



# ADHD FAQ'S:

Practical Answers for the  
Office-Based Practitioner

**APA 2009 Annual Meeting • San Francisco, California**  
**Monday, May 18, 2009 • Marriott-San Francisco, Salons 7/8**

**Breakfast**

6:30 AM–7:00 AM

**Scientific Session**

7:00 AM–9:00 AM

**Welcome and Preactivity Educational Outcomes Measurement**

7:00 AM–7:05 AM Gabriel Kaplan, MD

**How Do I Identify and Treat Adult ADHD?**

7:05 AM–7:25 AM Gabriel Kaplan, MD

**Cardiovascular Effects of Stimulants—Is There Cause for Concern?**

7:25 AM–7:45 AM Donald E. Greydanus, MD

**How Do I Approach the Bipolar vs ADHD Issue?**

7:45 AM–8:05 AM Jeffrey H. Newcorn, MD

**How Do I Manage the ADHD/SUD Comorbidity?**

8:05 AM–8:25 AM Iliyan Ivanov, MD

**Postactivity Measurement**

8:25 AM–8:30 AM Gabriel Kaplan, MD

**Discussion, Q&A**

8:30 AM–9:00 AM Gabriel Kaplan, MD and Faculty

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The APA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Learning Objective**

At the conclusion of this session, the participant should be able to enumerate adult ADHD criteria, and understand the cardiovascular risks of stimulants, the process of ADHD/bipolar differential diagnosis, and the outcome findings of ADHD/SUD comorbidity.

*Attendees must be registered for the APA Annual Meeting to attend this symposium. Seating is limited and will be based on first-come, first-served. For more information about the meetings, please visit the APA web site at [www.psych.org](http://www.psych.org) or contact the APA toll free at 1-888-357-7924 (within the U.S. or Canada) or 703-907-7300.*

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**Program Chair**

**Gabriel Kaplan, MD**

Clinical Associate Professor  
of Psychiatry  
University of Medicine and Dentistry  
of New Jersey  
Newark, New Jersey  
Executive Director, Psychiatry  
Hoboken University Medical Center  
Hoboken, New Jersey

**Distinguished Faculty**

**Donald E. Greydanus, MD**

Pediatrics Program Director  
MSU/Kalamazoo Center for  
Medical Studies  
Kalamazoo, Michigan

**Iliyan Ivanov, MD**

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry  
Mt Sinai School of Medicine  
New York, New York

**Jeffrey H. Newcorn, MD**

Associate Professor, Psychiatry and  
Pediatrics  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
New York, New York

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# Effective Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease

# Translating Guidelines into Practice

An Interactive Panel Discussion

**Sunday, May 17, 2009**

12:00–12:30 PM Lunch

12:30–2:30 PM Symposium

San Francisco Marriott  
Salon 7/8, Lower B-2 Level  
55 Fourth Street  
San Francisco, California

## Faculty/Presenters

### **George T. Grossberg, MD (Chair)**

Samuel W. Fordyce Professor  
Director, Geriatric Psychiatry  
Department of Neurology and Psychiatry  
Saint Louis University School of Medicine  
St. Louis, Missouri

### **Charles A. Cefalu, MD, MS**

Professor and Chief, Section of Geriatric Medicine  
Department of Medicine  
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center  
and School of Medicine at New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana

### **Martin R. Farlow, MD**

Professor and Vice Chairman for Research  
Department of Neurology  
Associate Director, Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center  
Indiana University School of Medicine  
Indianapolis, Indiana

### **Wm Maurice Redden, MD**

Geriatric Psychiatry Fellow  
Department of Neurology and Psychiatry  
Saint Louis University School of Medicine  
St. Louis, Missouri

### **Gary W. Small, MD**

Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging  
Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences  
David Geffen School of Medicine  
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)  
Director, UCLA Center on Aging  
Director, Memory and Aging Research Center  
Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior  
Los Angeles, California

## Agenda

12:00–12:30 PM Lunch

12:30–12:45 PM Introduction/Welcome

**George T. Grossberg, MD**

12:45–1:00 PM *The Clinical Pharmacology of Approved AD Therapies*

**Wm Maurice Redden, MD**

1:00–1:15 PM *The Psychiatry Point of View: The AAGP and APA Guidelines for Pharmacologic Management of Patients With AD*

**Gary W. Small, MD**

1:15–1:30 PM *The Neurology Point of View: The AAN Guidelines for Pharmacologic Management of Patients With AD*

**Martin R. Farlow, MD**

1:30–1:45 PM *The General Practitioner Point of View: The ACP/AAFP Guidelines for Pharmacologic Management of Patients With AD*

**Charles A. Cefalu, MD, MS**

1:45–2:25 PM *Moderated Debate and Question & Answer Session*

2:25–2:30 PM *Closing Remarks*

**George T. Grossberg, MD**

## Learning Objectives

At the end of this activity, participants should be able to

1. Evaluate and contrast pharmacologic therapies available for treating patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD)
2. Appraise and contrast the published guidelines for pharmacologic management of patients with AD
3. Have increased confidence in the pharmacologic and nonpharmacologic management of patients with AD

## Accreditation and Credit Designation Statements

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APA 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA

# Development of New Agents for the Treatment of Schizophrenia



Sunday, May 17, 2009, 12:00-12:30 pm Lunch, 12:30-2:30 pm Symposium, Grand Ballroom, Salon B, Hilton-San Francisco Hotel

## Learning Objectives

After participating in this symposium, participants should be able to:

- Recognize unmet needs in the treatment of schizophrenia and the development of new agents aimed at these needs
- Identify barriers to the rapid development and approval of new agents
- Discuss potential drug development targets to improve cognition in patients with schizophrenia

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## Agenda

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>12:00-12:30 pm</b> | <b>Lunch</b>   |
| <b>12:30-12:40 pm</b> | <b>Welcome and Introduction</b><br>Steven G. Potkin, MD (Chair)<br>University of California, Irvine  |
| <b>12:40-1:00 pm</b>  | <b>Unmet Needs in Schizophrenia</b><br>Adrian Preda, MD<br>University of California, Irvine  |
| <b>1:00-1:20 pm</b>   | <b>Drug Development in Psychiatry:<br/>Issues and Trends</b><br>Amir H. Kalali, MD<br>Quintiles Inc.<br>University of California,<br>San Diego |
| <b>1:20-1:40 pm</b>   | <b>New Targets for Drug<br/>Development</b><br>Philip Harvey, PhD<br>Emory University School<br>of Medicine                                    |
| <b>1:40-2:00 pm</b>   | <b>Late Stage and Recently<br/>Approved Antipsychotic Agents</b><br>Steven G. Potkin, MD<br>University of California, Irvine                   |
| <b>2:00-2:30 pm</b>   | <b>Panel Discussion/Q&amp;A</b>  |

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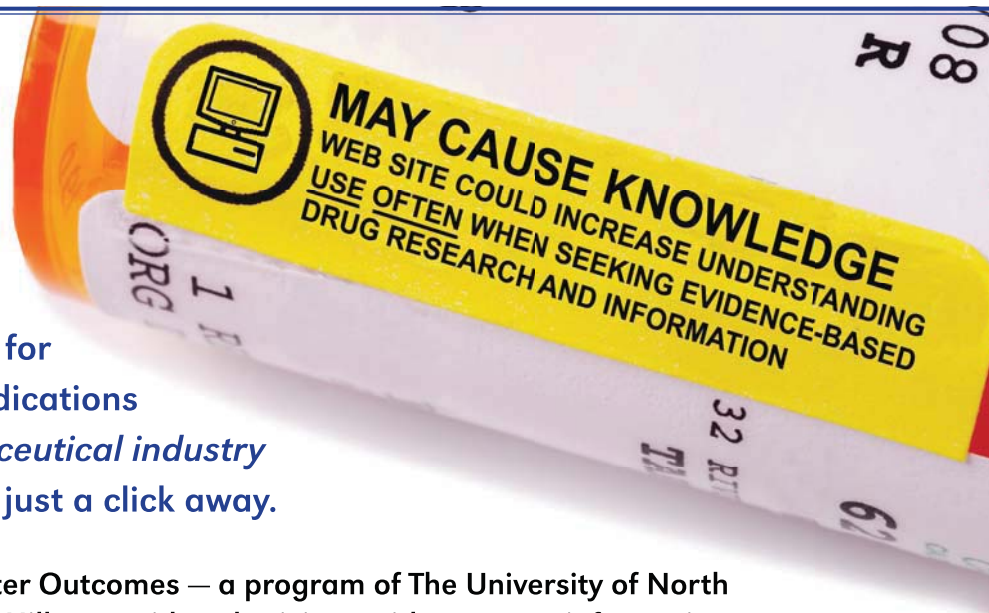
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This program will be conducted on May 17, 2009, during the APA 2009 Annual Meeting

## Augmentation STRATEGIES for MAJOR DEPRESSIVE DISORDER:

The Evidence for Effective Clinical Decision-Making in Improving Patient Care

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009 • Dinner: 6:30–7:00 PM • Symposium: 7:00–9:00 PM  
San Francisco, California • Yerba Buena Ballroom, Salons 7 & 8 • SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT

### AGENDA

- 6:30–7:00 PM Breakfast
- 7:00–7:05 PM Introduction & Overview  
MADHUKAR H. TRIVEDI, MD (Chairperson)  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
- 7:05–7:30 PM Inadequate Treatment Response in Major Depressive Disorder: Predictors and Strategies for Selecting Next-Step Treatments  
ROY H. PERLIS, MD, MSC  
Harvard Medical School
- 7:30–7:55 PM Effective Management of Treatment-Resistant Depression: Evidence-Based Approaches Beyond First-Line Antidepressant Monotherapy  
MADHUKAR H. TRIVEDI, MD
- 7:55–8:20 PM Atypical Antipsychotics as Augmentation Agents for Major Depressive Disorder: Efficacy and Tolerability  
GEORGE I. PAPANASTASIS, MD  
Harvard Medical School
- 8:20–9:00 PM Panel Discussion/Question and Answer Session  
ALL FACULTY

### EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this symposium, the participant should be able to:

- Discuss and interpret the clinical implications of factors underlying inadequate response to antidepressant therapy in patients with MDD
- Compare and contrast the rationale for using different second-line strategies in patients who do not respond adequately to antidepressants
- Evaluate the clinical trial evidence for the use of atypical antipsychotics in the management of MDD

### CME STATEMENT

This symposium will be conducted on May 17, 2009, during the APA 2009 Annual Meeting. The American Psychiatric Association (APA) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The APA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 2 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Attendees must be registered for the APA Annual Meeting to attend this symposium. Seating is limited and will be based on first-come, first-served. For more information about the meeting, please visit the APA Web site at [www.psych.org](http://www.psych.org) or contact the APA toll free at 1-888-357-7924 (within the US or Canada) or 703-907-7300.

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Sunday, May 17  
10:00 am - 4:30 pm

Monday, May 18  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Tuesday, May 19  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, May 20  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

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# ANXIOUS DEPRESSION: DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT ISSUES

Hilton–San Francisco  
Ballroom 4/5/6



Monday, May 18, 2009 • 6:30-7:00 pm Dinner • 7:00-9:00 pm Symposium

## AGENDA

- 6:30-7:00 pm Dinner  
7:00-7:10 pm **Welcome and Introduction**  
Maurizio Fava, MD (Chair)  
Massachusetts General Hospital
- 7:10-7:30 pm **How Do We Define Anxious Depression?**  
John M. Zajecka, MD  
Rush University Medical Center
- 7:30-7:35 pm Q&A  
7:35-7:55 pm **Neurobiology of Anxious Depression**  
Audrey Tyrka, MD  
Brown Medical School
- 7:55-8:00 pm Q&A  
8:00-8:20 pm **Pharmacotherapeutic Strategies in the Treatment of Anxious Depression**  
Maurizio Fava, MD  
Massachusetts General Hospital
- 8:20-8:25 pm Q&A  
8:25-8:45 pm **Psychotherapeutic Approaches to Anxious Depression**  
Amy Farabaugh, PhD  
Massachusetts General Hospital
- 8:45-8:50 pm Q&A  
8:50-9:00 pm **Panel Discussion/Q&A**

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this symposium, the participant should be able to:

- Differentiate anxious depression from major depression and appreciate the neurobiological and phenomenological differences between these subtypes.
- Diagnose anxious depression in routine clinical practice.
- Develop treatment plans for patients with anxious depression that recognize the importance of psychotherapy in treatment and the typically less robust response to pharmacotherapy.

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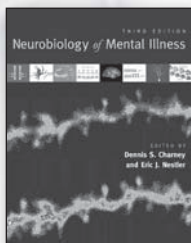
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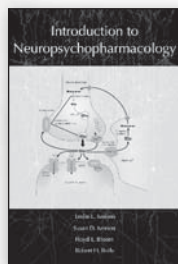


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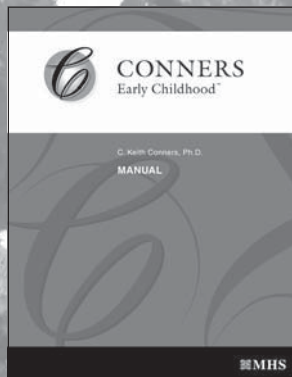
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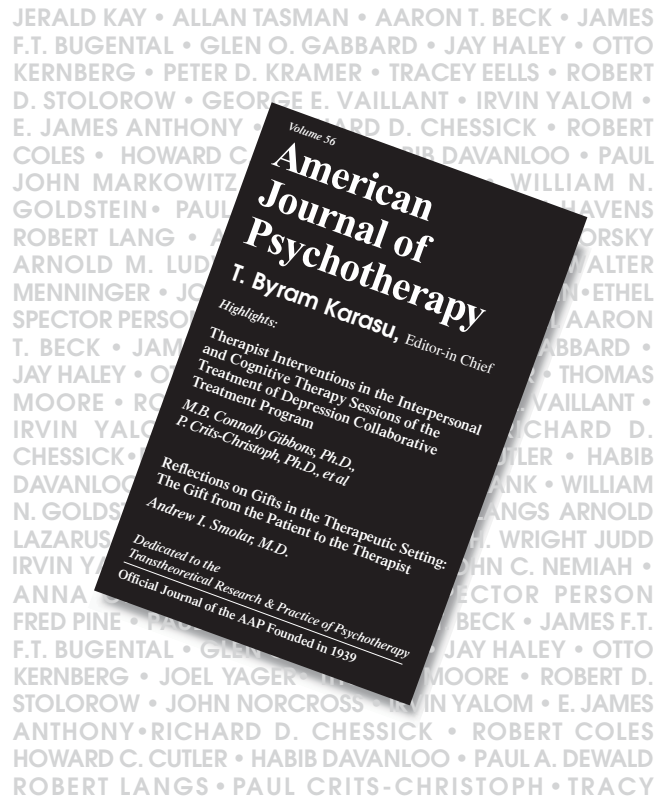
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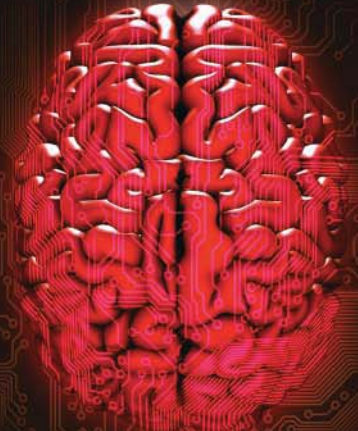
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# The Pathophysiology of ADHD: Implications for Treatment

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New Haven, Connecticut

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### Dinner

6:30 PM

### Welcome and Preactivity Educational Outcomes Measurement

7:00 PM

Timothy E. Wilens, MD

### The Neurobiology of ADHD: Overview of the Mechanisms of Efficacious Agents

7:10 PM

Paul G. Hammerness, MD

### Role of Dopamine in ADHD

7:30 PM

Darin D. Dougherty, MD

### Alpha Agonists in the Prefrontal Cortex

7:50 PM

Avis B. Hains, PhD

### Nicotinic Receptors and Agonists in ADHD

8:10 PM

Timothy E. Wilens, MD

### Discussion, Q&A

8:30 PM

Chair and Faculty

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### Learning Objectives

After attending this educational activity, a participant should be able to:

1. Differentiate the mechanisms of action of medications used to treat ADHD.
2. Explain the roles of dopamine and norepinephrine in ADHD pathophysiology and treatment.
3. Discuss the role of nicotinic receptor agonists as future treatments for ADHD.

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### WARNING: Suicidality and Antidepressant Drugs

Antidepressants increased the risk compared to placebo of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in children, adolescents, and young adults in short-term studies of Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Anyone considering the use of Pristiq or any other antidepressant in a child, adolescent, or young adult must balance this risk with the clinical need. Short-term studies did not show an increase in the risk of suicidality with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults beyond age 24; there was a reduction in risk with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults aged 65 and older. Depression and certain other psychiatric disorders are themselves associated with increases in the risk of suicide. Patients of all ages who are started on antidepressant therapy should be monitored appropriately and observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, or unusual changes in behavior. Families and caregivers should be advised of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber. Pristiq is not approved for use in pediatric patients [see Warnings and Precautions (5.1), Use in Specific Populations (8.4), and Patient Counseling Information (17.1 in the full prescribing information)].

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE:** Pristiq, a selective serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor (SNRI), is indicated for the treatment of major depressive disorder (MDD).

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Hypersensitivity-Hypersensitivity to desvenlafaxine succinate, venlafaxine hydrochloride or to any excipients in the Pristiq formulation. Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors-Pristiq must not be used concomitantly in patients taking monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or in patients who have taken MAOIs within the preceding 14 days due to the risk of serious, sometimes fatal, drug interactions with SNRI or SSRI treatment or with other serotonergic drugs. Based on the half-life of desvenlafaxine, at least 7 days should be allowed after stopping Pristiq before starting an MAOI [see Dosage and Administration (2.5) in the full prescribing information].

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS: Clinical Worsening and Suicide Risk-**Patients with major depressive disorder (MDD), both adult and pediatric, may experience worsening of their depression and/or the emergence of suicidal ideation and behavior (suicidality) or unusual changes in behavior, whether or not they are taking antidepressant medications, and this risk may persist until significant remission occurs. Suicide is a known risk of depression and certain other psychiatric disorders, and these disorders themselves are the strongest predictors of suicide. There has been a long-standing concern, however, that antidepressants may have a role in inducing worsening of depression and the emergence of suicidality in certain patients during the early phases of treatment. Pooled analyses of short-term placebo-controlled studies of antidepressant drugs (SSRIs and others) showed that these drugs increase the risk of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in children, adolescents, and young adults (ages 18-24) with major depressive disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Short-term studies did not show an increase in the risk of suicidality with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults beyond age 24; there was a reduction with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults aged 65 and older. The pooled analyses of placebo-controlled studies in children and adolescents with MDD, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), or other psychiatric disorders included a total of 24 short-term studies of 9 antidepressant drugs in over 4,400 patients. The pooled analyses of placebo-controlled studies in adults with MDD or other psychiatric disorders included a total of 295 short-term studies (median duration of 2 months) of 11 antidepressant drugs in over 77,000 patients. There was considerable variation in risk of suicidality among drugs, but a tendency toward an increase in the younger patients for almost all drugs studied. There were differences in absolute risk of suicidality across the different indications, with the highest incidence in MDD. The risk differences (drug vs. placebo), however, were relatively stable within age strata and across indications. These risk differences (drug-placebo difference in the number of cases of suicidality per 1000 patients treated) are provided in Table 1 of the full prescribing information. No suicides occurred in any of the pediatric studies. There were suicides in the adult studies, but the number was not sufficient to reach any conclusion about drug effect on suicide. It is unknown whether the suicidality risk extends to longer-term use, i.e., beyond several months. However, there is substantial evidence from placebo-controlled maintenance studies in adults with depression that the use of antidepressants can delay the recurrence of depression. **All patients being treated with antidepressants for any indication should be monitored appropriately and observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, and unusual changes in behavior, especially during the initial few months of a course of drug therapy, or at times of dose changes, either increases or decreases.** The following symptoms, anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility, aggressiveness, impulsivity, akathisia (psychomotor restlessness), hypomania, and mania, have been reported in adult and pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder as well as for other indications, both psychiatric and nonpsychiatric. Although a causal link between the emergence of such symptoms and either the worsening of depression and/or the emergence of suicidal impulses has not been established, there is concern that such symptoms may represent precursors to emerging suicidality. Consideration should be given to changing the therapeutic regimen, including possibly discontinuing the medication, in patients whose depression is persistently worse, or who are experiencing emergent suicidality or symptoms that might be precursors to worsening depression or suicidality, especially if these symptoms are severe, abrupt in onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms. If the decision has been made to discontinue treatment, medication should be tapered, as rapidly as is feasible, but with recognition that abrupt discontinuation can be associated with certain symptoms [see Warnings and Precautions (5.9) and Dosage and Administration (2.3) in the full prescribing information for a description of the risks of discontinuation of Pristiq]. Families and caregivers of patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder or other indications, both psychiatric and nonpsychiatric, should be alerted about the need to monitor patients for the emergence of agitation, irritability, unusual changes in behavior, and the other symptoms described above, as well as the emergence of suicidality, and to report such symptoms immediately to health care providers. Such monitoring should include daily observation by families and caregivers. Prescriptions for Pristiq should be written for the smallest quantity of tablets consistent with good patient management, in order to reduce the risk of overdose. **Screening patients for bipolar disorder-** A major depressive episode may be the initial presentation of bipolar disorder. It is generally believed (though not established in controlled studies) that treating such an episode with an antidepressant alone may increase the likelihood of precipitation of a mixed/manic episode in patients at risk for bipolar disorder. Whether any of the symptoms described above represent such a conversion is unknown. However, prior to initiating treatment with an antidepressant, patients with depressive symptoms should be adequately screened to determine if they are at risk for bipolar disorder; such screening should include a detailed psychiatric history, including a family history of suicide, bipolar disorder, and depression. It should be noted that Pristiq is not approved for use in treating bipolar depression. **Serotonin Syndrome-** The development of a potentially life-threatening serotonin syndrome may occur with Pristiq treatment, particularly with concomitant use of other serotonergic drugs (including SSRIs, SNRIs and triptans) and with drugs that impair metabolism of serotonin (including MAOIs). The concomitant use of Pristiq and MAOIs is contraindicated [see Contraindications (4.2)]. If concomitant treatment with Pristiq and an SSRI, another SNRI or a 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor agonist (triptan) is clinically warranted, careful observation of the patient is advised, particularly during treatment initiation and dose increases. The concomitant use of Pristiq with serotonin precursors (such as tryptophan supplements) is not recommended. **Elevated Blood Pressure-** Patients receiving Pristiq should have regular monitoring of blood pressure since dose-dependent increases were observed in clinical studies. Pre-existing hypertension should be controlled before initiating treatment with Pristiq. Caution should be exercised in treating patients with pre-existing hypertension or other underlying conditions that might be compromised by increases in blood pressure. Cases of elevated blood pressure requiring immediate treatment have been reported with Pristiq. **Sustained hypertension-** Sustained blood pressure increases could have adverse consequences. For patients who experience a sustained increase in blood pressure while receiving Pristiq, either dose reduction or discontinuation should be considered [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)]. Treatment with Pristiq in controlled studies was associated with sustained hypertension, defined as treatment-emergent supine diastolic blood pressure (SDBP)  $\geq 90$  mm Hg and  $\geq 10$  mm Hg above baseline for 3 consecutive on-therapy visits. In clinical studies, regarding the proportion of patients with sustained hypertension, the following rates were observed: placebo (0.5%), Pristiq 50 mg (1.3%), Pristiq 100 mg (0.7%), Pristiq 200 mg (1.1%), and Pristiq 400 mg (2.3%). Analyses of patients in Pristiq controlled studies who met criteria for sustained hypertension revealed a dose-dependent increase in the proportion of patients who developed sustained hypertension. **Abnormal Bleeding-** SSRIs and SNRIs can increase the risk of bleeding events. Concomitant use of aspirin, other drugs that affect platelet function, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, warfarin, and other anticoagulants can add to this risk. Bleeding events related to SSRIs and SNRIs have ranged from ecchymosis, hematoma, epistaxis, and petechiae to life-threatening hemorrhages. Patients should be cautioned about the risk of bleeding associated with the concomitant use of Pristiq and NSAIDs, aspirin, or other drugs that affect coagulation or bleeding. **Narrow-angle Glaucoma-** Mydriasis has been reported in association with Pristiq;

therefore, patients with raised intraocular pressure or those at risk of acute narrow-angle glaucoma (angle-closure glaucoma) should be monitored. **Activation of Mania/Hypomania**-During all MDD and VMS (vasomotor symptoms) phase 2 and phase 3 studies, mania was reported for approximately 0.1% of patients treated with Pristiq. Activation of mania/hypomania has also been reported in a small proportion of patients with major affective disorder who were treated with other marketed antidepressants. As with all antidepressants, Pristiq should be used cautiously in patients with a history or family history of mania or hypomania. **Cardiovascular/Cerebrovascular Disease**-Caution is advised in administering Pristiq to patients with cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, or lipid metabolism disorders [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1)]. Increases in blood pressure and heart rate were observed in clinical studies with Pristiq. Pristiq has not been evaluated systematically in patients with a recent history of myocardial infarction, unstable heart disease, uncontrolled hypertension, or cerebrovascular disease. Patients with these diagnoses, except for cerebrovascular disease, were excluded from clinical studies. **Serum Cholesterol and Triglyceride Elevation**-Dose-related elevations in fasting serum total cholesterol, LDL (low density lipoprotein) cholesterol, and triglycerides were observed in the controlled studies. Measurement of serum lipids should be considered during treatment with Pristiq [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1)]. **Discontinuation of Treatment with Pristiq**-Discontinuation symptoms have been systematically and prospectively evaluated in patients treated with Pristiq during clinical studies in Major Depressive Disorder. Abrupt discontinuation or dose reduction has been associated with the appearance of new symptoms that include dizziness, nausea, headache, irritability, insomnia, diarrhea, anxiety, fatigue, abnormal dreams, and hyperhidrosis. In general, discontinuation events occurred more frequently with longer duration of therapy. During marketing of SNRIs (Serotonin and Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitors) and SSRIs (Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors), there have been spontaneous reports of adverse events occurring upon discontinuation of these drugs, particularly when abrupt, including the following: dysphoric mood, irritability, agitation, dizziness, sensory disturbances (e.g., paresthesia, such as electric shock sensations), anxiety, confusion, headache, lethargy, emotional lability, insomnia, hypomania, tinnitus, and seizures. While these events are generally self-limiting, there have been reports of serious discontinuation symptoms. Patients should be monitored for these symptoms when discontinuing treatment with Pristiq. A gradual reduction in the dose rather than abrupt cessation is recommended whenever possible. If intolerable symptoms occur following a decrease in the dose or upon discontinuation of treatment, then resuming the previously prescribed dose may be considered. Subsequently, the physician may continue decreasing the dose, but at a more gradual rate [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.4) and *Adverse Reactions* (6.1) in full prescribing information]. **Renal Impairment**-In patients with moderate or severe renal impairment or end-stage renal disease (ESRD) the clearance of Pristiq was decreased, thus prolonging the elimination half-life of the drug. As a result, there were potentially clinically significant increases in exposures to Pristiq [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.6) in full prescribing information]. Dosage adjustment (50 mg every other day) is necessary in patients with severe renal impairment or ESRD. The doses should not be escalated in patients with moderate or severe renal impairment or ESRD [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2) in full prescribing information]. **Seizure**-Cases of seizure have been reported in premarketing clinical studies with Pristiq. Pristiq should be prescribed with caution in patients with a seizure disorder. **Hyponatremia**-Hyponatremia can occur as a result of treatment with SSRIs and SNRIs, including Pristiq. In many cases, this hyponatremia appears to be the result of the syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH). Elderly patients can be at greater risk of developing hyponatremia with SSRIs and SNRIs. Also, patients taking diuretics or who are otherwise volume depleted can be at greater risk [see *Use in Specific Populations* (8.5) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.6) in full prescribing information]. Discontinuation of Pristiq should be considered in patients with symptomatic hyponatremia and appropriate medical intervention should be instituted. **Coadministration of Drugs Containing Desvenlafaxine and Venlafaxine**-Desvenlafaxine is the major active metabolite of venlafaxine. Products containing desvenlafaxine and products containing venlafaxine should not be used concomitantly with Pristiq. **Interstitial Lung Disease and Eosinophilic Pneumonia**-Interstitial lung disease and eosinophilic pneumonia associated with venlafaxine (the parent drug of Pristiq) therapy have been rarely reported. The possibility of these adverse events should be considered in patients treated with Pristiq who present with progressive dyspnea, cough, or chest discomfort. Such patients should undergo a prompt medical evaluation, and discontinuation of Pristiq should be considered.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS: Clinical Studies Experience:** The most commonly observed adverse reactions in Pristiq-treated MDD patients in short-term fixed-dose studies (incidence  $\geq 5\%$  and at least twice the rate of placebo in the 50- or 100-mg dose groups) were nausea, dizziness, insomnia, hyperhidrosis, constipation, somnolence, decreased appetite, anxiety, and specific male sexual function disorders. **Adverse reactions reported as reasons for discontinuation of treatment:** The most common adverse reactions leading to discontinuation in at least 2% of the Pristiq-treated patients in the short-term studies, up to 8 weeks, were nausea (4%); dizziness, headache and vomiting (2% each); in the long-term study, up to 9 months, the most common was vomiting (2%). **Common adverse reactions in placebo-controlled MDD studies-** Table 3 in full PI shows the incidence of common adverse reactions that occurred in  $\geq 2\%$  of Pristiq-treated MDD patients at any dose in the 8-week, placebo-controlled, fixed-dose, premarketing clinical studies. In general, the adverse reactions were most frequent in the first week of treatment. **Cardiac disorders:** Palpitations, Tachycardia, Blood pressure increased; **Gastrointestinal disorders:** Nausea, Dry mouth, Diarrhea, Constipation, Vomiting; **General disorders and administration site conditions:** Fatigue, Chills, Feeling jittery, Asthenia; **Metabolism and nutrition disorders:** Decreased appetite, weight decreased; **Nervous system disorders:** Dizziness, Somnolence, Headache, Tremor, Paresthesia, Disturbance in attention; **Psychiatric disorders:** Insomnia, Anxiety, Nervousness, Irritability, Abnormal dreams; **Renal and urinary disorders:** Urinary hesitation; **Respiratory, thoracic, and mediastinal disorders:** Yawning; **Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** Hyperhidrosis, Rash; **Special Senses:** Vision blurred; **Mydriasis, Tinnitus, Dysgeusia; Vascular Disorders:** Hot flush. **Sexual function adverse reactions-** Table 4 shows the incidence of sexual function adverse reactions that occurred in  $\geq 2\%$  of Pristiq-treated MDD patients in any fixed-dose group (8-week, placebo-controlled, fixed and flexible-dose, premarketing clinical studies). **Men Only:** Anorgasmia, Libido decreased, Orgasm abnormal, Ejaculation delayed, Erectile dysfunction, Ejaculation disorder, Ejaculation failure, Sexual dysfunction; **Women Only:** Anorgasmia. **Other adverse reactions observed in premarketing clinical studies:** Other infrequent adverse reactions occurring at an incidence of  $< 2\%$  in MDD patients treated with Pristiq were: **Immune system disorders** - Hypersensitivity. **Investigations** - Liver function test abnormal, blood prolactin increased. **Nervous system disorders** - Convulsion, syncope, extrapyramidal disorder. **Psychiatric disorders** - Depersonalization, hypomania. **Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders** - Epistaxis. **Vascular disorders** - Orthostatic hypotension. In clinical studies, there were uncommon reports of ischemic cardiac adverse events, including myocardial ischemia, myocardial infarction, and coronary occlusion requiring revascularization; these patients had multiple underlying cardiac risk factors. More patients experienced these events during Pristiq treatment as compared to placebo [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.7)]. **Discontinuation events**-Adverse events reported in association with abrupt discontinuation, dose reduction or tapering of treatment in MDD clinical studies at a rate of  $\geq 5\%$  include dizziness, nausea, headache, irritability, insomnia, diarrhea, anxiety, abnormal dreams, fatigue, and hyperhidrosis. In general, discontinuation events occurred more frequently with longer duration of therapy [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.4) and *Warnings and Precautions* (5.9) in full prescribing information]. **Laboratory, ECG and vital sign changes observed in MDD clinical studies-** The following changes were observed in placebo-controlled, short-term, premarketing MDD studies with Pristiq. **Lipids**-Elevations in fasting serum total cholesterol, LDL (low density lipoproteins) cholesterol, and triglycerides occurred in the controlled studies. Some of these abnormalities were considered potentially clinically significant [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.8)]. **Proteinuria**-Proteinuria, greater than or equal to trace, was observed in the fixed-dose controlled studies (see Table 6 in full prescribing information). This proteinuria was not associated with increases in BUN or creatinine and was generally transient. **ECG changes**-Electrocardiograms were obtained from 1,492 Pristiq-treated patients with major depressive disorder and 984 placebo-treated patients in clinical studies lasting up to 8 weeks. No clinically relevant differences were observed between Pristiq-treated and placebo-treated patients for QT, QTc, PR, and QRS intervals. In a thorough QTc study with prospectively determined criteria, desvenlafaxine did not cause QT prolongation. No difference was observed between placebo and desvenlafaxine treatments for the QRS interval. **Vital sign changes**-Table 7 summarizes the changes that were observed in placebo-controlled, short-term, premarketing studies with Pristiq in patients with MDD (doses 50 to 400 mg). Relative to placebo, Pristiq was associated with mean increase of up to 2.1 mm Hg in systolic blood pressure, 2.3 mm Hg in diastolic blood pressure, and 4.1 bpm with supine pulse. At the final on-therapy assessment in the 6-month, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase of a long-term study in patients who had responded to Pristiq during the initial 12-week, open-label phase, there was no statistical difference in mean weight gain between Pristiq- and placebo-treated patients. **DRUG INTERACTIONS: Central Nervous System (CNS)-Active Agents**-The risk of using Pristiq in combination with other CNS-active drugs has not been systematically evaluated. Consequently, caution is advised when Pristiq is taken in combination with other CNS-active drugs [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.13)]. **Monamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs)**-Adverse reactions, some of which were serious, have been reported in patients who have recently been discontinued from a monamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) and started on antidepressants with pharmacological properties similar to Pristiq (SNRIs or SSRIs), or who have recently had SNRI or SSRI therapy discontinued prior to initiation of an MAOI [see *Contraindications* (4.2)]. **Serotonergic Drugs**-Based on the mechanism of action of Pristiq and the potential for serotonin syndrome, caution is advised when Pristiq is coadministered with other drugs that may affect the serotonergic neurotransmitter systems [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)]. **Drugs that interfere with Hemostasis** (e.g.,

**NSAIDs, Aspirin, and Warfarin**)-Serotonin release by platelets plays an important role in hemostasis. Epidemiological studies of case-control and cohort design have demonstrated an association between use of psychotropic drugs that interfere with serotonin reuptake and the occurrence of upper gastrointestinal bleeding. These studies have also shown that concurrent use of an NSAID or aspirin may potentiate this risk of bleeding. Altered anticoagulant effects, including increased bleeding, have been reported when SSRIs and SNRIs are coadministered with warfarin. Patients receiving warfarin therapy should be carefully monitored when Pristiq is initiated or discontinued. **Ethanol**-A clinical study has shown that desvenlafaxine does not increase the impairment of mental and motor skills caused by ethanol. However, as with all CNS-active drugs, patients should be advised to avoid alcohol consumption while taking Pristiq. **Potential for Other Drugs to Affect Desvenlafaxine-Inhibitors of CYP3A4 (ketoconazole)**-CYP3A4 is a minor pathway for the metabolism of Pristiq. Concomitant use of Pristiq with potent inhibitors of CYP3A4 may result in higher concentrations of Pristiq. **Inhibitors of other CYP enzymes**-Based on *in vitro* data, drugs that inhibit CYP isozymes 1A1, 1A2, 2A6, 2D6, 2C8, 2C9, 2C19, and 2E1 are not expected to have significant impact on the pharmacokinetic profile of Pristiq. **Potential for Desvenlafaxine to Affect Other Drugs**-Drugs metabolized by CYP2D6 (desipramine)-*In vitro* studies showed minimal inhibitory effect of desvenlafaxine on CYP2D6. Clinical studies have shown that desvenlafaxine does not have a clinically relevant effect on CYP2D6 metabolism at the dose of 100 mg daily. Concomitant use of desvenlafaxine with a drug metabolized by CYP2D6 can result in higher concentrations of that drug. **Drugs metabolized by CYP3A4 (midazolam)**-*In vitro*, desvenlafaxine does not inhibit or induce the CYP3A4 isozyme. Concomitant use of Pristiq with a drug metabolized by CYP3A4 can result in lower exposures to that drug. **Drugs metabolized by CYP1A2, 2A6, 2C8, 2C9 and 2C19**-*In vitro*, desvenlafaxine does not inhibit CYP1A2, 2A6, 2C8, 2C9, and 2C19 isozymes and would not be expected to affect the pharmacokinetics of drugs that are metabolized by these CYP isozymes. **P-glycoprotein Transporter**-*In vitro*, desvenlafaxine is not a substrate or an inhibitor for the P-glycoprotein transporter. The pharmacokinetics of Pristiq are unlikely to be affected by drugs that inhibit the P-glycoprotein transporter, and desvenlafaxine is not likely to affect the pharmacokinetics of drugs that are substrates of the P-glycoprotein transporter. **Electroconvulsive Therapy**-There are no clinical data establishing the risks and/or benefits of electroconvulsive therapy combined with Pristiq treatment. **USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS: Pregnancy**-Patients should be advised to notify their physician if they become pregnant or intend to become pregnant during therapy. **Teratogenic effects** - Pregnancy Category C - There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of Pristiq in pregnant women. Therefore, Pristiq should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits justify the potential risks. **Non-teratogenic effects**-Neonates exposed to SNRIs (Serotonin and Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitors), or SSRIs (Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors), late in the third trimester have developed complications requiring prolonged hospitalization, respiratory support, and tube feeding. Such complications can arise immediately upon delivery. Reported clinical findings have included respiratory distress, cyanosis, apnea, seizures, temperature instability, feeding difficulty, vomiting, hypoglycemia, hypotonia, hypertonia, hyperreflexia, tremor, jitteriness, irritability, and constant crying. These features are consistent with either a direct toxic effect of SSRIs and SNRIs or, possibly, a drug discontinuation syndrome. It should be noted that, in some cases, the clinical picture is consistent with serotonin syndrome [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)]. When treating a pregnant woman with Pristiq during the third trimester, the physician should carefully consider the potential risks and benefits of treatment [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2)]. **Labor and Delivery**-The effect of Pristiq on labor and delivery in humans is unknown. Pristiq should be used during labor and delivery only if the potential benefits justify the potential risks. **Nursing Mothers**-Desvenlafaxine (O-desmethylvenlafaxine) is excreted in human milk. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from Pristiq, a decision should be made whether or not to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother. Only administer Pristiq to breastfeeding women if the expected benefits outweigh any possible risk. **Pediatric Use**-Safety and effectiveness in the pediatric population have not been established [see *Box Warning and Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)]. Anyone considering the use of Pristiq in a child or adolescent must balance the potential risks with the clinical need. **Geriatric Use**-Of the 3,292 patients in clinical studies with Pristiq, 5% were 65 years of age or older. No overall differences in safety or efficacy were observed between these patients and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out. For elderly patients, possible reduced renal clearance of desvenlafaxine should be considered when determining dose [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.6) in full prescribing information]. **Renal Impairment**-In subjects with renal impairment the clearance of Pristiq was decreased. In subjects with severe renal impairment (24-hr CrCl  $< 30$  mL/min) and end-stage renal disease, elimination half-lives were significantly prolonged, increasing exposures to Pristiq; therefore, dosage adjustment is recommended in these patients [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.6) in full prescribing information]. **Hepatic Impairment**-The mean  $t_{1/2}$  changed from approximately 10 hours in healthy subjects and subjects with mild hepatic impairment to 13 and 14 hours in moderate and severe hepatic impairment, respectively. No adjustment in starting dosage is necessary for patients with hepatic impairment.

**OVERDOSAGE: Human Experience with Overdosage**-There is limited clinical experience with desvenlafaxine succinate overdose in humans. In premarketing clinical studies, no cases of fatal acute overdose of desvenlafaxine were reported. The adverse reactions reported within 5 days of an overdose  $> 600$  mg that were possibly related to Pristiq included headache, vomiting, agitation, dizziness, nausea, constipation, diarrhea, dry mouth, paresthesia, and tachycardia. Desvenlafaxine (Pristiq) is the major active metabolite of venlafaxine. Overdose experience reported with venlafaxine (the parent drug of Pristiq) is presented below; the identical information can be found in the *Overdosage* section of the venlafaxine package insert. In postmarketing experience, overdose with venlafaxine (the parent drug of Pristiq) has occurred predominantly in combination with alcohol and/or other drugs. The most commonly reported events in overdose include tachycardia, changes in level of consciousness (ranging from somnolence to coma), mydriasis, seizures, and vomiting. Electrocardiogram changes (e.g., prolongation of QT interval, bundle branch block, QRS prolongation), sinus and ventricular tachycardia, bradycardia, hypotension, rhabdomyolysis, vertigo, liver necrosis, serotonin syndrome, and death have been reported. Published retrospective studies report that venlafaxine overdose may be associated with an increased risk of fatal outcomes compared to that observed with SSRI antidepressant products, but lower than that for tricyclic antidepressants. Epidemiological studies have shown that venlafaxine-treated patients have a higher pre-existing burden of suicide risk factors than SSRI-treated patients. The extent to which the finding of an increased risk of fatal outcomes can be attributed to the toxicity of venlafaxine in overdose, as opposed to some characteristic(s) of venlafaxine-treated patients, is not clear. Prescriptions for Pristiq should be written for the smallest quantity of capsules consistent with good patient management, in order to reduce the risk of overdose. **Management of Overdosage**-Treatment should consist of those general measures employed in the management of overdose with any SSRI/SNRI. Ensure an adequate airway, oxygenation, and ventilation. Monitor cardiac rhythm and vital signs. General supportive and symptomatic measures are also recommended. Gastric lavage with a large-bore orogastric tube with appropriate airway protection, if needed, may be indicated if performed soon after ingestion or in symptomatic patients. Activated charcoal should be administered. Induction of emesis is not recommended. Because of the moderate volume of distribution of this drug, forced diuresis, dialysis, hemoperfusion, and exchange transfusion are unlikely to be of benefit. No specific antidotes for desvenlafaxine are known. In managing an overdose, consider the possibility of multiple drug involvement. The physician should consider contacting a poison control center for additional information on the treatment of any overdose. Telephone numbers for certified poison control centers are listed in the Physicians Desk Reference (PDR).

This brief summary is based on Pristiq Prescribing Information W10529C002, revised April 2008.

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For the treatment of adults with major depressive disorder

# The start is just the beginning

It's not just about starting your adult patients with MDD on therapy; it's about helping them toward their treatment goals. Patients should be periodically reassessed to determine the need for continued treatment.<sup>1</sup>

## PRISTIQ 50 mg:

- SNRI therapy with efficacy proven in 8-week clinical studies
- One recommended therapeutic dose from the start
- Discontinuation rate due to adverse events comparable to placebo in 8-week clinical studies<sup>1</sup>

 **Pristiq**<sup>®</sup>  
desvenlafaxine 50 mg  
*think beyond start*<sup>™</sup>

## IMPORTANT TREATMENT CONSIDERATIONS

PRISTIQ 50-mg Extended-Release Tablets are indicated for the treatment of major depressive disorder in adults.

### WARNING: SUICIDALITY AND ANTIDEPRESSANT DRUGS

Antidepressants increased the risk compared to placebo of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in children, adolescents, and young adults in short-term studies of Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Anyone considering the use of PRISTIQ or any other antidepressant in a child, adolescent, or young adult must balance this risk with the clinical need. Short-term studies did not show an increase in the risk of suicidality with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults beyond age 24; there was a reduction in risk with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults aged 65 and older. Depression and certain other psychiatric disorders are themselves associated with increases in the risk of suicide. Patients of all ages who are started on antidepressant therapy should be monitored appropriately and observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, or unusual changes in behavior. Families and caregivers should be advised of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber. PRISTIQ is not approved for use in pediatric patients.

### Contraindications

- PRISTIQ is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to PRISTIQ or venlafaxine.
- PRISTIQ must not be used concomitantly with an MAOI or within 14 days of stopping an MAOI. Allow 7 days after stopping PRISTIQ before starting an MAOI.

### Warnings and Precautions

- All patients treated with antidepressants should be monitored appropriately and observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, and unusual changes in behavior, especially during the first few months of treatment and when changing the dose. Consider changing the therapeutic regimen, including possibly discontinuing the medication, in patients whose depression is persistently worse or includes symptoms of anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility, aggressiveness, impulsivity, akathisia, hypomania, mania, or suicidality that are severe, abrupt in onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms. Families and caregivers of patients being treated with antidepressants should be alerted about the need to monitor patients.
- Development of a potentially life-threatening serotonin syndrome may occur with SNRIs and SSRIs, including PRISTIQ, particularly with concomitant use of serotonergic drugs, including triptans, and with drugs that impair the metabolism of serotonin (including MAOIs). If concomitant use is clinically warranted, careful observation of the patient is advised, particularly during treatment initiation and dose increases. Concomitant use of PRISTIQ with serotonin precursors is not recommended.
- Patients receiving PRISTIQ should have regular monitoring of blood pressure since sustained increases in blood pressure were observed in clinical studies. Pre-existing hypertension should be controlled before starting PRISTIQ. Caution should be exercised in treating patients with pre-existing hypertension or other underlying conditions that might be compromised by increases in blood pressure. Cases of elevated blood pressure requiring immediate treatment have been reported. For patients who experience a sustained increase in blood pressure, either dose reduction or discontinuation should be considered.

- SSRIs and SNRIs, including PRISTIQ, may increase the risk of bleeding events. Concomitant use of aspirin, NSAIDs, warfarin, and other anticoagulants may add to this risk.
- Mydriasis has been reported in association with PRISTIQ; therefore, patients with raised intraocular pressure or those at risk of acute narrow-angle glaucoma (angle-closure glaucoma) should be monitored.
- PRISTIQ is not approved for use in bipolar depression. Prior to initiating treatment with an antidepressant, patients should be adequately screened to determine the risk of bipolar disorder.
- As with all antidepressants, PRISTIQ should be used cautiously in patients with a history or family history of mania or hypomania, or with a history of seizure disorder.
- Caution is advised in administering PRISTIQ to patients with cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, or lipid metabolism disorders. Increases in blood pressure and small increases in heart rate were observed in clinical studies with PRISTIQ. PRISTIQ has not been evaluated systematically in patients with a recent history of myocardial infarction, unstable heart disease, uncontrolled hypertension, or cerebrovascular disease.
- Dose-related elevations in fasting serum total cholesterol, LDL (low density lipoprotein) cholesterol, and triglycerides were observed in clinical studies. Measurement of serum lipids should be considered during PRISTIQ treatment.
- On discontinuation, adverse events, some of which may be serious, have been reported with PRISTIQ and other SSRIs and SNRIs. Abrupt discontinuation of PRISTIQ has been associated with the appearance of new symptoms. Patients should be monitored for symptoms when discontinuing treatment. A gradual reduction in dose (by giving 50 mg of PRISTIQ less frequently) rather than abrupt cessation is recommended whenever possible.
- Dosage adjustment (50 mg every other day) is necessary in patients with severe renal impairment or end-stage renal disease (ESRD). The dose should not be escalated in patients with moderate or severe renal impairment or ESRD.
- Products containing desvenlafaxine and products containing venlafaxine should not be used concomitantly with PRISTIQ.
- Hyponatremia may occur as a result of treatment with SSRIs and SNRIs, including PRISTIQ. Discontinuation of PRISTIQ should be considered in patients with symptomatic hyponatremia.
- Interstitial lung disease and eosinophilic pneumonia associated with venlafaxine (the parent drug of PRISTIQ) therapy have been rarely reported.

### Adverse Reactions

- The most commonly observed adverse reactions in patients taking PRISTIQ vs placebo for MDD in short-term fixed-dose premarketing studies (incidence  $\geq 5\%$  and twice the rate of placebo in the 50-mg dose group) were nausea (22% vs 10%), dizziness (13% vs 5%), hyperhidrosis (10% vs 4%), constipation (9% vs 4%), and decreased appetite (5% vs 2%).

Reference: 1. Pristiq<sup>®</sup> (desvenlafaxine) Prescribing Information, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Please see brief summary of Prescribing Information on adjacent pages.

**Pristiq**<sup>®</sup>  
desvenlafaxine  
EXTENDED-RELEASE TABLETS

**Wyeth**<sup>®</sup>

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