

Health Bulletin



Good News For Bronchitis Sufferers

(NAPSA)—Researchers may have found a way to help the millions for whom bronchitis is a major cause of discomfort, inconvenience and lost productivity. Each year about 11 million Americans are diagnosed with chronic bronchitis and the United States spends more than \$15 billion to treat the condition. It's characterized by a persistent cough for a minimum of three months a year for at least two consecutive years.

Many people with bronchitis are subject to acute exacerbations or flare-ups of chronic bronchitis or AECB. This involves a sudden build-up of fluid in the lungs and shortness of breath. These flare-ups are normally bacterial in nature, and can generally be treated successfully with antibiotics. However, for people with chronic bronchitis, flare-ups return every few months, each time leading to painful symptoms that disrupt patients' lives and diminish productivity.

But a new clinical study may offer hope for many people with chronic bronchitis. The MOSAIC study found that the antibiotic Avelox® (moxifloxacin HCl) provided successful treatment of AECB in five days, compared to standard antibiotic therapy administered for seven days. What's more, people who took the drug experienced an average of two additional AECB-free weeks compared with those who took standard therapy. The MOSAIC study was funded by Bayer Pharmaceuticals Corporation. Drug-related adverse events were comparable.

"This study provides evidence of the role of Avelox in the treatment of AECB," said Michael Niederman,



M.D., Chairman, Department of Medicine, Winthrop University Hospital, Mineola, N.Y. "Excellent clinical success, more time between exacerbations, and a reduced need for follow-up antibiotic use not only helps patients, but also may contribute to savings of healthcare resources."

Avelox is also used to treat Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP), Acute Bacterial Sinusitis (ABS) and Uncomplicated Skin and Skin Structure Infections (uSSSI).

See your doctor if you think you have a respiratory infection. If you're prescribed antibiotics, always take the full course of medicine prescribed. Treatment with Avelox may result in certain side effects that are usually mild, including nausea, diarrhea, and dizziness. As with any prescription, tell your physician about medications you may be taking. Remember your physician is the single best source of information regarding you and your health.

You can learn more about Avelox and bronchitis online at www.aveloxusa.com or by calling 800-288-8371.