



GSK launches once daily, single inhaler-triple therapy for COPD patients for the first time in India

Mumbai: GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited launched *Trelegy Ellipta* (fluticasone furoate/umeclidinium/vilanterol), the first single-inhaler triple therapy (SITT) in India for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) patients in a once-daily regime.

The launch follows the product's approval by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) for use of *Trelegy Ellipta* as maintenance treatment to prevent and relieve symptoms associated with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in patients aged 18 and above.

Dr. Rashmi Hegde, Executive Vice President - Medical Affairs, GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited, said, "We are thrilled to launch *Trelegy Ellipta*, enabling a greater number of Indian COPD patients to benefit from this world-leading medicine. This is a significant milestone which exemplifies the GSK ambition for patients. Healthcare professionals in India now have a new once-daily, single inhaler triple therapy for the optimal treatment of their COPD patients."

Dr. Deepak Talwar, Director & Chair - Pulmonary, Sleep, Allergy & Critical Care Medicine at Metro Group of Hospitals, said, "COPD is associated with major healthcare and socioeconomic burden on patients and their caregivers. In appropriate patients, studies show that a combination of three different types of medicines for COPD can effectively improve patients' symptoms and reduce the risk of symptom worsening. Considering 75% COPD patients have four or more co-existing medical conditions, the burden of managing and taking many medications may overwhelm patients, resulting in suboptimal treatment. Single-inhaler triple therapy has the potential role to simplify treatment, improve treatment adherence and patient outcomes."

In usual clinical care, treatment with single-inhaler *Trelegy Ellipta* results in significantly more patients with health status improvements and greater lung benefit, versus multi-inhaler triple therapy, with similar safety profiles.¹

Trelegy is delivered via the innovative *Ellipta* inhaler that provides accurate dosing through its consistent dose delivery mechanism and is associated with less inhaler teaching time compared to other commonly used inhalers.^{2,3}

About COPD

COPD is a common, preventable, and treatable chronic lung disease which affects men and women worldwide⁴. Estimated COPD prevalence in India is over 100 million and accounts for over 9.5% of the total deaths in India⁵. COPD is usually caused by cigarette smoking, though long-term exposure to other lung irritants, like secondhand smoke, can also contribute to COPD^{6,7}. Common symptoms of COPD include breathlessness or difficulty breathing, chronic cough, often with phlegm, and tiredness⁴.

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For COPD patients who remain symptomatic and are at risk of exacerbations, guideline recommends stepping up to triple therapy⁸ which is currently administered through a combination of two or more inhalers in India.

However, patients who use multiple inhalers are more likely to use their inhaler incorrectly and it has been observed that once-daily dosing is preferred by most patients and associated with increased adherence to COPD treatment⁹⁻¹².

About GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited

GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited is a subsidiary of GlaxoSmithKline plc, one of the world's leading research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare companies, committed to improving the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer.

For more information, visit www.gsk-india.com

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