



# Drug Monitor

ONLINE EDITION

## Votrient Approved for Soft Tissue Sarcoma

Votrient (pazopanib), a once-a-day pill, has been approved for soft tissue sarcoma in patients who have previously received chemotherapy. The drug, already indicated for advanced renal cell carcinoma, is a selective, multitargeted tyrosine kinase inhibitor, specifically targeting growth factor receptors associated with angiogene-

sis and tumor cell proliferation.

Pazopanib was evaluated in a placebo-controlled study of 369 patients with soft tissue sarcoma. Those who received pazopanib gained a median of 4.6 months of disease-free survival, compared with 1.6 months for those on placebo.

The most common adverse effects were fatigue, diarrhea, nausea, weight loss, high blood pressure, and anorexia. Pazopanib also carries a risk of severe and fatal liver damage; the

black box warning advises monitoring liver enzymes once every 4 weeks for at least the first 4 months of treatment, then periodic monitoring should continue after this time period. ●

Source: FDA approves Votrient for advanced soft tissue sarcoma. U.S. Food and Drug Administration website. [http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm302065.htm?utm\\_campaign=Google2&utm\\_source=fdaSearch&utm\\_medium=website&utm\\_term=votrient&utm\\_content=1](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm302065.htm?utm_campaign=Google2&utm_source=fdaSearch&utm_medium=website&utm_term=votrient&utm_content=1). Updated April 26, 2012. Accessed April 27, 2012.