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January 28, 2008

**CYMBALTA™**  
**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION**

**SUBJECT:** CYMBALTA™ (duloxetine hydrochloride) Now Available in Canada for the symptomatic relief of major depressive disorder (MDD) and the management of neuropathic pain associated with diabetic peripheral neuropathy (DPN).

**WARNING on Potential Hepatic Events**

Dear Healthcare Professional:

Eli Lilly Canada Inc. and Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd. are pleased to inform you of the launch and availability of CYMBALTA™ (duloxetine hydrochloride). CYMBALTA is a selective serotonin and noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor (SNRI) for oral administration. Please note important information on the safety of CYMBALTA.

**Warning on Hepatic Effects**

Severe elevations of liver enzymes (>10 times the upper limit of normal) or liver injury with a cholestatic or mixed pattern have been rarely reported, in some cases, associated with excessive alcohol use or pre-existing liver disease.

- CYMBALTA is contraindicated in patients with any liver disease resulting in hepatic impairment.
- Because it is possible that duloxetine and alcohol may interact to cause liver injury or that duloxetine may aggravate pre-existing liver disease, CYMBALTA should not ordinarily be prescribed to patients with substantial alcohol use.
- Patients and healthcare professionals should be aware of the signs and symptoms of liver damage (pruritus, dark urine, jaundice, right upper quadrant tenderness, or unexplained “flu-like” symptoms) and healthcare professionals are encouraged to investigate such symptoms promptly.

**Background**

CYMBALTA increases the risk of elevation of serum aminotransferase levels. In clinical trials, the median time to detection of the aminotransferase elevation was about two months. In these patients, these were usually transient and self-limiting with continued use, or resolved upon discontinuation of CYMBALTA.

Post-marketing reports have described cases of hepatitis with or without jaundice, reflecting a mixed or hepatocellular pattern of liver injury. Post-marketing reports indicate that elevated aminotransferase, bilirubin, and alkaline phosphatase have occurred in patients with chronic liver disease, cirrhosis or excessive alcohol use.

The above information is included in the approved Product Monograph for CYMBALTA and comes from clinical trial data and worldwide post-marketing reports.

**Usual Recommended Dosing and Administration for Adults**

Please review the complete Product Monograph for detailed information before prescribing CYMBALTA.

***Major Depressive Disorder:***

The recommended dose is 60 mg once daily with or without food. A lower starting dose of 30 mg may be considered for tolerability reasons in some patients, with a target dose of 60 mg/day within 1-2 weeks. Therapeutic response is usually seen after 1-4 weeks of treatment.

***Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathic Pain:***

The recommended dose is 60 mg once daily with or without food. A lower starting dose of 30 mg may be considered for tolerability reasons in some patients, with a target dose of 60 mg/day within 1-2 weeks. Efficacy of CYMBALTA has been demonstrated within the first week.

CYMBALTA was initially approved in the United States for treatment of MDD in August 2004. Subsequently, CYMBALTA has been marketed in 59 countries worldwide. During the first 3 years of post-market experience worldwide, it is estimated that over 9.5 million patients have been treated with CYMBALTA, accounting for over 3.1 million patient-years of therapy.

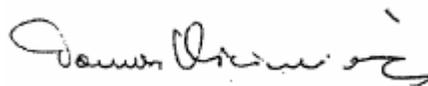
Safety information is routinely assessed as it becomes available and Product Monographs are updated accordingly. Eli Lilly Canada Inc. and Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd. are committed to providing you with the most current and complete product information available for the management of patients receiving CYMBALTA.

A copy of this letter and the CYMBALTA Product Monograph are available to healthcare professionals at [www.lillyinteractive.ca](http://www.lillyinteractive.ca). Inquiries from healthcare professionals should be directed to the Eli Lilly Canada Customer Response Centre at 1-866-364-4043 or by fax: 1-888-898-2961.

Sincerely,



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