New Products - Benlysta

Benlysta (**belimumab** (**rmc**)) is a fully human $IgG1\lambda$ monoclonal antibody specific for soluble human B Lymphocyte Stimulator protein (BLyS). Belimumab does not bind B cells directly, but by binding BLyS, belimumab inhibits the survival of B cells, including autoreactive B cells, and reduces the differentiation of B cells into immunoglobulin producing plasma cells. Benlysta is indicated as add-on therapy for reducing disease activity in adult patients with active, autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) with a high degree of disease activity (e.g. ANA titre $\geq 1:80$ and/or anti-dsDNA titre ≥ 30 IU/mL) despite standard therapy. Benlysta is contraindicated in patients who have demonstrated anaphylaxis to belimumab. Benlysta is available as a powder for infusion in a single use glass vial containing either 120 mg or 400 mg of lyophilised powder.

This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month. Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.