



U.S. Pharmaceuticals
3401 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

April 13th, 2021

BY ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609

AGO.highcostprescriptiondrugs@vermont.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

As required by 18 V.S.A. § 4637(c), and within thirty calendar days of the initial notice provided on 03/27/2021, Bristol-Myers Squibb is providing further information on the introduction of a new prescription drug with a wholesale acquisition cost that exceeds the threshold set for a specialty drug under the Medicare Part D program:

- ABECMA[®] (idecabtagene vicleucel) is supplied in one or more infusion bag(s) containing a frozen suspension of genetically modified autologous T cells in 5% DMSO concentration. Each (50/250/500 ML) infusion bag of ABECMA[®] is individually packed in a metal cassette.

NDC 59572-0515-01

NDC 59572-0515-02

NDC 59572-0515-03

We consider multiple factors when setting a list price for a medicine, including:

- The benefits the medicine brings to patients, healthcare systems and society - in terms of clinical outcomes and quality of life, longevity of life, and savings generated for other parts of the healthcare system such as reduced hospitalization and treatment costs
- Market and business considerations, including:
 - Ongoing research-investment costs; BMS invests more than 35% of its annual revenues in R&D, among the highest of any large company in any industry in the world
 - Medical- and patient-service costs; this includes funding growing patient assistance programs
 - Inflationary and capital-investment costs associated to manufacture, storage, and supply

ABECMA[®] was granted breakthrough therapy designation and priority review by the FDA. Bristol-Myers Squibb obtained rights to ABECMA[®] as part of the Celgene acquisition, which completed on November 20, 2019.

Based on 2020 Q1-Q2 earnings reports, CAR T commercially infused patients have been estimated to be around 140 patients per month (roughly 800 patients in the first 2 QTRs). BMS is unable to provide an estimated number of patients who will be prescribed ABECMA[®] each month.

As per 18 V.S.A. § 4637(d), Bristol-Myers Squibb is refraining from disclosing other components noted in 18 V.S.A. § 4637(c) because these components are not in the public domain or publicly available.

In the event Vermont S. 92 and the laws it implements, including 18 V.S.A. § 4637, are found invalid, Bristol-Myers Squibb reserves all of its legal rights. In issuing this notice in an attempt to comply with 18 V.S.A. § 4637, Bristol-Myers Squibb does not waive any legal claims or legal rights related to constitutional or other defects arising under Vermont S. 92.

Sincerely,

Amina Khan
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