Neurology > Alzheimer's Disease

July 30, 2024

Alzheimer's Gets New Galantamine Drug — Newly approved prodrug has dual mechanism of action to improve

tolerability by Judy George, Deputy Managing Editor, MedPage Today,

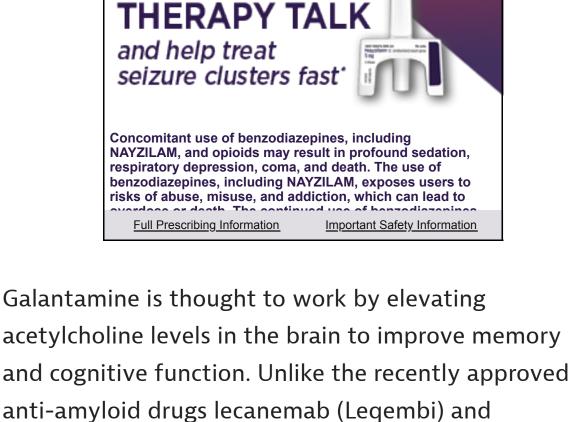


A prodrug of galantamine and an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor (AChEI), benzgalantamine has a dual

disease, Alpha Cognition announced on Monday.

mechanism of action designed to eliminate drug absorption in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract and potentially improve tolerability. Galantamine was approved in 2001 as Razadyne to treat Alzheimer's symptoms. It is available in several

generic formulations and sometimes is purchased as dietary supplements. **ADVERTISEMENT HAVE THE** RESCUE



donanemab (Kisunla), galantamine is not designed to modify the Alzheimer's disease course. Due to its prodrug properties, benzgalantamine is converted into the active moiety of galantamine after it passes through the GI tract. "We have always believed in the efficacy of galantamine but have been limited in its use due to tolerability issues," said Elaine Peskind, MD, of the University of Washington School of

galantamine, but that also offers the hope of better tolerability, will provide physicians a great option to treat patients." Benzgalantamine's approval was based on data from three bioavailability studies that showed its bioequivalence and tolerability versus galantamine immediate-release tablets and extended-release capsules. GI adverse events (AEs) in benzgalantamine studies were less than 2% and no insomnia was observed, Alpha Cognition said.

Prescribing information for benzgalantamine states

that AEs reported with galantamine tablets include

nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, headache, and

cardiovascular conduction effects, and pulmonary or

decreased appetite. Warnings and precautions for

galantamine include serious skin reactions,

Medicine in Seattle, in an Alpha Cognition press release.

"To now have an agent with the efficacy of

bladder AEs. Galantamine may interfere with the activity of anticholinergic medications. Benzgalantamine will be available by prescription in the first quarter of 2025, Alpha Cognition said. Judy George covers neurology and neuroscience news for MedPage Today, writing about brain aging, Alzheimer's, dementia, MS, rare diseases, epilepsy, autism, headache, stroke, Parkinson's, ALS, concussion, CTE, sleep, pain, and more. Follow

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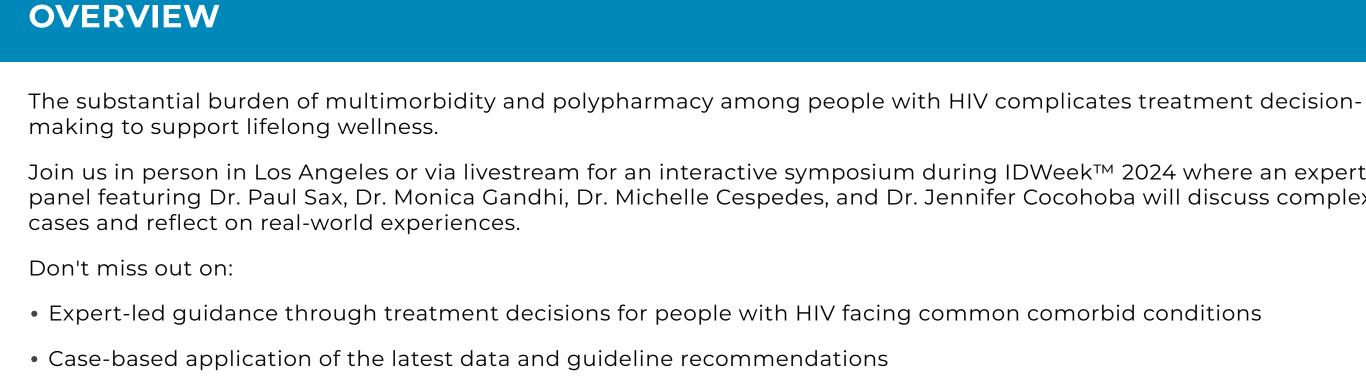
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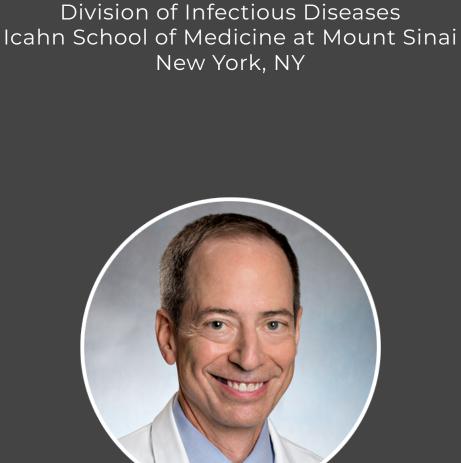
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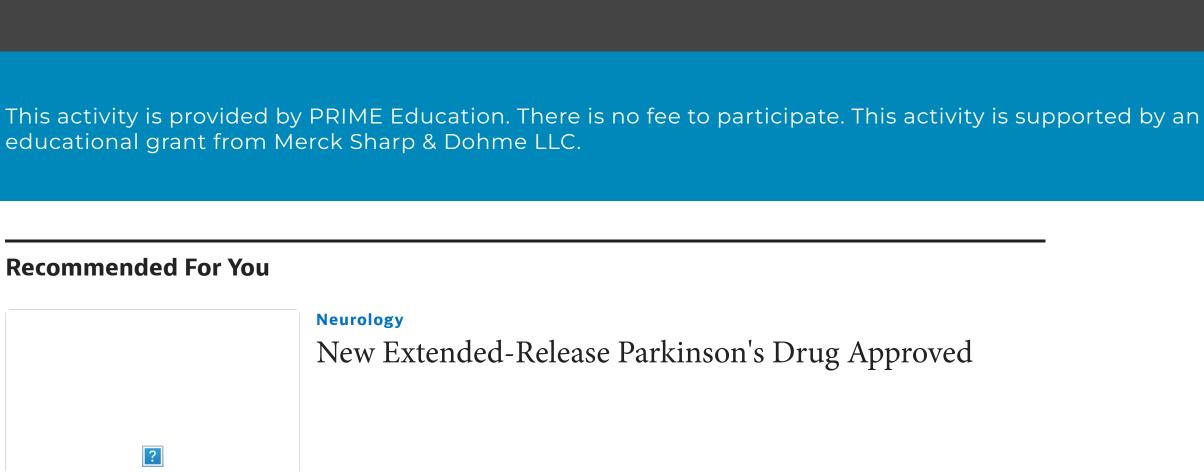
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