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On Drugs and Therapeutics

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Volume 56 (Issue 1434) **www.medicalletter.org**
January 20, 2014

IN BRIEF

Ponatinib *(Iclusig)* Returns

The October 2013 suspension of marketing and sales of ponatinib (*Iclusig* – Ariad) for treatment of leukemia[1] has been lifted by the FDA, and the drug is expected to return to the market this month with narrower indications and heightened safety warnings.[2] The reason for its suspension was a high incidence of thrombotic events, some of them fatal. The new indications limit use of the drug to patients with T315I-positive disease and those "for whom no other tyrosine kinase inhibitor is indicated," presumably because of resistance or intolerance.

1. In brief: ponatinib (Iclusig) marketing and sales suspended. Med Lett Drugs Ther 2013; 55:93.
2. FDA. FDA drug safety communication: FDA requires multiple new safety measures for leukemia drug Iclusig; company expected to resume marketing. Available at www.fda.gov/drugs/drugsafety/ucm379554.htm. Accessed January 10, 2014.

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Founded in 1959 by
Arthur Kallet and Harold Aaron, M.D.

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