFE) blisters with push through aluminium foil.

Pack size of 21 capsules.

### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

Capsules should not be opened or crushed. If powder from pomalidomide makes contact with the skin, the skin should be washed immediately and thoroughly with soap and water. If pomalidomide makes contact with the mucous membranes, they should be thoroughly flushed with water.

Healthcare professionals and caregivers should wear disposable gloves when handling the blister or capsule. Gloves should then be removed carefully to prevent skin exposure, placed in a sealable plastic polyethylene bag and disposed of in accordance with local requirements. Hands should then be washed thoroughly with soap and water. Women who are pregnant or suspect they may be pregnant should not handle the blister or capsule (see section 4.4).

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements. Unused medicinal product should be returned to the pharmacist at the end of treatment.

## **7. PRODUCT REGISTRANT**

Bristol-Myers Squibb (S) Pte Ltd  
80 Marine Parade Road,  
#20-01/09 Parkway Parade,  
Singapore 449269

## **8. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

11 March 2024

## Package leaflet: Information for the patient

Pomalyst® 1 mg hard capsules  
Pomalyst® 2 mg hard capsules  
Pomalyst® 3 mg hard capsules  
Pomalyst® 4 mg hard capsules  
Pomalidomide

Pomalidomide is expected to cause severe birth defects and may lead to the death of an unborn baby. Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant or could become pregnant. You must follow the contraception advice described in this leaflet.

### Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine - because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

### What is in this leaflet

1. What Pomalidomide is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Pomalidomide
3. How to take Pomalidomide
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Pomalidomide
6. Contents of the pack and other information

### 1. What Pomalyst® is and what it is used for

#### What Pomalyst® is

Pomalyst® contains the active substance ‘pomalidomide’. This medicine is related to thalidomide and belongs to a group of medicines which affect the immune system (the body’s natural defences).

#### What Pomalyst® is used for

Pomalyst® is used to treat adults with a type of cancer called ‘multiple myeloma’.

Pomalyst® is either used with:

- **two other medicines** – called ‘bortezomib’ (a type of chemotherapy medicine) and ‘dexamethasone’ (an anti-inflammatory medicine) in people who have had at least one other treatment – including lenalidomide.

**Or**

- **one other medicine** - called ‘dexamethasone’ in people whose myeloma has become worse, despite having at least two other treatments - including lenalidomide and bortezomib.

#### What is multiple myeloma

Multiple myeloma is a type of cancer which affects a certain type of white blood cell (called the ‘plasma cell’). These cells grow out of control and accumulate in the bone marrow. This results in damage to the bones and kidneys.

Multiple myeloma generally cannot be cured. However, treatment can reduce the signs and symptoms of

the disease, or make them disappear for a period of time. When this happens, it is called ‘response’.

### **How Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> works**

Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> works in a number of different ways:

- by stopping the myeloma cells developing
- by stimulating the immune system to attack the cancer cells
- by stopping the formation of blood vessels supplying the cancer cells.

### The benefit of using Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> with bortezomib and dexamethasone

When Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> is used with bortezomib and dexamethasone, in people who have had at least one other treatment, it can stop multiple myeloma getting worse:

- On average, Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> when used with bortezomib and dexamethasone stopped multiple myeloma from coming back for up to 11 months – compared with 7 months for those patients who only used bortezomib and dexamethasone.

### The benefit of using Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> with dexamethasone

When Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> is used with dexamethasone, in people who have had at least two other treatments, it can stop multiple myeloma getting worse:

- On average, Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> when used with dexamethasone stopped multiple myeloma from coming back for up to 4 months - compared with 2 months for those patients who used only dexamethasone.

## **2. What you need to know before you take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>**

### **Do not take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>:**

- if you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant or are planning to become pregnant – this is because **Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> is expected to be harmful to an unborn child.** (Men and women taking this medicine must read the section “Pregnancy, contraception and breast-feeding – information for women and men” below).
- if you are able to become pregnant, unless you follow all the necessary measures to prevent you from becoming pregnant (see “Pregnancy, contraception and breast-feeding – information for women and men”). If you are able to become pregnant, your doctor will record with each prescription that the necessary measures have been taken and will provide you with this confirmation.
- if you are allergic to pomalidomide or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6). If you think you may be allergic, ask your doctor for advice.

If you are uncertain whether any of the conditions above apply to you, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>.

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> if:

- you have ever had blood clots in the past. During the treatment with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> you have an increased risk of getting blood clots in your veins and arteries. Your doctor may recommend you take additional treatments (e.g. warfarin) or lower the dose of Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> to reduce the chance that you get blood clots.
- you have ever had an allergic reaction such as rash, itching, swelling, feeling dizzy or trouble breathing while taking related medicines called ‘thalidomide’ or ‘lenalidomide’.
- you have had a heart attack, have heart failure, have difficulty breathing, or if you smoke, have high blood pressure or high cholesterol levels.
- you have a high total amount of tumour throughout the body, including your bone marrow. This could lead to a condition where the tumours break down and cause unusual levels of chemicals in the blood which can lead to kidney failure. You may also experience an uneven heartbeat. This condition is called tumour lysis syndrome.
- you have or have had neuropathy (nerve damage causing tingling or pain in your hands or feet).

- you have or have ever had hepatitis B infection. Treatment with Pomalyst® may cause the hepatitis B virus to become active again in patients who carry the virus, resulting in a recurrence of the infection. Your doctor should check whether you have ever had hepatitis B infection.
- you experience or have experienced in the past a combination of any of the following symptoms: rash on face or extended rash, red skin, high fever, flu-like symptoms, enlarged lymph nodes (signs of severe skin reaction called Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) or drug hypersensitivity syndrome, Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN) or Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS). See also section 4 “Possible side effects”).

It is important to note that patients with multiple myeloma treated with pomalidomide may develop additional types of cancer, therefore your doctor should carefully evaluate the benefit and risk when you are prescribed this medicine.

At any time during or after your treatment, tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you: experience blurred, loss of or double vision, difficulty speaking, weakness in an arm or a leg, a change in the way you walk or problems with your balance, persistent numbness, decreased sensation or loss of sensation, memory loss or confusion. These may all be symptoms of a serious and potentially fatal brain condition known as progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML). If you had these symptoms prior to treatment with Pomalyst®, tell your doctor about any change in these symptoms.

At the end of the treatment you should return all unused capsules to the pharmacist.

### **Pregnancy, contraception and breast-feeding – information for women and men**

The following must be followed as stated in the Pomalidomide Pregnancy Prevention Program. Women and men taking Pomalyst® must not become pregnant or father a child. This is because pomalidomide is expected to harm the unborn baby. You and your partner should use effective methods of contraception while taking this medicine.

#### **Women**

Do not take Pomalyst® if you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. This is because this medicine is expected to harm the unborn baby. Before starting the treatment, you should tell your doctor if you are able to become pregnant, even if you think this is unlikely.

If you are able to become pregnant:

- you must use at least one effective method of contraception for at least 4 weeks before starting treatment, for the whole time you are taking treatment, and until at least 4 weeks after stopping treatment. Talk to your doctor about the best method of contraception for you.
- each time your doctor writes a prescription for you, he will ensure you understand the necessary measures that have to be taken to prevent pregnancy.
- your doctor will arrange pregnancy tests before treatment, at least every 4 weeks during treatment, and at least 4 weeks after the treatment has finished

If you become pregnant despite the prevention measures:

- you must stop the treatment immediately and talk to your doctor straight away

#### *Breast-feeding*

It is not known if Pomalidomide passes into human breast milk. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or intend to breast-feed. Your doctor will advise if you should stop or continue breast-feeding.

#### **Men**

Pomalidomide passes into human semen.

- If your partner is pregnant or able to become pregnant, you must use condoms for the whole time you are taking treatment and for at least 7 days after the end of treatment.
- If your partner becomes pregnant while you are taking Pomalidomide, tell your doctor straight away. Your partner should also tell her doctor straight away.

You should not donate semen or sperm during treatment and for at least 7 days after the end of treatment.

### **Blood donation and blood tests**

You should not donate blood during treatment and for at least 7 days after the end of treatment. Before and during the treatment with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> you will have regular blood tests. This is because your medicine may cause a fall in the number of blood cells that help fight infection (white cells) and in the number of cells that help to stop bleeding (platelets).

Your doctor should ask you to have a blood test:

- before treatment
- every week for the first 8 weeks of treatment
- at least every month after that for as long as you are taking Pomalidomide.

As a result of these tests, your doctor may change your dose of Pomalidomide or stop your treatment. The doctor may also change the dose or stop the medicine because of your general health.

### **Children and adolescents**

Pomalidomide is not recommended for use in children and young people under 18 years.

### **Other medicines and Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>**

Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. This is because Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> can affect the way some other medicines work. Also some other medicines can affect the way Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> works.

In particular, tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- some antifungals such as ketaconazole
- some antibiotics (for example ciprofloxacin, enoxacin)
- certain antidepressants such as fluvoxamine.

### **Driving and using machines**

Some people feel tired, dizzy, faint, confused or less alert when taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>. If this happens to you, do not drive or operate tools or machinery.

### **Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> contains sodium**

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per capsule, therefore it is considered essentially 'sodium-free'.

## **3. How to take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>**

Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> must be given to you by a doctor with experience in treating multiple myeloma.

Always take your medicines exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are not sure.

### **When to take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> with other medicines**

#### Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> with bortezomib and dexamethasone

- See the leaflets that come with bortezomib and dexamethasone for further information on their use and effects.
- Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>, bortezomib and dexamethasone are taken in 'treatment cycles'. Each cycle lasts 21 days (3 weeks).
- Look at the chart below to see what to take on each day of the 3-week cycle:
  - Each day, look down the chart and find the correct day to see which medicines to take.
  - Some days, you take all 3 medicines, some days just 2 or 1 medicines, and some days none at all.

**POM:** Pomalyst®; **BOR:** Bortezomib; **DEX:** Dexamethasone

**Cycle 1 to 8**

Day	Medicine name		
	POM	BOR	DEX
1	√	√	√
2	√		√
3	√		
4	√	√	√
5	√		√
6	√		
7	√		
8	√	√	√
9	√		√
10	√		
11	√	√	√
12	√		√
13	√		
14	√		
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			

**Cycle 9 and onwards**

Day	Medicine name		
	POM	BOR	DEX
1	√	√	√
2	√		√
3	√		
4	√		
5	√		
6	√		
7	√		
8	√	√	√
9	√		√
10	√		
11	√		
12	√		
13	√		
14	√		
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			

- After completing each 3-week cycle, start a new one.

Pomalyst® with dexamethasone only

- See the leaflet that comes with dexamethasone for further information on its use and effects.
- Pomalyst® and dexamethasone are taken in ‘treatment cycles’. Each cycle lasts 28 days (4 weeks).
- Look at the chart below to see what to take on each day of the 4-week cycle:
  - Each day, look down the chart and find the correct day to see which medicines to take.
  - Some days, you take both medicines, some days just 1 medicine, and some days none at all.

**POM:** Pomalyst®; **DEX:** Dexamethasone

Day	Medicine name	
	POM	DEX
1	√	√
2	√	
3	√	
4	√	
5	√	
6	√	
7	√	
8	√	√
9	√	
10	√	

11	√	
12	√	
13	√	
14	√	
15	√	√
16	√	
17	√	
18	√	
19	√	
20	√	
21	√	
22		√
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

- After completing each 4-week cycle, start a new one.

### **How much Pomalyst® to take with other medicines**

#### Pomalyst® with bortezomib and dexamethasone

- The recommended starting dose of Pomalyst® is 4 mg per day.
- The recommended starting dose of bortezomib will be worked out by your doctor and based on your height and weight (1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> body surface area).
- The recommended starting dose of dexamethasone is 20 mg per day. However, if you are over 75, the recommended starting dose is 10 mg per day.

#### Pomalyst® with dexamethasone only

- The recommended dose of Pomalyst® is 4 mg per day.
- The recommended starting dose of dexamethasone is 40 mg per day. However, if you are over 75, the recommended starting dose is 20 mg per day.

Your doctor may need to reduce the dose of Pomalyst®, bortezomib or dexamethasone or stop one or more of these medicines based on the results of your blood tests, your general condition, other medications you may be taking (e.g. ciprofloxacin, enoxacin and fluvoxamine) and if you experience side effects (especially rash or swelling) from treatment.

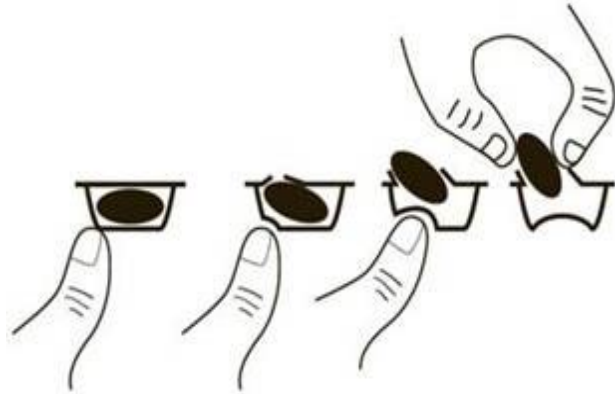
If you suffer from liver or kidney problems your doctor will check your condition very carefully whilst you are receiving this medicine.

### **How to take Pomalyst®**

- Do not break, open or chew the capsules. If powder from a broken Pomalyst® capsule makes contact with the skin, wash the skin immediately and thoroughly with soap and water.
- Healthcare professionals, caregivers and family members should wear disposable gloves when handling the blister or capsule. Gloves should then be removed carefully to prevent skin exposure, placed in a sealable plastic polyethylene bag and disposed of in accordance with local requirements. Hands should then be washed thoroughly with soap and water. Women who are pregnant or suspect they may be pregnant should not handle the blister or capsule.
- Swallow the capsules whole, preferably with water.

- You can take the capsules either with or without food.
- Take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> at about the same time each day.

To remove the capsule from the blister, press only one end of the capsule out to push it through the foil. Do not apply pressure on the centre of the capsule as this can cause it to break.



Your doctor will advise you of how and when to take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> if you have kidney problems and are receiving dialysis treatment.

#### **Duration of the treatment with Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>**

You should continue the cycles of treatment until your doctor tells you to stop.

#### **If you take more Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> than you should**

If you take more Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> than you should, talk to a doctor or go to a hospital straight away. Take the medicine pack with you.

#### **If you forget to take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>**

If you forget to take Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> on a day when you should, take your next capsule as normal the next day. Do not increase the number of capsules you take to make up for not taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> the previous day.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

#### **Serious side effects**

**Stop taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> and see a doctor straight away, if you notice any of the following serious side effects – you may need urgent medical treatment:**

- Fever, chills, sore throat, cough, mouth ulcers or any other signs of infection (due to less white blood cells, which fight infection).
- Bleeding or bruising without a cause, including nosebleeds and bleeding from the bowels or stomach (due to effects on blood cells called 'platelets').
- Rapid breathing, rapid pulse, fever and chills, passing very little to no urine, nausea and vomiting, confusion, unconsciousness (due to infection of blood called sepsis or septic shock).
- Severe, persistent or bloody diarrhoea (possibly with stomach pain or fever) caused by bacteria called *Clostridium difficile*.
- Chest pain, or leg pain and swelling, especially in your lower leg or calves (caused by blood clots).

- Shortness of breath (from serious chest infection, inflammation of the lung, heart failure or blood clot).
- Swelling of face, lips, tongue and throat, which may cause difficulty breathing (due to serious types of allergic reaction called angioedema and anaphylactic reaction).
- Certain types of skin cancer (squamous cell carcinoma and basal cell carcinoma), which can cause changes in the appearance of your skin or growths on your skin. If you notice any changes to your skin whilst taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup>, tell your doctor as soon as possible.
- Recurrence of hepatitis B infection, which can cause yellowing of the skin and eyes, dark brown-coloured urine, right-sided abdominal pain, fever and feeling nauseous or being sick. Tell your doctor straightaway if you notice any of these symptoms.
- Widespread rash, high body temperature, enlarged lymph nodes and other body organs involvement (Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms which is also known as DRESS or drug hypersensitivity syndrome, Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis or Stevens-Johnson Syndrome). Stop using pomalidomide if you develop these symptoms and contact your doctor or seek medical attention immediately. See also section 2.

**Stop taking Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> and see a doctor straight away** if you notice any of the serious side effects listed above – you may need urgent medical treatment.

### **Other side effects**

**Very common** (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):

- Infections of the lungs (pneumonia and bronchitis).
- Infections of the nose, sinuses and throat, caused by bacteria or viruses.
- Low red blood cells, which may cause anaemia leading to tiredness and weakness.
- Low blood levels of potassium (hypokalaemia), which may cause weakness, muscle cramps, muscle aches, palpitations, tingling or numbness, dyspnoea, mood changes.
- High blood levels of sugar.
- Loss of appetite.
- Shortness of breath (dyspnoea).
- Constipation, diarrhoea or nausea.
- Being sick (vomiting).
- Lack of energy.
- Difficulty in falling asleep or staying asleep.
- Dizziness, tremor.
- Muscle spasm, muscle weakness.
- Bone pain, back pain.
- Numbness, tingling or burning sensation to the skin, pains in hands or feet (peripheral sensory neuropathy).
- Swelling of the body, including swelling of the arms or legs.

**Common** (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

- Fall.
- Bleeding within the skull.
- Decreased ability to move or feel (sensation) in your hands, arms, feet and legs because of nerve damage (peripheral sensorimotor neuropathy).
- Numbness, itching, and a feeling of pins and needles on your skin (paraesthesia).
- Swelling caused by fluid.
- Chest pain, chest infection.
- Increased blood pressure.
- A fast and irregular heartbeat (atrial fibrillation).

- Heart attack (chest pain spreading to the arms, neck, jaw, feeling sweaty and breathless, feeling sick or vomiting).
- Hives (urticaria).
- A fall in the number of red and white blood cells and platelets at the same time (pancytopenia), which will make you more prone to bleeding and bruising. You may feel tired and weak, and short of breath and you are also more likely to get infections.
- Decreased number of lymphocytes (one type of white blood cells) often caused by infection (lymphopenia).
- Low blood levels of magnesium (hypomagnesaemia), which may cause tiredness, generalized weakness, muscle cramps, irritability and may result in low blood levels of calcium (hypocalcaemia), which may cause numbness and, or tingling of hands, feet, or lips, muscle cramps, muscle weakness, light-headedness, confusion.
- Low blood level of phosphate (hypophosphataemia), which may cause muscle weakness and irritability or confusion.
- High blood level of calcium (hypercalcaemia), which may cause slowing reflexes and skeletal muscle weaknesses.
- High blood levels of potassium, which may cause abnormal heart rhythm.
- Low blood levels of sodium, which may cause tiredness and confusion, muscle twitching, fits (epileptic seizures) or coma.
- High blood levels of uric acid, which may cause a form of arthritis called gout.
- Low blood pressure, which may cause dizziness or fainting.
- Flu-like symptoms (influenza).
- Sore or dry mouth.
- Changes in the way things taste.
- Abdominal pain, swollen abdomen.
- Feeling confused.
- Feeling down (depressed mood).
- Loss of consciousness, fainting.
- Clouding of your eye (cataract).
- A spinning feeling in your head, making it difficult to stand up and move normally.
- Rashes.
- Itchy skin.
- Damage to the kidney.
- Inability to pass urine.
- Urinary tract infection, which may cause a burning sensation when passing urine, or a need to pass urine more often.
- Pain in the pelvis.
- Weight loss.
- Abnormal liver test.
- Shingles.

**Uncommon** (may affect up to 1 in 100 people):

- Stroke.
- Inflammation of the liver (hepatitis) which can cause itchy skin, yellowing of the skin and the whites of the eyes (jaundice), pale colored stools, dark colored urine and abdominal pain.
- The breakdown of cancer cells resulting in the release of toxic compounds into the bloodstream (tumour lysis syndrome). This can result in kidney problems.
- Underactive thyroid gland, which may cause symptoms such as tiredness, lethargy, muscle weakness, slow heart rate, weight gain.

**Not known** (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data):

- Rejection of solid organ transplant (such as heart or liver).

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

## **5. How to store Pomalyst®**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Please refer to outer box for storage instruction.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the blister and carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not use Pomalyst® if you notice any damage or signs of tampering to medicine packaging.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Any unused medicine should be returned to the pharmacist at the end of treatment. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Pomalyst® contains**

- The active substance is pomalidomide.
- The other ingredients are mannitol (E421), pregelatinised starch, and sodium stearyl fumarate.

Pomalyst® 1 mg hard capsule:

- Each capsule contains 1 mg of pomalidomide.
- The capsule shell contains: gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132) and yellow iron oxide (E172) and white and black ink.
- The printing ink contains: shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527) (white ink) and shellac, iron oxide black (E172), propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527) (black ink).

Pomalyst® 2 mg hard capsule:

- Each capsule contains 2 mg of pomalidomide.
- The capsule shell contains: gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132), yellow iron oxide (E172), erythrosin (E127) and white ink.
- The printing ink contains: white ink - shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527).

Pomalyst® 3 mg hard capsule:

- Each capsule contains 3 mg of pomalidomide.
- The capsule shell contains: gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132), yellow iron oxide (E172) and white ink.
- The printing ink contains: white ink - shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527).

Pomalyst® 4 mg hard capsule:

- Each capsule contains 4 mg of pomalidomide.
- The capsule shell contains: gelatin, titanium dioxide (E171), indigotine (E132), brilliant blue FCF (E133), and white ink.

- The printing ink contains: white ink - shellac, titanium dioxide (E171), simethicone, propylene glycol (E1520) and ammonium hydroxide (E527).

**What Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> looks like and contents of the pack**

Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> 1 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and yellow opaque body, with “POML 1 mg” written on them.

Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> 2 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and orange opaque body, with “POML 2 mg” written on them.

Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> 3 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and green opaque body, with “POML 3 mg” written on them.

Pomalyst<sup>®</sup> 4 mg hard capsule: Dark blue opaque cap and blue opaque body, with “POML 4 mg” written on them.

Each pack contains 21 capsules.

**Date of revision of the text**

16 October 2023

