

Approved Professional Information for Medicines for Human Use

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL

RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL

SCHEDULING STATUS

S4

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINE

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL film-coated tablets

RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL film-coated tablets

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL: Each film-coated tablet contains 15 mg rivaroxaban.

Each film-coated tablet contains 16,32 mg lactose monohydrate.

RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL: Each film-coated tablet contains 20 mg rivaroxaban.

Each film-coated tablet contains 21,76 mg lactose monohydrate.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Film-coated tablet.

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL: Red, round, biconvex film-coated tablets, engraved with “15” on one side, plain on the other.

RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL: Brown - red round biconvex film coated tablets, engraved with “20” on one side, plain on the other.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL are indicated for:

Austell Pharmaceuticals (Pty) Ltd, 530198.195 & 530199.196 Rivaroxaban 15/20 mg film-coated tablets

- Prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation (SPAF).
- Treatment of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and for the prevention of recurrent deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE).
- Treatment of pulmonary embolism (PE) and for the prevention of recurrent pulmonary embolism (PE) and deep vein thrombosis (DVT).

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

Coagulation parameters do not need to be monitored during treatment RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL.

SPAF – Recommended usual dose and frequency of administration:

The recommended dose is one RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL tablet once daily.

For patients with moderate renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 50 to 30 ml/min) the recommended dose is one RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL tablet once daily.

SPAF – Duration of treatment:

Therapy should be continued as long as risk factors for stroke and systemic embolism persist.

SPAF – Missed dose:

If a dose is missed, the patient should take RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL immediately and continue with the once daily intake as recommended on the following day.

The dose should not be doubled to make up for a missed dose within the same day.

SPAF – Maximum daily dose:

The recommended maximum daily dose is one RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL (20 mg rivaroxaban).

SPAF – Additional information on special populations:

SPAF – Patients with hepatic impairment:

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL are contraindicated in patients with hepatic disease with or without coagulopathy (see section 4.3).

The limited data available in patients with moderate hepatic impairment (Child Pugh B) indicates a significant increase in the pharmacological activity.

No clinical data are available for patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child Pugh C) (see section 4.3 and 5.2).

SPAF – Patients with renal impairment:

No dose adjustment is required if RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is administered in patients with mild (creatinine clearance ≤ 80 to 50 mL/min) renal impairment.

For patients with moderate (creatinine clearance < 50 to 30 mL/min) renal impairment the recommended dose is one RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL once daily.

The limited data available for patients with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 to 15 mL/min) indicates that rivaroxaban plasma levels are significantly increased in this patient population. Therefore, RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL should be used with caution in these patients. Use of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is not recommended in patients with creatinine clearance < 15 mL/min (see section 4.4).

SPAF – Converting from warfarin to RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg

AUSTELL:

Warfarin treatment should be stopped and RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL therapy should be initiated when the INR is $\leq 3,0$. When converting patients from warfarin to RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL, INR values will be falsely elevated after the intake of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL. The INR is not valid

to measure the anticoagulant activity of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL, it should therefore not be used (see section 4.5).

SPAF – Converting from RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to warfarin:

There is a potential for inadequate anticoagulation during the transition from RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to warfarin. Continuous adequate anticoagulation should be ensured during any transition to an alternate anticoagulant. It should be noted that RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL can contribute to an elevated INR. In patients converting from RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to warfarin, warfarin should be given concurrently until the INR is ≥ 2.0 . For the first two days of the conversion period, standard warfarin dosing should be used followed by warfarin dosing guided by INR testing. While patients are on both RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL and warfarin, the INR should not be tested earlier than 24 hours (after the previous dose but prior to the next dose of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL. Once RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is discontinued INR testing may be done reliably 24 hours after the last dose.

SPAF-Converting from parenteral anticoagulants to RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL:

For patients currently receiving a parenteral anticoagulant, RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL should be started 0 to 2 hours before the time of the next scheduled administration of the parenteral medicine (e.g. LMWH) or at the time of discontinuation of a continuously administered parenteral medicine (e.g. intravenous unfractionated heparin).

SPAF – Converting RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to parenteral anticoagulants:

Discontinue RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL and give the first dose of parenteral anticoagulant at the time that the next RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL dose would have been taken.

SPAF – Children and adolescents (from birth to 18 years):

Safety and efficacy have not been established in children and adolescents below 18 years.

SPAF- Body weight:

No dose adjustment is required based on body weight.

DVT and PE treatment – Recommended usual dose and frequency of administration

The recommended dose for the initial treatment of acute DVT and PE is one RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL tablet twice daily for the first three weeks followed by one RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL tablet once daily for the continued treatment and the prevention of recurrent DVT and PE.

DVT and PE treatment – duration of treatment: Therapy should be continued as long as the VTE risk persists.

DVT and PE treatment – missed dose: It is essential to adhere to the dosage schedule provided.

If a dose is missed during the RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL twice daily treatment phase the patient should take RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL immediately to ensure an intake of 30 mg per day. In this case, two RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL tablets may be taken at once. On the next day, the patient should continue with the regular one RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL twice daily intake as recommended.

If a dose is missed during the RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL once daily treatment phase the patient should take RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL immediately to ensure intake of 20 mg per day. The patient should continue with the regular one RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL once daily intake as recommended on the following day.

DVT and PE treatment – Maximum daily dose: The recommended maximum daily dose is 30 mg during the first 3 weeks of treatment.

In the following treatment phase, the recommended maximum daily dose is 20 mg.

DVT and PE treatment – Additional information on special populations:

DVT and PE treatment – patients with hepatic impairment:

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL are contraindicated in patients with hepatic disease with or without coagulopathy (see section 4.3).

The limited data available in patients with moderate hepatic impairment (Child Pugh B) indicates a significant increase in the pharmacological activity.

No clinical data are available for patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child Pugh C) (see section 4.3).

DVT and PE treatment – patients with renal impairment:

No dose adjustment is required if RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is administered in patients with mild (creatinine clearance ≤ 80 to 50 mL/min) renal impairment.

For patients with moderate (creatinine clearance < 50 to 30 mL/min) renal impairment the recommended dose is one RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL once daily.

The limited data available for patients with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 to 15 mL/min) indicates that rivaroxaban plasma levels are significantly increased in this patient population. Therefore, RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL should be used with caution in these patients.

Use of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is not recommended in patients with creatinine clearance < 15 mL/min (see section 4.4).

DVT and PE treatment – Converting from warfarin to RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL:

Warfarin treatment should be stopped and RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL therapy should be initiated when the INR is $\leq 2,5$. When converting patients from warfarin to RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL, INR values will be falsely elevated after the intake of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL. The INR is not valid to measure the anticoagulant activity of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and should therefore not be used (see section 4.5).

DVT and PE treatment – Converting from RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to warfarin:

There is a potential for inadequate anticoagulation during the transition from RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to warfarin. Continuous adequate anticoagulation should be ensured during any transition to an alternate anticoagulant. It should be noted that RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL can contribute to an elevated INR. In patients converting from RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to warfarin, warfarin should be given concurrently until the INR is $\geq 2,0$. For the first two days of the conversion period, standard warfarin dosing should be used followed by warfarin dosing guided by INR testing. While patients are on both RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL and warfarin, the INR should not be tested earlier than 24 hours (after the previous dose but prior to the next dose of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL). Once RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is discontinued INR testing may be done reliably 24 hours after the last dose.

DVT and PE treatment - Converting from parenteral anticoagulants to RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL:

For patients currently receiving a parenteral anticoagulant, RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL should be started 0 to 2 hours before the time of the next scheduled administration of the parenteral medicine (e.g. low molecular weight heparin (LMWH)) or at the time of discontinuation of a continuously administered parenteral medicine (e.g. intravenous unfractionated heparin).

DVT and PE treatment – Converting RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg

AUSTELL to parenteral anticoagulants:

Discontinue RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL and give the first dose of parenteral anticoagulant at the time that the next RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL or RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL dose would have been taken.

DVT and PE treatment – Children and adolescents (from birth to 18 years):

Safety and efficacy have not been established in children and adolescents below 18 years.

DVT and PE treatment - Body weight:

No dose adjustment is required based on body weight.

Method of administration

Oral use.

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL tablets should be taken with food.

4.3 Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to rivaroxaban or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.
- Active clinically significant bleeding.
- Lesion or condition, if considered to be a significant risk for major bleeding. This may include current or recent gastrointestinal ulceration, presence of malignant neoplasms at high risk of bleeding, recent brain or spinal injury, recent brain, spinal or ophthalmic surgery, recent intracranial haemorrhage, known or suspected oesophageal varices, arteriovenous malformations, vascular aneurysms or major intraspinal or intracerebral vascular abnormalities.
- Concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulants, e.g. unfractionated heparin (UFH), low molecular weight heparins (enoxaparin, dalteparin, etc.), heparin derivatives (fondaparinux, etc.), oral anticoagulants (warfarin, dabigatran etexilate, apixaban, etc.) except under specific circumstances of switching

anticoagulant therapy (see section 4.2) or when UFH is given at doses necessary to maintain an open central venous or arterial catheter (see section 4.5).

- Hepatic disease associated with coagulopathy and clinically relevant bleeding risk including cirrhotic patients with Child Pugh B and C (see section 5.2).
- Pregnancy and breast-feeding (see section 4.6).
- Patients with persistent triple positive antiphospholipid syndrome (APS).

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Clinical surveillance in line with anticoagulation practice is recommended throughout the treatment period.

Haemorrhagic risk

Patients taking RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL are to be carefully observed for signs of bleeding. It is recommended to be used with caution in conditions with increased risk of haemorrhage. RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL administration should be discontinued if severe haemorrhage occurs.

In the clinical studies mucosal bleedings (i.e. epistaxis, gingival, gastrointestinal, genito-urinary including abnormal vaginal or increased menstrual bleeding) and anaemia were seen more frequently during long term rivaroxaban treatment compared with Vitamin K antagonist (VKA) treatment. Thus, in addition to adequate clinical surveillance, laboratory testing of haemoglobin/haematocrit could be of value to detect occult bleeding and quantify the clinical relevance of overt bleeding, as judged to be appropriate.

Several sub-groups of patients, as detailed below, are at increased risk of bleeding. These patients are to be carefully monitored for signs and symptoms of bleeding complications and anaemia after initiation of treatment (see section 4.8).

Any unexplained fall in haemoglobin or blood pressure should lead to a search for a bleeding site.

Although treatment with rivaroxaban does not require routine monitoring of exposure, rivaroxaban levels measured with a calibrated quantitative anti-factor Xa assay may be useful in exceptional situations where

knowledge of rivaroxaban exposure may help to inform clinical decisions, e.g. overdose and emergency surgery (see sections 5.1 and 5.2).

Renal impairment

In patients with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min) rivaroxaban plasma levels may be significantly increased (1,6 fold on average) which may lead to an increased bleeding risk. RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is to be used with caution in patients with creatinine clearance 15 - 29 mL/min. Use is not recommended in patients with creatinine clearance < 15 mL/min (see section 4.2 and 5.2).

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL should be used with caution in patients with renal impairment concomitantly receiving other medicinal products which increase rivaroxaban plasma concentrations (see section 4.5).

Interaction with other medicinal products

The use of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is not recommended in patients receiving concomitant systemic treatment with azole-antimycotics (such as ketoconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole and posaconazole) or HIV protease inhibitors (e.g. ritonavir). These active substances are strong inhibitors of both CYP3A4 and P-gp and therefore may increase rivaroxaban plasma concentrations to a clinically relevant degree (2,6 fold on average) which may lead to an increased bleeding risk (see section 4.5).

Care is to be taken if patients are treated concomitantly with medicinal products affecting haemostasis such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicinal drugs (NSAIDs), acetylsalicylic acid (ASA) and platelet aggregation inhibitors or selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), and serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs). For patients at risk of ulcerative gastrointestinal disease an appropriate prophylactic treatment may be considered (see section 4.5).

Other haemorrhagic risk factors

Rivaroxaban is not recommended in patients with an increased bleeding risk such as:

- congenital or acquired bleeding disorders,
- uncontrolled severe arterial hypertension,
- other gastrointestinal disease without active ulceration that can potentially lead to bleeding complications (e.g. inflammatory bowel disease, oesophagitis, gastritis and gastroesophageal reflux disease),
- vascular retinopathy,
- bronchiectasis or history of pulmonary bleeding,
- recent intracranial or intracerebral haemorrhage,
- shortly after brain spinal or ophthalmological surgery.

Patients with prosthetic valves

Rivaroxaban should not be used for thromboprophylaxis in patients having recently undergone transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR). Safety and efficacy of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL have not been studied in patients with prosthetic heart valves; therefore, there are no data to support that RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL provides adequate anticoagulation in this patient population. Treatment with RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL is not recommended for these patients.

Patients with antiphospholipid syndrome

Direct acting Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) including RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL are not recommended for patients with a history of thrombosis who are diagnosed with antiphospholipid syndrome (APS). In particular for patients that are triple positive (for lupus anticoagulant,

anticardiolipin antibodies, and anti-beta 2-glycoprotein I antibodies), treatment with DOACs could be associated with increased rates of recurrent thrombotic events compared with vitamin K antagonist therapy. Treatment of patients with established APS is not recommended (see section 4.3).

Patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation who undergo PCI with stent placement

Clinical data are available from an interventional study with the primary objective to assess safety in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation who undergo PCI with stent placement. Data on efficacy in this population are limited (see sections 4.2 and 5.1). No data are available for such patients with a history of stroke/TIA.

Haemodynamically unstable PE patients or patients who require thrombolysis or pulmonary embolectomy.

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is not recommended as an alternative to unfractionated heparin in patients with pulmonary embolism who are haemodynamically unstable or may receive thrombolysis or pulmonary embolectomy since the safety and efficacy of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL have not been established in these clinical situations.

Spinal/epidural anaesthesia or puncture

When neuraxial anaesthesia (spinal/epidural anaesthesia) or spinal/epidural puncture is employed, patients treated with antithrombotic medicines for prevention of thromboembolic complications are at risk of developing an epidural or spinal haematoma which can result in long-term or permanent paralysis. The risk of these events may be increased by the post-operative use of indwelling epidural catheters or the concomitant use of medicinal products affecting haemostasis. The risk may also be increased by traumatic or repeated epidural or spinal puncture. Patients are to be frequently monitored for signs and symptoms of neurological impairment (e.g. numbness or weakness of the legs, bowel or bladder dysfunction). If neurological compromise is noted, urgent diagnosis and treatment is necessary. Prior to neuraxial intervention the medical practitioner should consider the potential benefit versus the risk in anticoagulated patients or in patients to be anticoagulated for

thromboprophylaxis. There is no clinical experience with the use of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL in these situations.

To reduce the potential risk of bleeding associated with the concurrent use of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL and neuraxial (epidural/spinal) anaesthesia or spinal puncture, consider the pharmacokinetic profile of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL. Placement or removal of an epidural catheter or lumbar puncture is best performed when the anticoagulant effect of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is estimated to be low (see section 5.2). However, the exact timing to reach a sufficiently low anticoagulant effect in each patient is not known.

For the removal of an epidural catheter at least 18 hours should elapse after the last administration of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL (see section 5.2). Following removal of the catheter, at least 6 hours should elapse before the next RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL dose is administered.

If traumatic puncture occurs the administration of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is to be delayed for 24 hours.

Dosing recommendations before and after invasive procedures and surgical intervention.

If an invasive procedure or surgical intervention is required, RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL should be stopped at least 24 hours before the intervention, if possible.

If the procedure cannot be delayed the increased risk of bleeding should be assessed against the urgency of the intervention.

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL should be restarted as soon as possible after the invasive procedure or surgical intervention provided the clinical situation allows and adequate haemostasis has been established as determined by the treating medical practitioner (see section 5.2).

Elderly population

Increasing age may increase haemorrhagic risk (see section 5.2).

Dermatological reactions

Serious skin reactions, including Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis and DRESS syndrome, have been reported during post-marketing surveillance in association with the use of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL (see section 4.8). Patients appear to be at highest risk for these reactions early in the course of therapy: the onset of the reaction occurring in the majority of cases within the first weeks of treatment. RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL should be discontinued at the first appearance of a severe skin rash (e.g. spreading, intense and/or blistering), or any other sign of hypersensitivity in conjunction with mucosal lesions.

Information about excipients

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL contains lactose. Patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, total lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicinal product

4.5 Interaction with other medicines and other forms of interaction

CYP3A4 and P-gp inhibitors

Co-administration of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL with ketoconazole (400 mg once a day) or ritonavir (600 mg twice a day) led to a 2,6 fold / 2,5 fold increase in mean RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL AUC and a 1,7 fold / 1,6 fold increase in mean rivaroxaban C_{max} , with significant increases in pharmacodynamic effects which may lead to an increased bleeding risk. Therefore, the use of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL is not recommended in patients receiving concomitant systemic treatment with

azole-antimycotics such as ketoconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole and posaconazole or HIV protease inhibitors. These active substances are strong inhibitors of both CYP3A4 and P-gp (see section 4.4).

Active substances strongly inhibiting only one of the rivaroxaban elimination pathways, either CYP3A4 or P-gp, are expected to increase RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL plasma concentrations to a lesser extent. Clarithromycin (500 mg twice a day), for instance, considered as a strong CYP3A4 inhibitor and moderate P-gp inhibitor, led to a 1,5 fold increase in mean rivaroxaban AUC and a 1,4 fold increase in C_{max} . The interaction with clarithromycin is likely not clinically relevant in most patients but can be potentially significant in high-risk patients. (For patients with renal impairment: see section 4.4).

Erythromycin (500 mg three times a day), which inhibits CYP3A4 and P-gp moderately, led to a 1,3 fold increase in mean rivaroxaban AUC and C_{max} . The interaction with erythromycin is likely not clinically relevant in most patients but can be potentially significant in high-risk patients.

In subjects with mild renal impairment erythromycin (500 mg three times a day) led to a 1,8 fold increase in mean rivaroxaban AUC and 1,6 fold increase in C_{max} when compared to subjects with normal renal function. In subjects with moderate renal impairment, erythromycin led to a 2,0 fold increase in mean rivaroxaban AUC and 1,6 fold increase in C_{max} when compared to subjects with normal renal function. The effect of erythromycin is additive to that of renal impairment (see section 4.4).

Fluconazole (400 mg once daily), considered as a moderate CYP3A4 inhibitor, led to a 1,4 fold increase in mean rivaroxaban AUC and a 1.3 fold increase in mean C_{max} . The interaction with fluconazole is likely not clinically relevant in most patients but can be potentially significant in high-risk patients. (For patients with renal impairment: see section 4.4).

Given the limited clinical data available with dronedarone, co-administration with RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL should be avoided.

Anticoagulants

After combined administration of enoxaparin (40 mg single dose) with RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL (10 mg single dose) an additive effect on anti-factor Xa activity was observed without any additional effects on clotting tests

(PT, aPTT). Enoxaparin did not affect the pharmacokinetics of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL.

Due to the increased bleeding risk care is to be taken if patients are treated concomitantly with any other anticoagulants (see sections 4.3 and 4.4).

NSAIDs/platelet aggregation inhibitors

No clinically relevant prolongation of bleeding time was observed after concomitant administration of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg and 500 mg naproxen. Nevertheless, there may be individuals with a more pronounced pharmacodynamic response.

No clinically significant pharmacokinetic or pharmacodynamic interactions were observed when RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL was co-administered with 500 mg acetylsalicylic acid.

Clopidogrel (300 mg loading dose followed by 75 mg maintenance dose) did not show a pharmacokinetic interaction with RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL (15 mg) but a relevant increase in bleeding time was observed in a subset of patients which was not correlated to platelet aggregation, P-selectin or GPIIb/IIIa receptor levels.

Care is to be taken if patients are treated concomitantly with NSAIDs (including acetylsalicylic acid) and platelet aggregation inhibitors because these medicinal products typically increase the bleeding risk (see section 4.4).

SSRIs/SNRIs

As with other anticoagulants the possibility may exist that patients are at increased risk of bleeding in case of concomitant use with SSRIs or SNRIs due to their reported effect on platelets. When concomitantly used in the RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL clinical programme, numerically higher rates of major or non-major clinically relevant bleeding were observed in all treatment groups.

Warfarin

Converting patients from the vitamin K antagonist warfarin (INR 2,0 to 3,0) to RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL or from RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL to warfarin (INR 2,0 to 3,0) increased prothrombin time/INR

(Neoplastin) more than additively (individual INR values up to 12 may be observed), whereas effects on aPTT, inhibition of factor Xa activity and endogenous thrombin potential were additive.

If it is desired to test the pharmacodynamic effects of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL during the conversion period, anti-factor Xa activity, PiCT, and Heptest can be used as these tests were not affected by warfarin. On the fourth day after the last dose of warfarin, all tests (including PT, aPTT, inhibition of factor Xa activity and ETP) reflected only the effect of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL.

If it is desired to test the pharmacodynamic effects of warfarin during the conversion period, INR measurement can be used at the C_{trough} of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL (24 hours after the previous intake of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL) as this test is minimally affected by RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL at this time point.

No pharmacokinetic interaction was observed between warfarin and RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL.

CYP3A4 inducers

Co-administration of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL with the strong CYP3A4 inducer rifampicin led to an approximate 50% decrease in mean rivaroxaban AUC, with parallel decreases in its pharmacodynamic effects. The concomitant use of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL with other strong CYP3A4 inducers (e.g. phenytoin, carbamazepine, phenobarbitone or St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)) may also lead to reduced RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL plasma concentrations. Therefore, concomitant administration of strong CYP3A4 inducers should be avoided unless the patient is closely observed for signs and symptoms of thrombosis.

Other concomitant therapies

No clinically significant pharmacokinetic or pharmacodynamic interactions were observed when RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL was co-administered with midazolam (substrate of CYP3A4), digoxin (substrate of P-gp), atorvastatin (substrate of CYP3A4 and P-gp) or omeprazole (proton pump inhibitor). Rivaroxaban neither inhibits nor induces any major CYP isoforms like CYP3A4.

Laboratory parameters

Clotting parameters (e.g. PT, aPTT, HepTest) are affected as expected by the mode of action of RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL (see section 5.1).

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

Safety and efficacy of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL have not been established in pregnant women. Due to the potential reproductive toxicity, the intrinsic risk of bleeding and the evidence that RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL passes the placenta, RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL is contraindicated during pregnancy (see section 4.3).

Women of child bearing potential should avoid becoming pregnant during treatment with RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL.

Breastfeeding

Safety and efficacy of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL have not been established in breast-feeding women. RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL is contraindicated during breastfeeding.

Fertility

No specific studies with RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL in humans have been conducted to evaluate effects on fertility.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL has minor influence on the ability to drive and use machines. Adverse reactions like syncope and dizziness have been reported (see section 4.8).

Patients experiencing these adverse reactions should not drive or use machines.

4.8 Undesirable effects

The frequencies of adverse reactions reported with RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL are summarised in Table 1 below by system organ class (in MedDRA) and by frequency.

Table 1: Tabulated list of adverse reactions		
System Organ Class	Adverse reactions	Frequency
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Anaemia (incl. Respective laboratory parameters)	Frequent
	Thrombocytosis (incl. platelet count increase) ^A , thrombocytopenia	Less frequent
Immune system disorder	Allergic reaction, dermatitis allergic, angioedema, allergic oedema, anaphylactic reactions including anaphylactic shock	Less frequent
Nervous system disorders	Dizziness, headache	Frequent
	Cerebral and intracranial haemorrhage, syncope	Less frequent
Eye disorders	Eye haemorrhage (incl. conjunctival haemorrhage)	Frequent
Cardiac disorders	Tachycardia	Less frequent
Vascular disorders	Hypotension, haematoma	Frequent

Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	Epistaxis, haemoptysis	Frequent
Gastrointestinal disorders	Gingival bleeding, gastrointestinal tract haemorrhage (incl. rectal haemorrhage), gastrointestinal and abdominal pains, dyspepsia, nausea, constipation ^A , diarrhoea, vomiting ^A	Frequent
	Dry mouth	Less frequent
Hepatobiliary disorders	Increase in transaminases	Frequent
	Hepatic impairment, increased bilirubin, increased blood alkaline phosphatase ^A , increased GGTA, jaundice, bilirubin conjugated increased (with or without concomitant increase of ALT), cholestasis, hepatitis (incl. hepatocellular injury)	Less frequent
Skin and subcutaneous tissues disorders	Pruritus (incl. uncommon cases of generalised pruritus), rash, ecchymosis, cutaneous and subcutaneous haemorrhage syndrome	Frequent

	Urticaria, Stevens-Johnson syndrome/ Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis , DRESS	Less frequent
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Pain in extremity ^A	Frequent
	Haemarthrosis, muscle haemorrhage	Less frequent
	Compartment syndrome secondary to a bleeding	Unknown
Renal and urinary disorders	Urogenital tract haemorrhage (incl. haematuria and menorrhagia ^B), renal impairment (incl. increased blood creatinine, increased blood urea)	Frequent
	Renal failure/acute renal failure secondary to a bleeding sufficient to cause hypoperfusion	Unknown
General disorders and administration site conditions	Fever ^A , peripheral oedema, decreased general strength and energy (incl. fatigue and asthenia)	Frequent
	Feeling unwell (incl. malaise), localised oedema ^A	Less frequent
Investigations	Increased LDH ^A , increased lipase ^A , increased amylase ^A	Less frequent

Injury, poisoning and procedural complications	Postprocedural haemorrhage (incl. postoperative anaemia, and wound haemorrhage), contusion, wound secretion ^A	Frequent
	Vascular pseudoaneurysm ^C	Less frequent
<p>A: observed in prevention of VTE in adult patients undergoing elective hip or knee replacement surgery</p> <p>B: observed in treatment of DVT, PE and prevention of recurrence as frequent in women < 55 years</p> <p>C: observed as less frequent in prevention of atherothrombotic events in patients after an ACS (following percutaneous coronary intervention)</p> <p>* A pre-specified selective approach to adverse event collection was applied. As incidence of adverse reactions did not increase and no new adverse reaction was identified, COMPASS study data were not included for frequency calculation in this table.</p>		

c. Description of selected adverse reactions

Due to the pharmacological mode of action, the use of RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL may be associated with an increased risk of occult or overt bleeding from any tissue or organ which may result in post haemorrhagic anaemia. The signs, symptoms, and severity (including fatal outcome) will vary according to the location and degree or extent of the bleeding and/or anaemia (see section 4.9 “Management of bleeding”). In the clinical studies mucosal bleedings (i.e. epistaxis, gingival, gastrointestinal, genito-urinary including abnormal vaginal or increased menstrual bleeding) and anaemia were seen more

frequently during long term rivaroxaban treatment compared with VKA treatment. Thus, in addition to adequate clinical surveillance, laboratory testing of haemoglobin/haematocrit could be of value to detect occult bleeding and quantify the clinical relevance of overt bleeding, as judged to be appropriate. The risk of bleedings may be increased in certain patient groups, e.g. those patients with uncontrolled severe arterial hypertension and/or on concomitant treatment affecting haemostasis (see section 4.4 “Haemorrhagic risk”). Menstrual bleeding may be intensified and/or prolonged. Haemorrhagic complications may present as weakness, paleness, dizziness, headache or unexplained swelling, dyspnoea and unexplained shock. In some cases as a consequence of anaemia, symptoms of cardiac ischaemia like chest pain or angina pectoris have been observed.

Known complications secondary to severe bleeding such as compartment syndrome and renal failure due to hypoperfusion have been reported for RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL and RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL. Therefore, the possibility of haemorrhage is to be considered in evaluating the condition in any anticoagulated patient.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicine is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicine. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions to SAHPRA via the “6.04 Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting Form”, found online under SAHPRA’s publications: <https://www.sahpra.org.za/Publications/Index/8>

4.9 Overdose

Rare cases of overdose up to 600 mg have been reported without bleeding complications or other adverse reactions. Due to limited absorption a ceiling effect with no further increase in average plasma exposure is expected at supratherapeutic doses of 50 mg rivaroxaban or above.

A specific antidote antagonising the pharmacodynamic effect of rivaroxaban is not available.

The use of activated charcoal to reduce absorption in case of rivaroxaban overdose may be considered. Due to high plasma protein binding rivaroxaban is not expected to be dialysable.

Management of bleeding

Should a bleeding complication arise in a patient receiving rivaroxaban, the next rivaroxaban administration should be delayed or treatment should be discontinued as appropriate. Rivaroxaban has a half-life of approximately 5 to 13 hours (see section 5.2). Management should be individualised according to the severity and location of the haemorrhage. Appropriate symptomatic treatment could be used as needed, such as mechanical compression (e.g. for severe epistaxis), surgical haemostasis with bleeding control procedures, fluid replacement and haemodynamic support, blood products (packed red cells or fresh frozen plasma, depending on associated anaemia or coagulopathy) or platelets.

If bleeding cannot be controlled by the above measures, administration of a specific procoagulant reversal agent should be considered, such as prothrombin complex concentrate (PCC), activated prothrombin complex concentrate (APCC) or recombinant factor VIIa (r-FVIIa). However, there is currently very limited clinical experience with the use of these medicinal products in individuals receiving rivaroxaban. The recommendation is also based on limited non-clinical data. Re-dosing of recombinant factor VIIa shall be considered and titrated depending on improvement of bleeding. Depending on local availability, a consultation with a coagulation expert should be considered in case of major bleedings (see section 5.1).

Protamine sulphate and vitamin K are not expected to affect the anticoagulant activity of rivaroxaban. There is limited experience with tranexamic acid and no experience with aminocaproic acid and aprotinin in individuals receiving rivaroxaban. There is neither scientific rationale for benefit nor experience with the use of the systemic haemostatic desmopressin in individuals receiving rivaroxaban. Due to the high plasma protein binding rivaroxaban is not expected to be dialysable.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacological Classification/ Category and Class: A.8.2 Anticoagulants.

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antithrombotic agents, direct factor Xa inhibitors.

ATC code: B01AF01.

Mechanism of action

Rivaroxaban is a highly selective direct factor Xa inhibitor with oral bioavailability.

Activation of Factor X to Factor Xa (FXa) via the intrinsic and extrinsic pathway plays a central role in the cascade of blood coagulation. FXa directly converts prothrombin to thrombin through the prothrombinase complex, and ultimately this reaction leads to fibrin clot formation and activation of platelets by thrombin. One molecule of FXa is able to generate more than 1000 molecules of thrombin due to the amplification nature of the coagulation cascade. In addition, the reaction rate of prothrombinase-bound FXa increases 300,000-fold compared to that of free FXa and causes an explosive burst of thrombin generation.

Selective inhibitors of FXa can terminate the amplified burst of thrombin generation. Consequently, several specific and global clotting tests are affected by rivaroxaban. Dose dependent inhibition of Factor Xa activity was observed in humans.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

Rivaroxaban is rapidly absorbed with maximum concentrations (C_{max}) appearing 2 - 4 hours after tablet intake. The oral bioavailability for the 20 mg tablet dose is 66% under fasting conditions. When rivaroxaban 20 mg tablets are taken together with food increases in mean AUC by 39% were observed when compared to tablet intake under fasting conditions, indicating almost complete absorption and high oral bioavailability. Rivaroxaban 15 mg and 20 mg should be taken with food (see section 4.2).

Distribution

Plasma protein binding in humans is high at approximately 92% to 95%, with serum albumin being the main binding component. The volume of distribution is moderate with V_{ss} being approximately 50 litres.

Biotransformation and elimination

Of the administered rivaroxaban dose, approximately 2/3 undergoes metabolic degradation, with half then being eliminated renally and the other half eliminated by the faecal route. The final 1/3 of the administered dose undergoes direct renal excretion as unchanged active substance in the urine, mainly via active renal secretion. Rivaroxaban is metabolised via CYP3A4, CYP2J2 and CYP-independent mechanisms. Oxidative degradation of the morpholinone moiety and hydrolysis of the amide bonds are the major sites of biotransformation. Based on in vitro investigations rivaroxaban is a substrate of the transporter proteins P-gp (P-glycoprotein) and Bcrp (breast cancer resistance protein).

Unchanged rivaroxaban is the most important compound in human plasma, with no major or active circulating metabolites being present. With a systemic clearance of about 10 L/h, rivaroxaban can be classified as a low-clearance substance. After intravenous administration of a 1 mg dose the elimination half-life is about 4,5 hours. After oral administration the elimination becomes absorption rate limited. Elimination of rivaroxaban from plasma occurs with terminal half-lives of 5 to 9 hours in young individuals, and with terminal half-lives of 11 to 13 hours in the elderly.

Special populations

Gender

There were no clinically relevant differences in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics between male and female patients.

Elderly population

Elderly patients exhibited higher plasma concentrations than younger patients, with mean AUC values being approximately 1,5 fold higher, mainly due to reduced (apparent) total and renal clearance. No dose adjustment is necessary.

Different weight categories

Extremes in body weight (< 50 kg or > 120 kg) had only a small influence on rivaroxaban plasma concentrations (less than 25%). No dose adjustment is necessary.

Inter-ethnic differences

No clinically relevant inter-ethnic differences among Caucasian, African-American, Hispanic, Japanese or Chinese patients were observed regarding rivaroxaban pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.

Hepatic impairment

Cirrhotic patients with mild hepatic impairment (classified as Child Pugh A) exhibited only minor changes in rivaroxaban pharmacokinetics (1,2 fold increase in rivaroxaban AUC on average), nearly comparable to their matched healthy control group. In cirrhotic patients with moderate hepatic impairment (classified as Child Pugh B), rivaroxaban mean AUC was significantly increased by 2,3 fold compared to healthy volunteers. Unbound AUC was increased 2,6 fold. These patients also had reduced renal elimination of rivaroxaban, similar to patients with moderate renal impairment. There are no data in patients with severe hepatic impairment.

The inhibition of factor Xa activity was increased by a factor of 2,6 in patients with moderate hepatic impairment as compared to healthy volunteers; prolongation of PT was similarly increased by a factor of 2,1. Patients with moderate hepatic impairment were more sensitive to rivaroxaban resulting in a steeper PK/PD relationship between concentration and PT.

RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL is contraindicated in patients with hepatic disease associated with coagulopathy and clinically relevant bleeding risk, including cirrhotic patients with Child Pugh B and C (see section 4.3).

Renal impairment

There was an increase in rivaroxaban exposure correlated to decrease in renal function, as assessed via creatinine clearance measurements. In individuals with mild (creatinine clearance 50 - 80 mL/min), moderate (creatinine clearance 30 - 49 mL/min) and severe (creatinine clearance 15 - 29 mL/min) renal impairment, rivaroxaban plasma concentrations (AUC) were increased 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6 fold respectively. Corresponding increases in pharmacodynamic effects were more pronounced. In individuals with mild, moderate and severe renal impairment the overall inhibition of factor Xa activity was increased by a factor of 1.5, 1.9 and 2.0 respectively as compared to healthy volunteers; prolongation of PT was similarly increased by a factor of 1.3, 2.2 and 2.4 respectively. There are no data in patients with creatinine clearance < 15 mL/min.

Due to the high plasma protein binding rivaroxaban is not expected to be dialysable.

Use is not recommended in patients with creatinine clearance < 15 ml/min. RIVAROXABAN AUSTELL is to be used with caution in patients with creatinine clearance 15 - 29 mL/min (see section 4.4).

Paediatric population

Safety and efficacy have not been established for children and adolescents up to 18 years.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Tablet core:

Cellulose, microcrystalline

Croscarmellose sodium

Hypromellose

Lactose monohydrate

Magnesium stearate

Purified water

Sodium laurilsulfate

Film-coating

Hypromellose 2910 (E464)

Titanium dioxide (E 171)

Macrogol 3350 (E1521)

Iron oxide red (E 172)

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable

6.3 Shelf life

3 years

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store at or below 30°C.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL: Packed in PVC/Aluminium blisters in cartons of 10, 30 or 42 tablets.

RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL: Packed in PVC/Aluminium blisters in cartons of 10, 30 or 42 tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7. HOLDER OF CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Austell Pharmaceuticals (Pty) Ltd

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Austell Pharmaceuticals (Pty) Ltd, 530198.195 & 530199.196 Rivaroxaban 15/20 mg film-coated tablets

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8. REGISTRATION NUMBERS

RIVAROXABAN 15 mg AUSTELL: 53/8.2/0198.195

RIVAROXABAN 20 mg AUSTELL: 53/8.2/0199.196

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

03 November 2020

10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT