

How to help ensure that more of your patients
get the treatment you prescribe

Trulance[®] coverage: Prior authorization considerations for adults with IBS-C and CIC¹



85.4%

of commercially insured patients
have access to Trulance^{2*}

Once Trulance has been prescribed, a prior authorization (PA) may be needed.
Submitting a PA is simple—just follow the directions inside.

*Salix Pharmaceuticals does not guarantee coverage or reimbursement for the product. Formulary status subject to change.

.....
Trulance[®]
(plecanatide)

Indication

Trulance (plecanatide) 3 mg tablets is indicated in adults for the treatment of Chronic Idiopathic Constipation (CIC) and Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation (IBS-C).

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: RISK OF SERIOUS DEHYDRATION IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

Trulance[®] is contraindicated in patients less than 6 years of age; in nonclinical studies in young juvenile mice administration of a single oral dose of plecanatide caused deaths due to dehydration. Use of Trulance should be avoided in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age. The safety and efficacy of Trulance have not been established in pediatric patients less than 18 years of age.

Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and full Prescribing Information, including BOXED Warning, at the end of this brochure.

For patients with

Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation (IBS-C)

Trulance (plecanatide) 3 mg tablets is indicated in adults for the treatment of IBS-C.

STEPS

- 1 Provide patient and insurance information
- 2 Include prescriber information (eg, practice name, your name, NPI #, DEA/license #)
- 3 Provide accurate information, including:
 - **Age, diagnosis, dosing** age of patient, IBS-C, Trulance 3 mg taken orally once daily¹
 - **Previous therapies tried and failed³** eg, bulking agents, osmotic laxatives, stool softeners, stimulant laxatives, chloride channel activators, and other GC-C agonists
 - **ICD-10 code for IBS-C^{4*}** K58.1 irritable bowel syndrome with constipation
 - **Rationale for prescribing Trulance**
- 4 Remember to include your signature and the date

IN 2019...



82.6%

approval rate for commercially insured patients^{2†} when submitted through CoverMyMeds



More savings for your patients

Access that begins with a copay as low as \$25[‡] for up to a 90-day supply

If you work with CoverMyMeds

You can start a prior authorization for Trulance to expedite approval:

- 1-866-452-5017
- [CoverMyMeds.com](https://www.covermymeds.com)

Average out-of-pocket costs²

- **\$34.88** for Medicare Part-D patients



76.1%

approval rate for Medicare Part-D patients^{2†}

* The ICD-10 codes and all other patient-access-related information are provided for informational purposes only. It is the treating physician's responsibility to determine the proper diagnosis, treatment, and applicable ICD-10 code. Salix Pharmaceuticals does not guarantee coverage or reimbursement for the product.

[†] Submission is not a guarantee of coverage or payment. Payer coverage subject to change without notice.

[‡] Eligible, commercially insured patients may pay as little as \$25 per prescription fill of Trulance. Patient is not eligible if he/she participates in, seeks reimbursement or submits a claim for reimbursement to any federal or state healthcare program with prescription drug coverage. Maximum benefits and other restrictions apply. Visit www.trulance.com for full eligibility criteria, terms, and conditions.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont'd)

Contraindications

- Trulance is contraindicated in patients less than 6 years of age due to the risk of serious dehydration.
- Trulance is contraindicated in patients with known or suspected mechanical gastrointestinal obstruction.

Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and full Prescribing Information, including BOXED Warning, at the end of this brochure.

For patients with

Chronic Idiopathic Constipation (CIC)

Trulance (plecanatide) 3 mg tablets is indicated in adults for the treatment of CIC.

STEPS

- 1 Provide patient and insurance information
- 2 Include prescriber information (eg, practice name, your name, NPI #, DEA/license #)
- 3 Provide accurate information, including:
 - **Age, diagnosis, dosing** age of patient, CIC, Trulance 3 mg taken orally once daily¹
 - **Previous therapies tried and failed³** eg, bulking agents, osmotic laxatives, stool softeners, stimulant laxatives, chloride channel activators, and other GC-C agonists
 - **ICD-10 code for CIC^{4*}** K59.04 chronic idiopathic constipation
 - **Rationale for prescribing Trulance**
- 4 Remember to include your signature and the date



Important considerations if a Letter of Medical Necessity is needed

- ✓ Keep it concise
- ✓ Submit on practice letterhead
- ✓ Include patient name
- ✓ Include name of medication (eg, Trulance 3 mg)
- ✓ Specify diagnosis (eg, IBS-C or CIC)
- ✓ State your treatment rationale
- ✓ Specify duration of the treatment (eg, as long as clinically necessary)¹
- ✓ Include your name, your signature, and the date

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont'd)

Warnings and Precautions

Risk of Serious Dehydration in Pediatric Patients

- Trulance is contraindicated in patients less than 6 years of age. The safety and effectiveness of Trulance in patients less than 18 years of age have not been established. In young juvenile mice (human age equivalent of approximately 1 month to less than 2 years), plecanatide increased fluid secretion as a consequence of stimulation of guanylate cyclase-C (GC-C), resulting in mortality in some mice within the first 24 hours, apparently due to dehydration. Due to increased intestinal expression of GC-C, patients less than 6 years of age may be more likely than older patients to develop severe diarrhea and its potentially serious consequences.
- Use of Trulance should be avoided in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age. Although there were no deaths in older juvenile mice, given the deaths in young mice and the lack of clinical safety and efficacy data in pediatric patients, use of Trulance should be avoided in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age.

Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and full Prescribing Information, including BOXED Warning, at the end of this brochure.

Common reasons for PA denials

Reason for Denial	Considerations for Avoiding Denial
Prior authorization not completed	Double-check PA, fill in missing information, and resubmit
Dosing does not match indication	Double-check dosing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For IBS-C: Trulance 3 mg, orally once daily as recommended• For CIC: Trulance 3 mg, orally once daily as recommended
Invalid diagnosis code	Double-check ICD-10 code and resubmit <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IBS-C: K58.1 irritable bowel syndrome with constipation*• CIC: K59.04 chronic idiopathic constipation*
Did not try and fail formulary alternative	Include information on why Trulance is necessary and how you expect it to help the patient
Product is a plan exclusion	Double-check coverage; Medicare excludes certain kinds of drugs, but Trulance is not in any of those categories
Medication not covered	You can request a medical exception for plans that don't cover Trulance. Most of the time, Trulance is approved in these plans. Trulance is covered for 63.3% of commercially covered patients and 74.1% of Medicare Part-D patients ^{2†}

* The ICD-10 codes and all other patient-access-related information are provided for informational purposes only. It is the treating physician's responsibility to determine the proper diagnosis, treatment, and applicable ICD-10 code. Salix Pharmaceuticals does not guarantee coverage or reimbursement for the product.

† Salix Pharmaceuticals does not guarantee coverage or reimbursement for the product. Formulary status subject to change.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont'd)

Warnings and Precautions (cont'd)

Diarrhea

- Diarrhea was the most common adverse reaction in the four placebo-controlled clinical trials for CIC and IBS-C. Severe diarrhea was reported in 0.6% of Trulance-treated CIC patients, and in 1% of Trulance-treated IBS-C patients.
- If severe diarrhea occurs, the health care provider should suspend dosing and rehydrate the patient.

Adverse Reactions

- In the two combined CIC clinical trials, the most common adverse reaction in Trulance-treated patients (incidence $\geq 2\%$ and greater than in the placebo group) was diarrhea (5% vs 1% placebo).
- In the two combined IBS-C clinical trials, the most common adverse reaction in Trulance-treated patients (incidence $\geq 2\%$ and greater than in the placebo group) was diarrhea (4.3% vs 1% placebo).

Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and full Prescribing Information, including BOXED Warning, at the end of this brochure.

References: **1.** Trulance [prescribing information]. Bridgewater, NJ: Salix Pharmaceuticals. **2.** Data on file. Bridgewater, NJ: Salix Pharmaceuticals. **3.** Mounsey A, Raleigh M, Wilson A. Management of constipation in older adults. *Am Fam Physician*. 2015;92(6):500-504. **4.** ICD-10 data. <http://www.icd10data.com>. Accessed October 16, 2019.



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HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use TRULANCE safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for TRULANCE.

TRULANCE® (plecanatide) tablets, for oral use
Initial U.S. Approval: 2017

WARNING: RISK OF SERIOUS DEHYDRATION IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS
See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning.

- TRULANCE is contraindicated in patients less than 6 years of age; in young juvenile mice, plecanatide caused death due to dehydration. (4, 8.4)
- Avoid use of TRULANCE in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age. (5.1, 8.4)
- The safety and effectiveness of TRULANCE have not been established in patients less than 18 years of age. (8.4)

----- **INDICATIONS AND USAGE** -----

TRULANCE is a guanylate cyclase-C agonist indicated in adults for treatment of:

- chronic idiopathic constipation (CIC). (1)
- irritable bowel syndrome with constipation (IBS-C). (1)

----- **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** -----

The recommended adult dosage of TRULANCE is

- CIC: 3 mg taken orally once daily. (2.1)
- IBS-C: 3 mg taken orally once daily. (2.1)

Administration Instructions (2.2):

- Take with or without food.
- Swallow tablets whole.
- For patients who have difficulty swallowing tablets whole or those with a nasogastric or gastric feeding tube, see full prescribing information with instructions for crushing the tablet and administering with applesauce or water.

----- **DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS** -----

Tablets: 3 mg (3)

----- **CONTRAINDICATIONS** -----

- Patients less than 6 years of age due to the risk of serious dehydration. (4, 5.1, 8.4)
- Patients with known or suspected mechanical gastrointestinal obstruction. (4)

----- **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS** -----

Diarrhea: Patients may experience severe diarrhea. If severe diarrhea occurs, suspend dosing and rehydrate the patient. (5.2)

----- **ADVERSE REACTIONS** -----

Most common adverse reaction (≥2%) is diarrhea. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Salix Pharmaceuticals at 1-800-321-4576 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and Medication Guide.

Revised: 05/2019

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

WARNING: RISK OF SERIOUS DEHYDRATION IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

- TRULANCE is contraindicated in patients less than 6 years of age; in nonclinical studies in young juvenile mice administration of a single oral dose of plecanatide caused deaths due to dehydration [see *Contraindications (4), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].
- Avoid use of TRULANCE in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].
- The safety and effectiveness of TRULANCE have not been established in patients less than 18 years of age [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

TRULANCE is indicated in adults for the treatment of:

- chronic idiopathic constipation (CIC).
- irritable bowel syndrome with constipation (IBS-C)

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Recommended Dosage

The recommended dosage of TRULANCE for the treatment of CIC and IBS-C is 3 mg taken orally once daily.

2.2 Preparation and Administration Instructions

- Take TRULANCE with or without food [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].
- If a dose is missed, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not take two doses at the same time.

- Swallow a tablet whole for each dose.
- For adult patients with swallowing difficulties, TRULANCE tablets can be crushed and administered orally either in applesauce or with water or administered with water via a nasogastric or gastric feeding tube. Mixing TRULANCE crushed tablets in other soft foods or in other liquids has not been tested.

Oral Administration in Applesauce:

1. In a clean container, crush the TRULANCE tablet to a powder and mix with 1 teaspoonful of room temperature applesauce.
2. Consume the entire tablet-applesauce mixture immediately. Do not store the mixture for later use.

Oral Administration in Water:

1. Place the TRULANCE tablet in a clean cup.
2. Pour approximately 30 mL of room temperature water into the cup.
3. Mix by gently swirling the tablet and water mixture for at least 10 seconds. The TRULANCE tablet will fall apart in the water.
4. Swallow the entire contents of the tablet water mixture immediately.
5. If any portion of the tablet is left in the cup, add another 30 mL of water to the cup, swirl for at least 10 seconds, and swallow immediately.
6. Do not store the tablet-water mixture for later use.

Administration with Water via a Nasogastric or Gastric Feeding Tube:

1. Place the TRULANCE tablet in a clean cup with 30 mL of room temperature water.
2. Mix by gently swirling the tablet and water mixture for at least 15 seconds. The TRULANCE tablet will fall apart in the water.
3. Flush the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube with 30 mL of water using a catheter tip syringe.

- Draw up the mixture using the syringe and immediately administer via the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube. Do not reserve for future use.
- If any portion of the tablet is left in the cup, add another 30 mL of water to the cup, swirl for at least 15 seconds, and using the same syringe, administer via the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube.
- Using the same or a fresh syringe, flush the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube with at least 10 mL of water.

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

TRULANCE Tablets:

3 mg: white to off-white, plain, round tablet debossed with “SP” on one side and “3” for 3 mg on the other side.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

TRULANCE is contraindicated in:

- Patients less than 6 years of age due to the risk of serious dehydration [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].
- Patients with known or suspected mechanical gastrointestinal obstruction.

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Risk of Serious Dehydration in Pediatric Patients

TRULANCE is contraindicated in patients less than 6 years of age. The safety and effectiveness of TRULANCE in patients less than 18 years of age have not been established. In young juvenile mice (human age equivalent of approximately 1 month to less than 2 years), plecanatide increased fluid-secretion into the intestines as a consequence of stimulation of guanylate cyclase-C (GC-C), resulting in mortality in some mice within the first 24 hours, apparently due to dehydration. Due to increased intestinal expression of GC-C, patients less than 6 years of age may be more likely than patients 6 years of age and older to develop severe diarrhea and its potentially serious consequences.

Avoid the use of TRULANCE in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age. Although there were no deaths in older juvenile mice, given the deaths in younger mice and the lack of clinical safety and efficacy data in pediatric patients, avoid the use of TRULANCE in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age [see *Contraindications (4), Warnings and Precautions (5.2), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].

5.2 Diarrhea

Diarrhea was the most common adverse reaction in four placebo-controlled clinical trials, two in patients with CIC and two in patients with IBS-C. Severe diarrhea was reported in 0.6% of patients in two trials in patients with CIC and in 0.6% of patients in the two trials in patients with IBS-C [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. If severe diarrhea occurs, suspend dosing and rehydrate the patient.

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical studies are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared with rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

Demographic characteristics were comparable between the TRULANCE and placebo groups in all studies [see *Clinical Studies (14)*].

Chronic Idiopathic Constipation (CIC)

The safety data described below reflect data from 1733 adult patients with CIC randomized in two double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trials (Study 1 and Study 2) to receive placebo or 3 mg of TRULANCE once daily for 12 weeks.

Most Common Adverse Reactions

Table 1 provides the incidence of adverse reactions reported in at least 2% of CIC patients in the TRULANCE-treated group and at an incidence that was greater than in the placebo group.

Table 1: Most Common Adverse Reactions^a in Two Placebo-Controlled Trials of TRULANCE [Study 1 and Study 2] in Patients with CIC

Adverse Reaction	TRULANCE, 3 mg (N = 863) %	Placebo (N = 870) %
Diarrhea	5	1

^a: Reported in at least 2% of TRULANCE-treated patients with CIC and at an incidence greater than placebo.

Diarrhea

The majority of reported cases of diarrhea occurred within 4 weeks of treatment initiation. Severe diarrhea was reported in 0.6% of TRULANCE-treated patients compared to 0.3% of placebo-treated patients. Severe diarrhea was reported to occur within the first 3 days of treatment [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Adverse Reactions Leading to Discontinuation

Discontinuations due to adverse reactions occurred in 4% of TRULANCE-treated patients and 2% of placebo-treated patients. The most common adverse reaction leading to discontinuation was diarrhea: 2% of TRULANCE-treated patients and 0.5% of placebo-treated patients withdrew due to diarrhea.

Less Common Adverse Reactions

Adverse reactions reported in less than 2% of TRULANCE-treated patients and at an incidence greater than placebo were: sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection, abdominal distension, flatulence, abdominal tenderness, and increased liver biochemical tests (2 patients with alanine aminotransferase (ALT) greater than 5 to 15 times the upper limit of normal and 3 patients with aspartate aminotransferase (AST) greater than 5 times the upper limit of normal).

Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation (IBS-C)

The safety data described below reflect data from 1449 adult patients with IBS-C randomized in two double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trials (Study 3 and Study 4) to receive placebo or 3 mg TRULANCE once daily for 12 weeks.

Most Common Adverse Reactions

Table 2 provides the incidence of adverse reactions reported in at least 2% of IBS-C patients treated with TRULANCE and at an incidence that was greater than in the placebo group.

Table 2: Most Common Adverse Reactions^a in Two Placebo-Controlled Trials of TRULANCE [Study 3 and Study 4] in Patients with IBS-C

Adverse Reaction	TRULANCE, 3 mg (N = 723) %	Placebo (N = 726) %
Diarrhea ^b	4.3	1

^a: Reported in at least 2% of TRULANCE-treated patients with IBS-C and at an incidence greater than placebo.

^b: Verbatim reports of diarrhea were recorded as adverse reactions; reports of loose stools and increase in stool frequency were recorded as adverse reactions if they were also reported to be bothersome to the patient.

Diarrhea

The majority of reported cases of diarrhea occurred within 4 weeks of treatment initiation. Severe diarrhea was reported in 1% of TRULANCE-treated patients compared to 0.1% of placebo-treated patients [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]. Severe diarrhea was reported to occur within the first day of treatment.

Adverse Reactions Leading to Discontinuation

Discontinuations due to adverse reactions occurred in 2.5% of TRULANCE-treated patients and 0.4% of placebo-treated patients. The most common adverse reaction leading to discontinuation was diarrhea: 1.2% of TRULANCE-treated patients and 0% of placebo-treated patients withdrew due to diarrhea.

Less Common Adverse Reactions

Adverse reactions reported in 1% or more but less than 2% of TRULANCE-treated patients and at an incidence greater than placebo were: nausea, nasopharyngitis, upper respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection, and dizziness. Two patients reported increased liver biochemical tests (alanine aminotransferase (ALT) greater than 5 to 15 times the upper limit of normal).

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

Plecanatide and its active metabolite are negligibly absorbed systemically following oral administration [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*] and maternal use is not expected to result in fetal exposure to the drug. The available data on TRULANCE use in pregnant women are not sufficient to inform any drug-associated risks for major birth defects and miscarriage. In animal developmental studies, no effects on embryo-fetal development were observed with oral administration of plecanatide in mice and rabbits during organogenesis at doses much higher than the recommended human dosage.

The estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated population is unknown. All pregnancies have a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. In the United States general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2% to 4% and 15% to 20%, respectively.

Data

Animal data

Pregnant mice and rabbits were administered plecanatide during the period of organogenesis. There was no evidence of harm to embryo-fetal development at oral doses up to 800 mg/kg/day in mice and 250 mg/kg/day in rabbits. Oral administration of up to 600 mg/kg/day in mice during organogenesis through lactation produced no developmental abnormalities or effects on growth, learning and memory, or fertility in the offspring through maturation.

The maximum recommended human dose is approximately 0.05 mg/kg/day, based on a 60-kg body weight. Limited systemic exposure to plecanatide was achieved in animals during organogenesis (area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC)₀₋₂₄ = 449 ng•h/mL in rabbits given 250 mg/kg/day). Plecanatide and its active metabolite are not measurable in human plasma following administration of the recommended clinical dosage. Therefore, animal and human doses should not be compared directly for evaluating relative exposure.

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

There is no information regarding the presence of plecanatide in human milk, or its effects on milk production or the breastfed infant. No lactation studies in animals have been conducted. Plecanatide and its active metabolite are negligibly absorbed systemically following oral administration [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

It is unknown whether the negligible systemic absorption of plecanatide by adults will result in a clinically relevant exposure to breastfed infants. Exposure to plecanatide in breastfed infants has the potential for serious adverse effects [see *Use in Special Populations* (8.4)]. The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for TRULANCE and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed infant from TRULANCE or from the underlying maternal condition.

8.4 Pediatric Use

TRULANCE is contraindicated in pediatric patients less than 6 years of age. Avoid use of TRULANCE in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age [see *Contraindications* (4), *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)]. The safety and effectiveness of TRULANCE in patients less than 18 years of age have not been established.

In nonclinical studies, deaths occurred within 24 hours in young juvenile mice (human age equivalent of approximately 1 month to less than 2 years) following oral administration of plecanatide, as described below in Juvenile Animal Toxicity Data. Because of increased intestinal expression of GC-C, patients less than 6 years of age may be more likely than patients 6 years of age and older to develop diarrhea and its potentially serious consequences. TRULANCE is contraindicated in patients less than 6 years of age. Given the deaths in young juvenile mice and the lack of clinical safety and efficacy data in pediatric patients, avoid the use of TRULANCE in patients 6 years to less than 18 years of age.

Juvenile Animal Toxicity Data

Single oral doses of plecanatide at 0.5 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg caused mortality in young juvenile mice on postnatal days 7 and 14, respectively (human age equivalent of approximately 1 month to less than 2 years). Treatment-related increases in the weight of intestinal contents were observed in juvenile mice following single doses of plecanatide on postnatal day 14 (human age equivalent of approximately less than 2 years), consistent with increased fluid in the intestinal lumen. Although the recommended human dose is approximately 0.05 mg/kg/day, based on a 60-kg body weight, plecanatide and its active metabolite are not measurable in adult human plasma, whereas systemic absorption was demonstrated in the juvenile animal toxicity studies. Animal and human doses should not be compared directly for evaluating relative exposure.

8.5 Geriatric Use

Chronic Idiopathic Constipation (CIC)

Of 2601 subjects in placebo-controlled clinical trials of TRULANCE, 273 (10%) were 65 years of age and over, and 47 (2%) were 75 years and over. Clinical studies of TRULANCE did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from patients 18 years to less than 65 years of age.

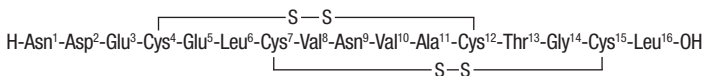
Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation (IBS-C)

Of 1621 subjects in the placebo-controlled clinical studies of TRULANCE, 134 (8.3%) were 65 years of age and over, and 25 (1.5%) were 75 years and over. Clinical studies of TRULANCE did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from patients 18 years to less than 65 years of age.

11 DESCRIPTION

TRULANCE (plecanatide) is a guanylate cyclase-C (GC-C) agonist. Plecanatide is a 16 amino acid peptide with the following chemical name: L-Leucine, L-asparaginyll-L- α -aspartyl-L- α -glutamyl-L-cysteinyl-L- α -glutamyl-L-leucyl-L-cysteinyl-L-valyl-L-asparaginyll-L-valyl-L-alanyl-L-cysteinyl-L-threonylglycyl-L-cysteinyl-, cyclic (4 \rightarrow 12),(7 \rightarrow 15)-bis(disulfide).

The molecular formula of plecanatide is C₆₆₅H₁₀₄₁N₁₈O₂₆₅S₄ and the molecular weight is 1682 Daltons. The amino acid sequence for plecanatide is shown below:



The solid lines linking cysteines illustrate disulfide bridges.

Plecanatide is an amorphous, white to off-white powder. It is soluble in water. TRULANCE tablets are supplied as 3 mg tablets for oral administration. The inactive ingredients are magnesium stearate and microcrystalline cellulose.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Plecanatide is a structural analog of human uroguanylin, and similarly to uroguanylin, plecanatide functions as a guanylate cyclase-C (GC-C) agonist. Both plecanatide and its active metabolite bind to GC-C and act locally on the luminal surface of the intestinal epithelium. Activation of GC-C results in an increase in both intracellular and extracellular concentrations of cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP). Elevation of extracellular cGMP has been associated with a decrease in the activity of pain-sensing nerves in animal models of visceral pain. Elevation of intracellular cGMP stimulates secretion of chloride and bicarbonate into the intestinal lumen, mainly through activation of the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) ion channel, resulting in increased

intestinal fluid and accelerated transit. In animal models, plecanatide has been shown to increase fluid secretion into the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, accelerate intestinal transit, and cause changes in stool consistency.

In an animal model of visceral pain, plecanatide reduced abdominal muscle contractions, a measure of intestinal pain.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Food Effect

Subjects who received either a low-fat, low calorie (LF-LC) meal or a high fat, high calorie (HF-HC) meal reported looser stools than fasted subjects up to 24 hours after a single dose of TRULANCE 9 mg (3 times the recommended dose). In clinical studies, TRULANCE was administered with or without food [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2)].

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Absorption

Plecanatide was minimally absorbed with negligible systemic availability following oral administration. Concentrations of plecanatide and its active metabolite in plasma were below the limit of quantitation in the majority of analyzed plasma samples after an oral TRULANCE dose of 3 mg. Therefore, standard pharmacokinetic parameters such as AUC, maximum concentration (C_{max}), and half-life (t_{1/2}) could not be calculated.

Food Effect

In a crossover study, 24 healthy subjects were given a single dose of TRULANCE 9 mg (3 times the recommended dose) in 3 different states: fasted; following a low-fat, low-calorie meal (LF-LC; approximately 350 calories: 17% from fat, 66% from carbohydrate, and 17% from protein); and following a high-fat, high-calorie meal (HF-HC; approximately 1000 calories: 60% from fat, 25% from carbohydrate, and 15% from protein). Plecanatide was detected in 1 subject (fasted state) at 0.5 and 1 hour post dose. Plecanatide concentrations were below the limit of quantitation for all other time points and for all other subjects. The active metabolite was not detected in any subject.

Distribution

Given that plecanatide concentrations following clinically relevant oral doses were not measurable, plecanatide is expected to be minimally distributed in tissues. Oral plecanatide was localized to the GI tract where it exerted its effects as a GC-C agonist with negligible systemic exposure. Plecanatide exhibited little to no binding to human serum albumin or human α -1-acid glycoprotein.

Elimination

Metabolism

Plecanatide was metabolized in the GI tract to an active metabolite by loss of the terminal leucine moiety. Both plecanatide and the metabolite were proteolytically degraded within the intestinal lumen to smaller peptides and naturally occurring amino acids.

Excretion

No excretion studies have been conducted in humans. Plecanatide and its active metabolite were not measurable in plasma following administration of the recommended clinical doses.

Drug Interaction Studies

Neither plecanatide nor its active metabolite inhibited the cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzymes 2C9 and 3A4, and they did not induce CYP3A4 *in vitro*.

Plecanatide and its active metabolite were neither substrates nor inhibitors of the transporters P-glycoprotein (P-gp) or breast cancer resistance protein (BCRP) *in vitro*.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenesis

The carcinogenic potential of plecanatide was assessed in 2-year carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats. Plecanatide was not tumorigenic in mice at oral doses up to 90 mg/kg/day or in rats at oral doses up to 100 mg/kg/day. Limited systemic exposure to plecanatide was achieved at the tested dose levels in animals, whereas no detectable exposure occurred in humans. Therefore, animal and human doses should not be compared directly for evaluating relative exposure.

Mutagenesis

Plecanatide was not genotoxic in the *in vitro* bacterial reverse mutation (Ames) assay, *in vitro* mouse lymphoma mutation assay, or the *in vivo* mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay.

Impairment of Fertility

Plecanatide had no effect on fertility or reproductive function in male or female mice at oral doses of up to 600 mg/kg/day.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Chronic Idiopathic Constipation (CIC)

The efficacy of TRULANCE for the management of symptoms of CIC was established in two 12-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized, multicenter clinical studies in adult patients (Study 1 and Study 2). In the Intention-to-Treat (ITT) population, a total of 905 patients (Study 1) and 870 patients (Study 2) were randomized 1:1 to either placebo or TRULANCE 3 mg, once daily. In clinical studies, study medication was administered

without respect to food intake. Demographics for these studies included an overall mean age of 45 years (range 18 to 80 years), 80% female, 72% white, and 24% black.

To be eligible for the studies, patients were required to meet modified Rome III criteria for at least 3 months prior to the screening visit, with symptom onset for at least 6 months prior to diagnosis. Rome III criteria were modified to require that patients report less than 3 defecations per week, rarely have a loose stool without the use of laxatives, not use manual maneuvers to facilitate defecations, and not meet criteria for IBS-C. In addition, patients were required to report at least two of the following symptoms:

- Straining during at least 25% of defecations
- Lumpy or hard stool in at least 25% of defecations
- Sensation of incomplete evacuations for at least 25% of defecations
- Sensation of anorectal obstruction/blockage for at least 25% of defecations

Patients who met these criteria were also required to demonstrate the following during the last 2 weeks of the screening period:

- Less than 3 complete spontaneous bowel movements (CSBMs) (a CSBM is an SBM that is associated with a sense of complete evacuation) in each of the two weeks
- Bristol Stool Form Scale (BSFS) of 6 or 7 in less than 25% of spontaneous bowel movements (SBMs) (an SBM is a bowel movement occurring in the absence of laxative use)
- One out of the following three:
 - BSFS of 1 or 2 in at least 25% of defecations
 - A straining value recorded on at least 25% of days when a BM was reported
 - At least 25% of BMs result in a sense of incomplete evacuation

The efficacy of TRULANCE was assessed using a responder analysis and change-from-baseline in CSBM and SBM endpoints. Efficacy was assessed using information provided by patients on a daily basis in an electronic diary.

A responder was defined as a patient who had at least 3 CSBMs in a given week and an increase of at least 1 CSBM from baseline in the same week for at least 9 weeks out of the 12 week treatment period and at least 3 of the last 4 weeks of the study. The responder rates are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Efficacy Responder Rates in the Two Placebo-controlled Studies of CIC: at least 9 of 12 weeks and at least 3 of the last 4 weeks (ITT Population)

Study 1			
	TRULANCE 3 mg N = 453	Placebo N = 452	Treatment Difference ^a [95% CI ^b]
Responder ^c	21%	10%	11% [6.1%, 15.4%]
Study 2			
	TRULANCE 3 mg N = 430	Placebo N = 440	Treatment Difference ^a [95% CI ^b]
Responder ^c	21%	13%	8% [2.6%, 12.4%]

^a: p-value <0.005

^b: CI = confidence interval

^c: Primary endpoint defined as a patient who had a least 3 CSBMs in a given week and an increase of at least 1 CSBM from baseline in the same week for at least 9 weeks out of the 12 week treatment period and at least 3 of the last 4 weeks of the study.

In both studies, improvements in the frequency of CSBMs/week were seen as early as week 1 with improvement maintained through week 12. The difference between the TRULANCE group and the placebo group in the mean change of CSBMs/week frequency from baseline to week 12 was approximately 1.1 CSBMs/week.

Over the 12 week treatment period, improvements were observed in stool frequency (number of CSBMs/week and SBMs/week) and/or stool consistency (as measured by the BSFS), and/or in the amount of straining with bowel movements (amount of time pushing or physical effort to pass stool) in the TRULANCE group as compared to placebo.

Following completion of the study drug treatment period, patients continued to record data in the daily diary for a 2 week Post-Treatment Period. During this time, TRULANCE-treated patients generally returned to baseline for these study endpoints.

In Studies 1 and 2, a third randomized treatment arm of TRULANCE 6 mg once daily did not demonstrate additional treatment benefit and had a greater incidence of adverse reactions than TRULANCE 3 mg once daily. Therefore, TRULANCE 6 mg once daily is not recommended [see Dosage and Administration (2.1)].

14.2 Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation (IBS-C)

The efficacy of TRULANCE for the management of symptoms of IBS-C was established in two 12-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized, multicenter clinical studies in adult patients (Study 3 and Study 4). In the Intention-to-Treat (ITT) population, a total

of 699 patients (Study 3) and 754 patients (Study 4) received treatment with placebo or TRULANCE 3 mg once daily. In clinical studies, study medication was administered without respect to food intake. Demographics for these studies included an overall mean age of 44 years (range 18 to 83 years), 74% female, 73% white, and 22% black.

To be eligible, patients were required to meet the Rome III criteria for IBS for at least 3 months prior to the screening visit, with symptom onset for at least 6 months prior to diagnosis. Diagnosis required recurrent abdominal pain or discomfort at least 3 days/month in the last 3 months associated with 2 or more of 1) improvement with defecation, 2) onset associated with a change in frequency of stool, and 3) onset associated with a change in form (appearance) of stool. Patients also met the IBS-C differentiation criteria for constipation, characterized by a stool pattern such that at least 25% of defecations are hard or lumpy stools and no more than 25% of defecations are loose or watery stool.

Patients who met these criteria were excluded if they demonstrated the following during the last 2 weeks of the screening period:

- Worst abdominal pain intensity (WAPI) score of 0 on an 11-point scale for more than 2 days during each week
- An average WAPI of less than 3 for either week
- More than 3 complete spontaneous bowel movements (CSBMs) or more than six spontaneous bowel movements (SBMs) per week in either week
- Bristol Stool Form Scale (BSFS) of 7 for any SBM recorded
- More than 1 day in either week with a BSFS of 6 for any SBM recorded
- No use of rescue laxative (bisacodyl) within 72 hours before randomization

The efficacy of TRULANCE was assessed using a responder analysis based on abdominal pain intensity and a stool frequency responder (CSBM) endpoint. Efficacy was assessed using information provided by patients on a daily basis through an electronic phone diary system.

A responder was defined as a patient who met both the abdominal pain intensity and stool frequency responder criteria in the same week for at least 6 of the 12 treatment weeks. The abdominal pain intensity and stool frequency responder criteria assessed each week were defined as:

- Abdominal pain intensity responder: a patient who experienced a decrease in the weekly average of worst abdominal pain in the past 24 hours score (measured daily) of at least 30% compared with baseline weekly average.
- Stool frequency responder: a patient who experienced an increase of at least 1 CSBM per week from baseline.

The responder rates are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Efficacy Responder Rates in the Two Placebo-controlled Studies of IBS-C: Overall Responder for at least 6 of the 12 Treatment Weeks (ITT Population)

Study 3			
	Placebo N = 350	TRULANCE 3 mg N = 349	Treatment Difference [95% CI ^a]
Responder ^b	18%	30%	12% [6%, 18%]
<u>Components of Responder Endpoint</u>			
Abdominal Pain Responder ^c	32%	41%	
CSBM Responder ^d	35%	48%	
Study 4			
	Placebo N = 379	TRULANCE 3 mg N = 375	Treatment Difference [95% CI ^a]
Responder ^b	14%	21%	7% [2%, 13%]
<u>Components of Responder Endpoint</u>			
Abdominal Pain Responder ^c	23%	33%	
CSBM Responder ^d	28%	34%	

^a: CI = confidence interval

^b: A responder for these trials was defined as a patient who met both the abdominal pain and CSBM weekly responder criteria for at least 6 of the 12 weeks.

^c: An abdominal pain responder was defined as a patient who met the criteria of at least 30% reduction from baseline in weekly average of the worst daily abdominal pain, for at least 6 of the 12 weeks.

^d: A CSBM responder was defined as a patient who achieved an increase in at least 1 CSBM per week, from baseline, for at least 6 of 12 weeks.

In both studies, the proportion of responders who were also weekly responders for at least 2 of the 4 treatment weeks in month 3, the last month of treatment was greater in the TRULANCE groups compared to placebo.

Over the 12 week treatment period, improvements were observed in both stool consistency (as measured by the BSFS) and in the amount of straining with bowel movements (amount of time pushing or physical effort to pass stool) in the 3 mg TRULANCE group as compared to placebo.

Following completion of the study drug treatment period, patients continued to record data in the daily diary for a 2-week Post-Treatment Period. During this time, TRULANCE-treated patients generally returned to baseline for these study endpoints.

In Studies 3 and 4, a third randomized treatment arm of TRULANCE 6 mg once daily did not demonstrate additional treatment benefit over the 3 mg dose. Therefore, TRULANCE 6 mg once daily is not recommended [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.1)].

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

TRULANCE tablets are packaged in an aluminum foil unit dose blister pack of 30 in a child-resistant pack or in a white, opaque, high-density polyethylene round bottle with a screw-top polypropylene child-resistant cap and heat-activated induction seal. Each bottle container-closure system also contains a desiccant and a polyester coil.

TRULANCE 3 mg tablets are white to off-white, plain and round, debossed with "SP" on one side and "3" for 3 mg on the other side and supplied as:

NDC Number	Size
65649-003-30	Bottle of 30
70194-003-30	Aluminum foil unit dose blister pack of 30 in a child-resistant pack

Store at room temperature, 20 to 25°C (68 to 77°F); excursions permitted to 15 to 30°C (59 to 86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature].

Keep TRULANCE in a dry place. Protect from moisture. For bottles, keep TRULANCE in the original bottle. Do not remove desiccant from the bottle. Do not subdivide or repackage.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Medication Guide).

Advise Patients:

Diarrhea

To stop TRULANCE and contact their healthcare provider if they experience severe diarrhea [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].

Accidental Ingestion

Accidental ingestion of TRULANCE in children, especially in children less than 6 years of age, may result in severe diarrhea and dehydration. Instruct patients to take steps to store TRULANCE securely and out of reach of children and to dispose of unused TRULANCE [see *Contraindications* (4), *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].

Administration and Handling Instructions

- To take TRULANCE once daily with or without food [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2)].
- If a dose is missed, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not take two doses at the same time.
- To swallow TRULANCE tablets whole.
- If adult patients have swallowing difficulties, TRULANCE tablets can be crushed and administered orally in either applesauce or with water, or administered with water via a nasogastric or gastric feeding tube, as described in the Medication Guide.
- To keep TRULANCE in a dry place. Protect from moisture. For bottles, keep TRULANCE in the original bottle. Do not remove desiccant from the bottle. Do not subdivide or repackage. Remove and discard polyester coil after opening. Keep bottles closed tightly [see *How Supplied/Storage and Handling* (16)].

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Medication Guide
TRULANCE® (TROO lans)
(plecanatide) tablets

What is the most important information I should know about TRULANCE?

- **Do not give TRULANCE to children who are less than 6 years of age. It may harm them.**
- **You should not give TRULANCE to children 6 years to less than 18 years of age. It may harm them.**

See “What are the possible side effects of TRULANCE?” for more information about side effects.

What is TRULANCE?

TRULANCE is a prescription medicine used in adults to treat:

- a type of constipation called chronic idiopathic constipation (CIC). Idiopathic means the cause of the constipation is unknown.
- irritable bowel syndrome with constipation (IBS-C).

It is not known if TRULANCE is safe and effective in children less than 18 years of age.

Who should not take TRULANCE?

- **Do not give TRULANCE to children who are less than 6 years of age.**
- Do not take TRULANCE if a doctor has told you that you have a bowel blockage (intestinal obstruction).

Before taking TRULANCE, tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TRULANCE will harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if TRULANCE passes into your breast milk. Talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby if you take TRULANCE.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

How should I take TRULANCE?

- Take TRULANCE exactly as your doctor tells you to take it.
- Take TRULANCE by mouth, 1 time each day with or without food.
- If you miss a dose, skip the missed dose. Take the next dose at your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at the same time.
- TRULANCE tablets should be swallowed whole.
 - Adults who cannot swallow TRULANCE tablets whole may crush the TRULANCE tablet and mix with applesauce or dissolve TRULANCE in water before swallowing. TRULANCE tablets may also be taken with water by adults through a nasogastric or gastric feeding tube.

It is not known if TRULANCE is safe and effective when crushed and mixed with other foods or dissolved in other liquids.

Taking TRULANCE in applesauce:

- Crush the TRULANCE tablet in a clean container until it is a powder and mix with 1 teaspoon of room temperature applesauce.
- Swallow all of the TRULANCE and applesauce mixture right away. Do not keep the TRULANCE and applesauce mixture for future use.

Taking TRULANCE in water:

- Place the TRULANCE tablet in a clean cup and pour 1 ounce (30 mL) of room temperature water into the cup.
- Gently swirl the TRULANCE tablet and water for at least 10 seconds. The TRULANCE tablet will fall apart in the water.
- Swallow all of the TRULANCE tablet and water mixture right away. Do not keep the mixture for future use.
- If you see any part of the tablet left in the cup, add another 1 ounce (30 mL) of water to the cup, swirl for at least 10 seconds, and swallow right away.

Taking TRULANCE through a nasogastric or gastric feeding tube:

Gather the supplies you will need to take your TRULANCE dose. Your doctor should tell you what size catheter tip syringe you will need for your dose. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about how to give TRULANCE the right way.

- Place the TRULANCE tablet in a clean cup with 1 ounce (30 mL) of room temperature water.
- Gently swirl the TRULANCE tablet and water for at least 15 seconds. The TRULANCE tablet will fall apart in the water.
- Flush the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube with 1 ounce (30 mL) of water.
- Draw up the TRULANCE tablet and water mixture into a catheter tip syringe and give right away through the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube. Do not keep the mixture for future use.
- If you see any part of the tablet left in the cup, add another 1 ounce (30 mL) of water to the cup, swirl for at least 15 seconds and use the same catheter tip syringe to give the mixture through the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube.
- Using the same or another catheter tip syringe, flush the nasogastric or gastric feeding tube with at least 10 mL of water.

What are the possible side effects of TRULANCE?

TRULANCE can cause serious side effects, including:

- See “**What is the most important information I should know about TRULANCE?**”
- **Diarrhea is the most common side effect of TRULANCE, and it can sometimes be severe.**
 - Diarrhea often begins within the first 4 weeks of TRULANCE treatment.

Stop taking TRULANCE and call your doctor if you develop severe diarrhea.

These are not all the possible side effects of TRULANCE.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store TRULANCE?

- Store TRULANCE at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Keep TRULANCE in a secure place and in the bottle or blister pack that it comes in.
- The TRULANCE bottle contains a desiccant packet to help keep your medicine dry (protect it from moisture). Do not remove the desiccant packet from the bottle.
- The TRULANCE bottle contains a polyester coil to help protect the tablets during shipping. Remove the polyester coil from the bottle and throw it away after opening the bottle.
- Keep the container of TRULANCE tightly closed and in a dry place.
- Safely throw away TRULANCE that is out of date or no longer needed.

Keep TRULANCE and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about the safe and effective use of TRULANCE.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use TRULANCE for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give TRULANCE to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for information about TRULANCE that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in TRULANCE?

Active ingredient: plecanatide

Inactive ingredients: magnesium stearate and microcrystalline cellulose

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