IRISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE

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Front cover description John Dunne Medal p. 51 p. 51

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Bright prospects in mind

LUSTRAL*, a 5-HT re-uptake inhibitor designed with patients in mind, is now available to GPs.

LUSTRAL reduces depressive symptoms as effectively as amitriptyline in short-term therapy,^{1,2} and prevents relapse and recurrence of depression.³

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Taking care of depressed patients

Abbreviated Prescribing Information: LUSTRAL (sertraline)

Indications: Treatment of symptoms of depressive illness. Prevention of relapse or recurrence of depressive episodes. Dosage: LUSTRAL should be given as a single daily dose with food. The initial dose is 50mg and the usual therapeutic dose is 50mg or 100mg daily. Dosage can be further increased, if appropriate, to 150mg or a maximum of 200mg daily. Patients should be maintained on the lowest effective dose. **Use in children:** Not recommended. **Use in the dedry**: Usual adult dose. **Contra-indications:** Sensitivity to LUSTRAL. Hepatic insufficiency, unstable epilepsy and convulsant disorders, pregnancy and lactation. Do not use with, or within two weeks of ending treatment with, MAOI's. At least 7 days should elapse before starting any MAOI following discontinuation of LUSTRAL. **Precautions, Warnings:** Renal insufficiency, ECT. epilepsy, driving, LUSTRAL should not be administered with benzodiazepines or other tranquillizers in patients who drive or operate machinery. The patient should be monitored for signs of suicide or mania. LUSTRAL has not been observed to produce dependence. **Drug Interactions:** Administer with caution in combination

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with other centrally active medication (e.g. lithium, tryptophan). Although LUSTRAL has been shown to have no adverse interaction with alcohol, concomitant use with alcohol is not recommended. The potential for LUSTRAL to interact with o other highly protein bound drugs should be borne in mind. The potential of LUSTRAL to interact with e.g. propranolo and phenytoin has not been fully assessed. **Side-Effects:** Dry mouth, nausea, diarrhoea/loose stools, ejaculatory delay, tremor, increased sweating and dyspepsia. **Legal Category:** SIA. **Fackage Quantities:** 50mg tablet (PA 19/46/4) Calendar pack of 28: 100mg tablet (PA 19/46/5) Calendar pack of 28. **References:** 1. Reimherr FW et al. *J Clin Psychiatr* 1990; **51** (12 Suppl. B): 18-27. 2. Cohn CK et al. *Ibid*: 28-33.3. Doogan

References: I. Keimherr YW etal. /Linr Sychiatr 1990; 51 (12 Suppl. 8): 18-27. Z. Cohn CK etal. Ibid: 28-33. 5. Doogan DP & Callard V. Br / Psychiatr 1992; 160: 217-222. 4. Doogan DP. Int Clin Psychopharmacol 1991; 6 (Suppl. 2): 47-56. Further information on request. Invicta * Pharmaceuticals. A Division of Pfizer Limited. Invicta office in Dublin: Pharmapark, Chapelizod, Dublin 20. Tel. Dublin 62.68340. Pfizer manufacturing plant: Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Production Corporation, Ringaskiddy. County Cork. * Trade Mark

