Bayer HealthCare

Xofigo: **Special Temporary Preparation Instructions for Xofigo® (radium RA 223 dichloride) – Required filtering of Xofigo® / radium-223 dichloride when preparing patient-ready dose syringes**

Dear Customer:

This letter concerns the preparation of the patient-ready dose for Xofigo® (radium RA 223 dichloride), an alpha particle-emitting radioactive therapeutic agent indicated for the treatment of patients with castration-resistant prostate cancer, symptomatic bone metastases and no known visceral metastases.

During the routine inspection process of Xofigo® and radium-223-dichloride, recent batches of drug product were found to contain small fibrous particles above the alert and action levels. No affected product was released for distribution.

Following extensive root cause analyses, corrective actions at the manufacturing site were put into place. These actions included isolation of the affected batches, comprehensive maintenance and cleaning activities, inspection of packaging materials and implementation of an enhanced visual inspection process to remove affected vials from the batches.

In order to make product available to patients as quickly as possible, Bayer in agreement with Health Authorities has implemented a temporary release procedure which includes the enhanced visual inspection. **As an additional precautionary measure, and as agreed with Health Authorities, product released under the temporary release procedure must undergo filtration at the local site prior to administration to the patient. This temporary filtering procedure is to be done in your nuclear medicines department. Bayer will notify you when this filtration is no longer necessary.**

As part of the preparation of doses of Xofigo® (radium-223 dichloride) for administration to patients, you should place a filter between the needle, used to withdraw the solution from the vial, and syringe during the withdrawal of the dose into the syringe. This additional step will not modify the therapeutic profile of the product and does not impact the dose administration of Xofigo. With the addition of the filtering, Xofigo should continue to be used according to the approved Swisslabel (approved 29.08.2014).

Bayer has qualified three filters for filtration of Xofigo® (radium-223-dichloride) at the administering sites and will provide an appropriate filter for you to use in the preparation of patient doses.

Filtering Procedure for Prescribed Product (Xofigo®):
This filtering step consists of drawing up the drug product solution through a syringe filter prior to administering to the patient. Specific instructions are provided below:

- Calculate the appropriate volume needed for the patient-specific treatment dosage.

- Place a filter between the needle, used to withdraw the solution from the vial, and the syringe
- Carefully withdraw the specific volume up from the vial through the filter into the syringe.
- After withdrawing the dose from the vial, carefully remove and discard the filter and needle (follow your normal procedure for discarding such radioactive waste).
- Proceed to administer Xofigo according to your local protocols.

List of qualified filters (Attention: Bayer will provide an appropriate filter):

Supplier	**Article / Pore size**	**Art-No.**	**Material (Filter)**	**Material (Housing)**
BBraun	Sterifix Injection Filter, 0.2 µm	4099206	PESU	MABS
Merck Millipore	Millex-GS, 0.22 µm	SLGL0250S	CME	PVC
RoweMed	RowePhil 18/5.0, 5 µm	A6227	PET	MABS

Bayer is committed to providing patients with high quality products. If you have any questions or need further assistance please contact us at:

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