

## **Merial Adds More Horsepower**

Even More Committed to Equine Health Care

At Merial, we have always been committed to providing horse owners with the tools they need to keep their horses in peak health. These tools not only include a line-up of premium products, but also educational resources. Now, we are even better able to respond to horse owners' needs with the addition of LEGEND® (hyaluronate sodium) and MARQUIS® (15% w/w ponazuril), two proven and FDA-approved products.

**LEGEND** is the first FDA-approved joint therapy product labeled for both intraarticular and intravenous injection. It is indicated in the treatment of joint dysfunction of the carpus or fetlock in horses due to non-infectious synovitis associated with equine osteoarthritis. Joint therapy is used to help block the further release of inflammatory mediators. By decreasing the production and release of these mediators, LEGEND helps reduce joint inflammation and the resulting pain and lameness.<sup>1</sup>

"As a major cause of decreased performance in horses, joint dysfunction can develop from repeated episodes of trauma a horse experiences in everyday use, training or competing," says Hoyt Cheramie, DVM, manager, large animal veterinary services, Merial. "In addition to the horse itself, individual horse owners also feel the negative effects of lost performance."

LEGEND has a proven track record, with millions of doses sold and more than 20 years of treatment success. In field studies, clinical improvement was judged to be excellent or good in 90 percent of the cases treated with I.V. LEGEND and in 96 percent of the cases treated with I.A. LEGEND.<sup>2</sup>

Another premier equine product, MARQUIS, is the first FDA-approved product for the treatment of equine protozoal myeloencephalitis (EPM). EPM is a neurological disease caused by *Sarcocystis neurona*, a parasite that invades the brain and spinal

cord. If left untreated, it can lead to serious, permanent damage to the central nervous system or death.<sup>3</sup>

Horses become infected with EPM via contact with opossum feces through grazing or contaminated feed.<sup>3</sup> The clinical signs can be subtle and similar to other equine disorders, so it can be difficult to detect. When used as directed, MARQUIS is proven to cross the blood-brain barrier to kill *S. neurona*, stopping the parasite from inflicting further damage to the horse's central nervous system.<sup>4,5</sup>

"We are excited about the opportunities these two products present for us," says Rebecca Peskin, head of equine marketing, Merial. "Many of us on the Merial equine team are also horse owners, so we understand the impact safe and effective products can make on a horse's well-being. LEGEND and MARQUIS are great complements to our existing portfolio of equine products," says Peskin.

This includes ULCERGARD® (omeprazole), GASTROGARD® (omeprazole), ZIMECTERIN® (ivermectin) brand products, EQUIOXX® (firocoxib) Paste, and MERIAL® brand vaccines RECOMBITEK® rWNV-EWT and IMRAB.®

For more information about LEGEND, visit www.equinelegend.com.

For more information about MARQUIS, visit www.merialmarquis.com.

## **About Merial**

Merial is a world-leading, innovation-driven animal health company, providing a comprehensive range of products to enhance the health and well-being of a wide range of animals. Merial employs 6,100 people and operates in more than 150 countries worldwide with over \$2 billion of sales in 2014.

Merial is a Sanofi company.

For more information, please see www.merial.com.

## LEGEND

Important Safety Information: The safety of LEGEND has not been evaluated in breeding stallions or in breeding, pregnant or lactating mares. Post-Approval Experience: While all adverse reactions are not reported, the following adverse reactions are based on voluntary post-approval reporting for LEGEND Injectable Solution: Following intravenous use: Occasional depression, lethargy, and fever. Following intra-articular (LEGEND Injectable Solution – 2 mL only) use: lameness, joint effusion, joint or injection site swelling, and joint pain.

## **MARQUIS**

**Important Safety Information:** The safe use of MARQUIS in horses used for breeding purposes, during pregnancy, or in lactating mares, has not been evaluated. In animal safety studies, loose feces, sporadic inappetence, lost weight, and moderate edema in the uterine epithelium were observed.

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<sup>1</sup>Kawcak CE, Frisbie DD, Trotter GW, et al. Effects of intravenous administration of sodium hyaluronate on carpal joints in exercising horses after arthroscopic surgery and osteochondral fragmentation. *Am J Vet Res.* 1997;58(10):1132-1140. 

<sup>2</sup>Freedom of Information Summary for Legend (hyaluronate sodium) Injectable Solution:NADA 140-883.

<sup>3</sup>Reed S. Neurology is not a Euphemism for Necropsy: A Review of Selected Neurological Diseases Affecting Horses; Proceedings of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the AAEP, San Diego, CA; 2008:78-109.

<sup>4</sup>Lindsay DS, Dubey JP, Kennedy TJ. Determination of Activity of Ponazuril against Sarcocystis neurona in cell cultures. *Vet Parasit*;2000;92:165-169.

<sup>5</sup>Furr, M and Kennedy, T. Cerebrospinal Fluid and Serum Concentrations of Ponazuril in Horses; *Veterinary Ther.* 2001;2(3):232-237.