Keytruda® (pembrolizumab) – New warning

- On November 29, 2017, the FDA approved an update to the *Warnings and Precautions* section of the Keytruda (pembrolizumab) drug label regarding increased mortality in patients with multiple myeloma (MM) when Keytruda is added to a thalidomide analogue and dexamethasone.

- Keytruda is indicated for the treatment of melanoma, non-small cell lung cancer, head and neck cancer, classical Hodgkin lymphoma, urothelial carcinoma, microsatellite instability-high cancer, and gastric cancer.

- In two randomized clinical trials in patients with MM, the addition of Keytruda to a thalidomide analogue plus dexamethasone, a use for which no programmed death receptor-1 (PD-1) or programmed death-ligand 1 (PDL1) blocking antibody is indicated, resulted in increased mortality.

- Treatment of patients with MM with a PD-1 or PDL1 blocking antibody in combination with a thalidomide analogue plus dexamethasone is not recommended outside of controlled clinical trials.